

Young Vic

It's a big world in here



Young Vic is a registered Charity
Registered charity number: 268876

A YEAR OF THEATRE, CHANGE AND IMPACT

For over 50 years, the Young Vic has stood as a beacon of innovation in London theatre, blending artistic excellence with deep community engagement. This past year, thanks to your incredible support, we continued to produce world-class, thought-provoking productions that entertained and inspired over 100,000 audience members. At the same time, we remain dedicated to nurturing the next generation of talent and working with and for our inspiring local communities.

Our commitment to building an inclusive talent pipeline is stronger than ever, alongside our work on the mainstage. Through our flagship initiative Taking Part, we have fostered long-lasting relationships with the communities of Southwark and Lambeth for over 27 years. Every year, we connect with more than 15,000 individuals—offering free tickets, workshops, and opportunities that empower people of all ages to express themselves and grow through theatre. Our Creators Program is the only scheme of its kind, developing new opportunities and pathways for emerging theatre artists and supporting up to 3,000 individuals annually.

Under the leadership of Kwame Kwei-Armah, we've seen the development of groundbreaking productions such as *Passing Strange*, *Nachtlund*, *The Homecoming*, and *A Face in the Crowd*. As Kwame stepped down after his final production, we thank him for his leadership and look forward to welcoming Nadia Fall, who will bring her artistic vision as Artistic Director from January 2025.

At the Young Vic, we like to think of ourselves as "the home you didn't know you had." Whether you're on stage, behind the scenes, or in the audience, you are part of a vibrant and welcoming community. We invite you to continue being part of our journey.





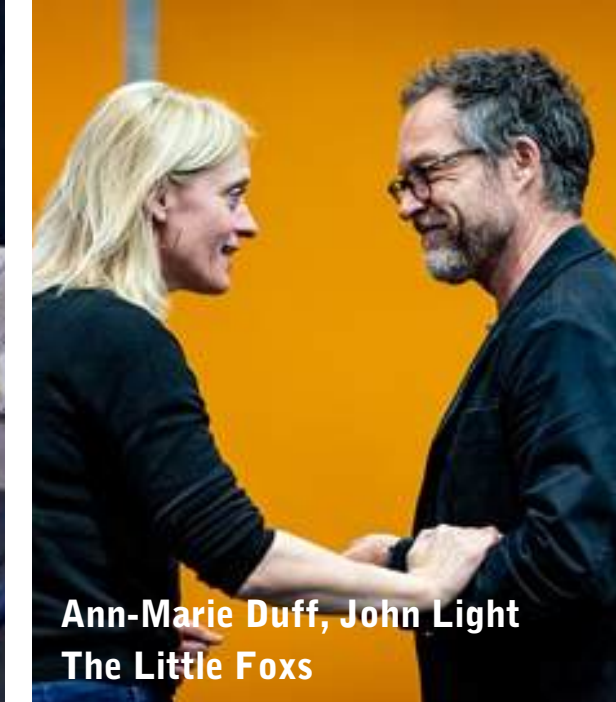
Ramin Karimloo, Anoushka Lucas
A Face In The Crowd



Creative Team, Mantelpeace



Joe Cole, The Homecoming



Ann-Marie Duff, John Light
The Little Foxes



Leah Harvey, Sophie Melville
Girl In The Machine



Jane Horrocks, Nachtland



The Cast of Passing Strange



The Cast of Nachtland



Jarred Harris,
The Homecoming



The Cast of A Face In The Crowd



Sophie Melville,
Girl In The Machine



The Cast of Passing Strange

MAINSTAGE EXCELLENCE

KEY PRODUCTIONS OF 2024

Theatre



This past year, the Young Vic delivered a line-up of bold and innovative productions, working with some of the world's leading artists, including Elvis Costello, Giles Terera, Lyndsey Turner, Jared Harris, Liesl Tommy and Anne-Marie Duff. Your support allowed us to bring these ambitious shows to life.

Together, we drive creative excellence and tell stories that inspire curiosity and debate.

★★★★ Financial Times



★★★★ The Telegraph



★★★★ Evening Standard



THE HOMECOMING

Harold Pinter's masterpiece, directed by Olivier-nominated Matthew Dunster (2:22 A Ghost Story) offered a tense, radical vision of family power dynamics. Starring BAFTA Award-winning Jared Harris (Chernobyl, Mad Men), Joe Cole (Gangs of London, Peaky Blinders), and Lisa Diveney (Call the Midwife) - this 'comedy of menace' reinvented a classic.

★★★★★ Jane Horrocks hits the deadpan target
The Telegraph



MAINHOUSE EXCELLENCE

NACHTLAND

Tony Award-winner Patrick Marber (Leopoldstadt) directed a jagged new satire by one of Germany's foremost playwrights.

This dark comedy offers a gripping exploration of memory, trauma, and the enduring impact of history, exemplifying the Young Vic's commitment to brave and bold storytelling. A striking fusion of sharp satire and complex themes.

Young Vic

★★★★★ A provocative plunge into art history
The Guardian



★★★★★ An all-out wild ride of a rock musical
The Guardian



PASSING STRANGE

The European premiere of the Tony Award-winning rock musical Passing Strange, directed by Liesl Tommy, tells the story of a young Black musician's search for identity, swapping his middle-class L.A. upbringing for punk rock and protest in 1980s Amsterdam and Berlin.

Olivier Award-winner Giles Terera (Hamilton), Rachel Adedeji (Dreaming Whilst Black) and Keenan Munn-Francis (Black Dog) star in the European premiere of Passing Strange.

★★★★★ Nothing else quite like it
Sunday Times





Kwame Kwei-Armah and Elvis Costello in the rehearsal room



A FACE IN THE CROWD

Directed by Kwame Kwei-Armah in his final show as Artistic Director, this world premiere adaptation of the 1957 Hollywood film blended political satire with rock and roll, featuring original music by Elvis Costello.

"I want to thank our audiences and supporters who have continued their Young Vic journey with us and many who have joined us for the first time ... I'm rocking out at the Young Vic with shows that mean the world to me and sum up what a building like this can do." Kwame Kwei-Armah

"Full of effervescent, foot-tapping numbers and rousing ballads"



The Telegraph



THE LITTLE FOXES

Starring Anne-Marie Duff, *The Little Foxes* is a modern classic written by Lillian Hellman, directed by Lyndsey Turner.

'There are people who eat the earth and eat all the people on it. Then there are people who stand around and watch them eat it'

BAFTA Award-winning actress Anne-Marie Duff (*Bad Sisters*, *Nowhere Boy*) returns to the Young Vic stage this Autumn in *The Little Foxes*. A story of greed, ambition and a family on the edge, Lillian Hellman's modern classic receives a savage new staging by Olivier Award-winning director Lyndsey Turner (*The Witches*, *The Crucible*).



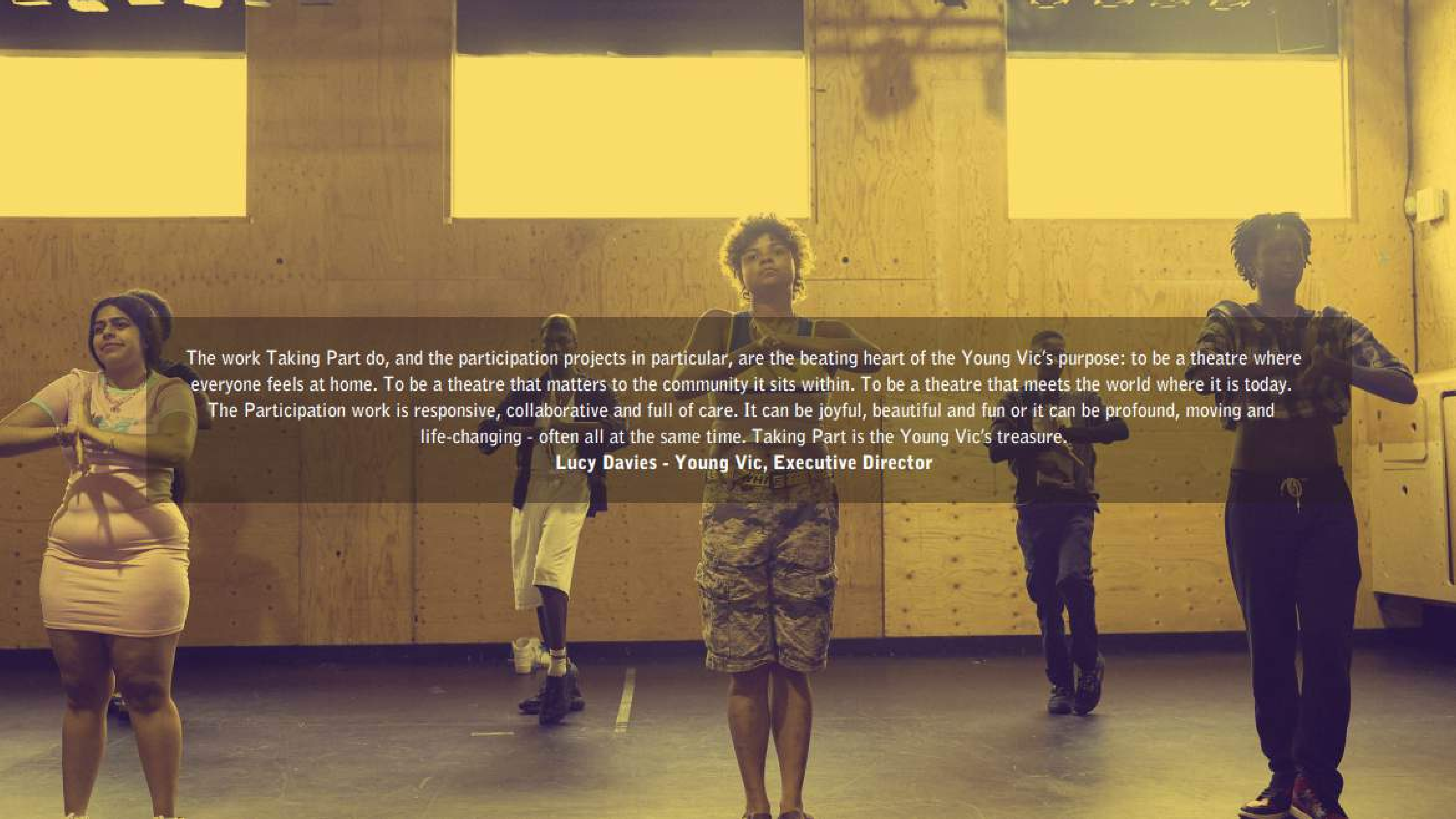
TAKING PART Empowering Communities Through Theatre

Young Vic

"The Young Vic has become my adopted family, enveloping me in support and creativity." — Jenny Marshall, Taking Part Participant

Taking Part is the Young Vic's core community engagement initiative, providing free, creative opportunities for over 15,000 participants annually. Focused on supporting our local communities of Lambeth and Southwark, and those who have been historically underserved by the arts, the program fosters self-expression, education and empowerment.





The work Taking Part do, and the participation projects in particular, are the beating heart of the Young Vic's purpose: to be a theatre where everyone feels at home. To be a theatre that matters to the community it sits within. To be a theatre that meets the world where it is today. The Participation work is responsive, collaborative and full of care. It can be joyful, beautiful and fun or it can be profound, moving and life-changing - often all at the same time. Taking Part is the Young Vic's treasure.

Lucy Davies - Young Vic, Executive Director

Taking Part – Key Milestones

Learning & Participation Programmes

Our Taking Part department offers lifelong opportunities to engage with the Young Vic, beginning with the Learning Strand for young people at school age, continuing through adolescence with the Participation Strand, and extending into adulthood with Neighbourhood Theatre for ages 25 and up.

The Learning Strand provides creative engagement within Lambeth and Southwark schools and alternative provisions, including free tickets, bespoke projects, workshops and mentorship. It equips young people with skills and confidence to pursue careers in the creative industries and serves as a gateway to advanced programmes.


The Participation Strand offers creative projects and productions for young people interested in developing new skills or exploring the theatre industry.

Young Associates

Our Young Associates Programme is now its 11th year running! We are committed to facilitating meaningful ways to work in the creative and cultural industries for young people in our local boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

A key part of that commitment is our Young Associates Programme, which employs a group of local young people aged 18-25 to work across our organisation each year. We actively encourage people from a variety of backgrounds with different experiences, skills and stories to join us and influence and develop our working practice. During the 9-month programme they will: gain hands-on experience as a Young Vic staff member; participate in an international cultural exchange; and create and produce a project of their own.



A photograph of three young people standing side-by-side and clapping. The person on the left is a young man with short dark hair, wearing a black leather jacket over a white t-shirt with a graphic. The person in the middle is a young man with short dark hair, wearing a grey hoodie and a patterned scarf. The person on the right is a young woman with dark hair, wearing a red headscarf with a patterned bandana, a red top, and a necklace. The background is a plain, light-colored wall with a framed picture.

"I truly relish working with Young Associates and cherish the opportunity to engage with creatives and arts facilitators of the future.

What I enjoy most is witnessing them grow in confidence and the innovative projects they develop. For instance, a former Young Associate created an event and meetup space for the Latin American community, which has since become embedded in our annual program. We actively seek opportunities to invite our Young Associates back after their placements to collaborate on various projects with us and to continue leading the projects they initiated during their placement. "

Sandra Thompson-Quartey - Young Vic Creators Program Producer

FREE TICKET SCHEME



A young person's first introduction to Taking Part is often through a school trip to the Young Vic.

We offer all schools, colleges and Alternative Provision settings free tickets to all of our shows.

We offer free workshops with our Jerwood Assistant Director to accompany the show to our Alternative Provision settings.



**In 2024 we have hired
11 Young People
to work across three of our
programmes
(Young Curators, Young
Consultants & Young
Associates)**

**All young people who engage
with our projects,
programmes and classes have
access to our psychotherapist,
travel bursary and are offered
food and refreshments.**

**Through our Pre-show meets
young people have been able to
network with others and feel more
comfortable accessing our
building, meeting staff and
understanding what opportunities
we have on offer**

**On average the Participation strand
engages with over
1400 young people a year**

MANTELPEACE

Taking Part – Key Milestones

This summer, we produced an immersive exhibition MANTELPEACE.

MANTELPEACE draws on real-life experiences of young men in Southwark and Lambeth.

We worked with Lead Artist Adam Karim, Sound Designer and Composer Duramaney Kamara, Set Designer Finlay Jenner and Guest Artists Ivan Oyik, Kingsley Nebechi, Marc Pouani, Still Shadey and Wumi Olaosebikan.

The contributions to our exhibition were made by our Learning Contributors Arco Academy, Lansdowne School, Southwark Inclusive Learning Service and Untold Creative Training who worked with our Lead Artist and Guest Artists to explore our theme of the transition from boyhood to manhood.

Our exhibition provides a fresh perspective on traditional masculinity.

Alongside the creating, we worked with 8 local Young Curators and Consultants on a paid programme who worked closely with our creative and production team to curate the audience experience. Through weekly content sessions and the opportunity to assist during Learning Contributor sessions, our Young Curators and Consultants were able to learn about curation whilst developing their creative and collaborative skills.



Speak Your Truth

In Collaboration with our community partner the Beth Centre (Women in Prison), a cohort was created to curate and design a new festival, which took place in August 2024 at the community space Draper Hall. The festival was inspired by Taking Part's 2024 provocation 'Investing In Our Neighbourhoods' and the Beth Centre's theme of Wellness.

This cohort was made up of clients and advocates of the Beth Centre led by lead artist Kelechi Okafor and filmmaker Bukola Bakinson. The group were tasked to make a festival line up which responds to the four key frameworks: Workshops, discussion, performance and celebration. The Cohort did not only curate the festival; they were also tasked with creating a 3 minute performance speech each about any topic they care about. This was coached and directed by Kelechi Okafor, and performed as a part of the event 'free up yourself'.

The aim of the project was to empower the women to feel more confident in their voice and learn key skills in festival curation and event management.

SPEAK YOUR TRUTH
A FESTIVAL IN CELEBRATION OF
WOMEN IN PRISON 40TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
27 - 30 AUGUST DRAPER HALL
ELEPHANT & CASTLE

TUE 27 AUG
TWERKIN N HEALIN
12:00-10:00 | OPEN TO ALL
I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS
19:00-23:00 | OPEN TO ALL

WED 28 AUG
SHOUT OUT
12:00-14:00
DRAPER TOGETHER &
NEIGHBOURHOOD
THEATRE MEMBERS ONLY
COOKED UP
15:00-17:00
WOMEN IN PRISON
CLIENTS ONLY

THUR 29 AUG
AROMATHERAPY WORKSHOP
12:00-14:00
WOMEN IN PRISON
CLIENTS ONLY
FREE UP YOURSELF
19:00-21:00
OPEN TO ALL

FRI 30 AUG
LITTLE VOICES, BIG DREAMS
12:00-15:00 | EMPOWERMENT Q&A
WOMEN IN PRISON CLIENTS CHILDREN ONLY
(7-10 YEARS OLD)
TALK DI TINGS
19:00-23:00 | OPEN TO ALL

Women in Prison | A TAKING PART PROJECT FROM THE YOUNG VIC & THE BETH CENTRE (WOMEN IN PRISON) | Young Vic

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE. TO BOOK PLEASE VISIT THE YOUNG VIC WEBSITE AT <https://www.youngvic.org/taking-part/neighbourhoods-today/speak-your-truth> OR EMAIL neighbourhoodstoday@youngvic.org

Creators Program

Supporting the Next Generation of Artists

The Creators Program is a unique offering at the Young Vic, dedicated to supporting early and mid-career theatre makers and producers.

At its heart, the internationally renowned network provides talented individuals with the space, resources and paid professional opportunities to develop their craft. The Program is vital to the UK theatre ecology, providing artists with pathways to flourish, often going from subsidised theatre into the West End, television and film.

“I believe I have hugely evolved as an artist during this process. It has allowed me to develop and improve a number of directorial skills, and also allowed me to build my confidence as a director and theatre maker.” - Neve Adam

Jerwood Trainee Assistant Director on *Girl in the Machine* (16 October 2024 - 26 October 2024), directed by Annie Kershaw.





The Earthworks

Directed by Andrea Ling and written by Tom Morton-Smith, *The Earthworks* explored humanity's relationship with nature and the environment, tackling the theme of climate change through a multidisciplinary lens.

This production provided an opportunity for emerging theatre-makers to engage in a socially relevant narrative, using innovative staging and visual storytelling



Genesis Future Directors Award

A paid opportunity to direct a fully supported production in the Clare Theatre.

The Genesis Future Directors Award enables us to identify, support and nurture a director to explore their craft and stage a production in the Clare Studio.

Annie Kershaw is the recipient of the Young Vic's 2024 Genesis Future Directors Award. Annie is currently the Carne Deputy Director at Jermyn Street Theatre. She was Associate Director on *Best of Enemies* in the West End and previously the Jerwood Assistant Director at the Young Vic.

Creators Program – Key Milestones

New Partnerships



The Creators Program teamed up with Black Lives in Music for 'Introduction to Making for Musical Directors'.

Focused on addressing the underrepresentation of Black and Global Majority Musical Directors (MDs) in the British theatre industry, our project aims to provide opportunities for professional musicians interested in learning or refining their skills in musical direction through a series of free events.

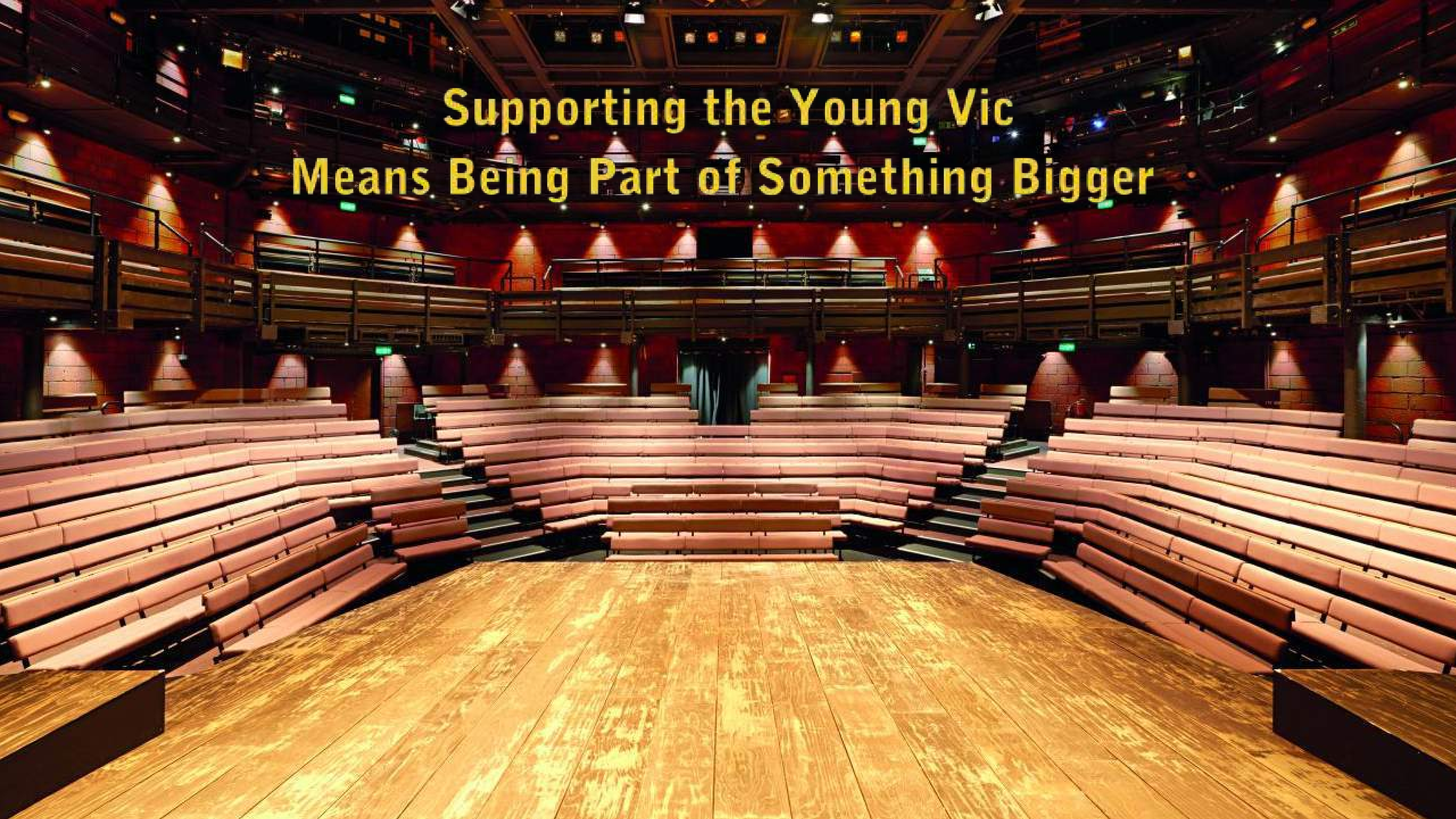


Girl In The Machine

Directed by Annie Kershaw, the recipient of the Genesis Future Directors Award 2024, this electrifying production of Stef Smith's award-winning play explored the tension between love and technology.

As Polly grapples with her relationship with Rowen and the allure of the Black Box, audiences are invited to consider the implications of a fast-changing world. The production featured BAFTA-nominated Leah Harvey and Sophie Melville.

**Supporting the Young Vic
Means Being Part of Something Bigger**



Looking Ahead

Nadia Fall's Artistic Leadership

We are excited to welcome Nadia Fall as our new Artistic Director. Nadia joins us from Theatre Royal Stratford East, where she championed innovative programming and community engagement.

At Stratford East, her programming highlights include a hit revival of *Equus* which transferred to the West End in her first season, August Wilson's *King Hedley II* starring Sir Lenny Henry which she also directed, and new collaborations including a large-scale production of *Noye's Fludde* with English National Opera, bringing together 300 young people and which received the Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Opera.

Glenn Earle, Chair of the Board, said:

"I am thrilled that Nadia will join us as our next Artistic Director ... Nadia has a proven and long-standing record not only of theatre leadership, but also of significant artistic success, at the National Theatre, at Stratford East and as a freelance director. Critically, Nadia also shares our core Young Vic values of commitment to community and to broadening access to theatre and creative education.

My fellow Board members and I look forward to the exciting next chapter of the Young Vic story under the leadership of Nadia, who we are sure will build confidently, creatively and inclusively on the extraordinary legacy of their illustrious forebears. "

Young Vic



"I was born in Southwark and raised in and around the borough as well as the Middle East, to South Asian parents, and I love that the Young Vic holds hands with its local community of Southwark and Lambeth whilst looking out towards the rest of the world through its artists and stories. It's exactly who we are in London - both local and international.

I am thrilled to be leading the team at a theatre where I was first taken into the fold as a young student director when Associate Artistic Director Sue Emma watched the first night of the very first show I ever directed in a pub theatre in Kennington. It's one of life's full circle moments and I cannot wait to get started."

- Nadia Fall, Artistic Director of the Young Vic



EXIT



Thank You

Your generosity has been the driving force behind every achievement this year.

You helped us:

Produce bold, innovative mainstage productions that challenged and inspired audiences.

Provide over 15,000 participants with life-changing experiences through Taking Part.

Support emerging artists through the Creators Program, giving them the tools to succeed in our industries.

Maintain a vital connection to our community, ensuring that theatre remains accessible to all.



A Year of Achievement Made Possible by You

Thank you for being an integral part of the Young Vic's journey.

By continuing your support, you'll help us create groundbreaking theatre, foster the next generation of artists, and make incredible work with and for our local communities.

Your contribution, large or small, makes a lasting impact on the lives we touch.
Thank you.

We look forward to sharing more inspiring theatre with you in the year ahead.

Young Vic

It's a big world in here.

Young Vic is a registered Charity
Registered charity number: 268876

