

Young Vic

Press Release – Thursday 3 November 2022

Images and biographies can be downloaded [here](#)

***FURTHER THAN THE FURTHEST THING* ANNOUNCED FOR YOUNG VIC THEATRE'S 2023 SEASON**

- Zinnie Harris' award-winning modern classic, based on real events on the island of Tristan da Cunha, in a visionary revival by Genesis Fellow and Young Vic Associate Director Jennifer Tang
- *Further than the Furthest Thing* runs in the Young Vic Main House from 9 March to 29 April, with opening night on 16 March
- Tickets on priority sale today and on general sale from 14 November via www.youngvic.org
- Applications open today for the 2023 Genesis Fellow/Associate Director, a two-year programme for experienced directors and theatremakers to develop their craft in directing, programming and artistic planning, made possible with support from the Genesis Foundation. Further details via <https://creatorsprogram.youngvic.org/>

"Surprise is as come from the H'outside world"

The Young Vic Theatre today announces a new production of ***Further than the Furthest Thing***, the award-winning play and haunting modern classic by Zinnie Harris (*This Restless House*, *How To Hold Your Breath*), directed by Young Vic Associate Director and Genesis Fellow Jennifer Tang (*AI*, *Mountains: The Dreams of Lily Kwok*). It marks the first major London staging in more than 20 years, and will run in the **Young Vic Main House** from **9 March to 29 April** with opening night for press on **16 March**.

Further than the Furthest Thing premiered in 2000, co-produced by the National Theatre and The Tron Glasgow, and won an Edinburgh Fringe First Award, Peggy Ramsay Award and John Whiting Award and was shortlisted for the Susan Smith Blackburn Award. Based on real events on the island of Tristan da Cunha, the most remote inhabited archipelago, the story follows a community haunted by its past and under threat from a modern world in crisis. Director Jennifer Tang's new, visionary interpretation revisits the play through a contemporary lens interrogating the climate emergency and globalisation.

On a remote volcanic island in the middle of the Atlantic, the islanders of Tristan da Cunha have lived undisturbed for centuries, defying the swirling currents of modernity. Cut off and exposed to the elements, their survival has created a complex bond with their land. But when one of the inhabitants brings an outsider to the island, their way of life is changed forever.

Following her ground-breaking production *AI* in 2021, *Further than the Furthest Thing* will be the final production from Jennifer Tang in her role as Genesis Fellow / Associate Director at the Young Vic.

Jennifer Tang, Director, said: *"It's a complete privilege to direct this stunning play for the Young Vic, and to be collaborating with such a brilliant team to bring it to life. The play is beautiful, lyrical and vividly evokes a community that feels both far away and familiar. Although written over 20 years ago, its message about how our choices impact people and our planet feels more urgent than ever. Zinnie's extraordinary play is both intimate and epic, local and global – it asks us to think about our notion of home, our sense of belonging, and how far we will go in pursuit of our values. I'm just so excited to share it with audiences in the Spring, along with the work of all the brilliant artists involved."*

“Directing this play brings my Genesis Fellow and Associate Directorship at the Young Vic to a close. The past couple of years have been a real adventure, where I have been able to become part of the rich ecology of an incomparable theatre and arts organization creating an artistically ambitious and exceptional programme of work. The ways in which this Fellowship has allowed me to develop as an artist are wide-ranging and deep-seated and I am incredibly grateful to the Genesis Foundation and all at the Young Vic for this opportunity. I’m sad to be leaving but happy to be saying farewell through this gift of a production.”

Kwame Kwei-Armah, Young Vic Artistic Director, said: *“Jen is an exceptional multi-disciplinary artist who has made vital contributions to the Young Vic. From her production of AI, which embraced cutting-edge technology to driving innovative exploratory practices for artists and audiences, she continues to push boundaries and demonstrate her potential as an artistic director of the future. I’m excited to see her interpretation of Zinnie Harris’ Further than the Furthest Thing in what promises to be a thrilling and compellingly relevant new production that highlights the threat of the climate emergency. It has been a pleasure to be a part of Jen’s journey as Genesis Fellow/Associate Director, she will be missed in the Young Vic team, but no doubt has a burgeoning career ahead.”*

The creative team is completed by Designer **Soutra Gilmour**, Lighting Designer **Prema Mehta**, Sound Designer **George Dennis**, Composer **Ruth Chan**, Movement Director **Ingrid Mackinnon**, Voice and Dialect Coach **Emma Woodvine**, Illusions Designer **John Bulleid**, and Casting Director **Charlotte Sutton**.

Full casting will be announced in due course.

Applications for the **2023 Genesis Fellowship/Associate Director** will open **until 12pm on 6 December**. The Genesis Fellow/Associate Director will be based within the Creators Program department and plays an integral role in the development and delivery of the Young Vic’s artist development program.

The Young Vic’s longstanding partner, the **Genesis Foundation**, has provided leadership support for the Genesis Fellow for over ten years investing in exceptional directors, their strategic insight and creative growth. Previous Genesis Fellows include **Nadia Latif**, **Gbolahan Obisesan**, **Natalie Abrahami**, **Carrie Cracknell** and **Joe Hill-Gibbins**.

John Studzinski CBE, Founder & Chairman, Genesis Foundation, said: *“The Genesis Fellowship is a cornerstone of our 20-year partnership with the Young Vic. It enables a significant gear-change in the career of a director: a unique opportunity for a theatre artist to grow and learn not only the craft of directing but also the skill of running a theatre, fostering collaboration and inspiring arts makers within a venue. The next Genesis Fellow, mentored by Kwame Kwei-Armah and the outstanding artistic team at the Young Vic, will join a cohort of talented Genesis directors, many of whom are now at the helm of theatre all around the UK. As Jennifer Tang’s successful tenure ends, we look forward to the recruitment of the next Genesis Fellow, in a role that is pivotal to the cultural ecology of this country.”*

The Young Vic is renowned for the Creators Program, that grew from the Directors Program, and has been providing an extensive program of learning activities, traineeships, and opportunities to make work for artists for more than 20 years. Since 2003, the Genesis Foundation’s partnership has been the back bone of artist development at the Young Vic – forging community through the Genesis Network, and igniting careers through invaluable training opportunities such as the Genesis Future Directors Award and Genesis Fellowship.

The Genesis Fellow/Associate Director will initiate and run projects, provide mentorship for Genesis Future Directors Awards, facilitate discussions, and lead on exploration of new ideas and ways of working. There will also be an opportunity to direct a show at the Young Vic during the tenure of the Fellowship in one of the theatre’s three spaces.

Further details on the post and how to apply are available at <https://creatorsprogram.youngvic.org/>

Relaxed Performances: 5 April, 7.30pm and 8 April, 2.30pm

BSL Performance: 31 March, 7:30pm

Audio Described Performance: 11 April, 7.30pm

Captioned Performance: 13 April, 7.30pm

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Images and biographies: download [here](#)

About the Genesis Foundation

The Genesis Foundation has supported the Young Vic's Directors Program since its inception nearly 20 years ago and currently funds the Genesis Future Directors Award and the Genesis Fellow.

The Genesis Foundation was founded by John Studzinski in 2001. Over the past 21 years, the Foundation has donated a total of more than £20 million to the arts. Through its funding and partnership model, it has enabled opportunities for thousands of young artists in theatre and music, building both their experience and their resilience. Cross-disciplinary networking and mentoring are inherent to the Genesis Foundation and form the basis of its work.

The Foundation's main focus is on partnerships with leading arts organisations such as the Young Vic, National Theatre, Almeida Theatre and The Sixteen, and on training programmes that equip emerging artists for life as a creative professional. In 2020, it launched the Covid-19 Artists Fund, an emergency response to help freelancers facing hardship, and the £1 million Genesis Kickstart Fund that funded future-facing projects for outstanding freelance talent in the creative sector across the UK.

For more information, please visit genesisfoundation.org.uk

About the Young Vic Theatre

For over fifty years, the Young Vic has produced new plays, classics, musicals, adaptations of books, short films, digital projects, and game-changing forms of theatre, attracting large audiences from many different backgrounds. Based in London's Waterloo, we forge deep connections in our neighbourhood through our Taking Part programme, where we engage with over 15,000 people every year via a wide range of projects, from skills-based workshops to on-stage performances. We give 10% of our tickets free to schools and neighbours, irrespective of box office demand, and we are committed to keeping ticket prices low.

The Young Vic's Creators Program is our space for multi- and anti-disciplinary artists, and is the only scheme of its kind. Launched in 2001 and formerly known as the Directors Program, we offer artists and producers a unique opportunity to develop their craft through skills workshops, peer-led projects, and paid work opportunities that range from trainee and assistant director roles to a two-year residency through the Genesis Fellow/ Associate Director position. The Genesis Network provides an online community to over 2,000 artists and producers. Each year, the recipient of the Genesis Future Directors Award directs a show in the Clare Theatre with full support from the Young Vic's creative, administrative and production teams, enabling us to support and nurture an early career director as part of our season of work.

For many years, the Young Vic has been synonymous with inclusivity, accessibility, and creativity. We catalyse debate and channel our work into the digital world, to reach new audiences and continue conversations outside of our four walls. We foster emerging talent and collaborate with some of the world's finest directors, performers and creatives; creating award-winning productions which engage with the world we live in.

Artistic Director: Kwame Kwei-Armah

Executive Director: Lucy Davies

www.youngvic.org

Public Support



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Season Support



THE BLACK HEART FOUNDATION



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