

Young Vic

Press Release – Wednesday 7 December 2022

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

FULL CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR *FURTHER THAN THE FURTHEST THING* OPENING AT THE YOUNG VIC THEATRE IN MARCH 2023

**Jenna Russell plays Mill, Cyril Nri plays Bill, with Gerald Kyd as Mr Hansen, Archie Madekwe as Francis, Kirsty Rider as Rebecca, and live vocals by Shapla Salique.
Written by Zinnie Harris and directed by Jennifer Tang**

Young Vic Theatre presents

Further than the Furthest Thing

By Zinnie Harris

Directed by Jennifer Tang

Main House

9 March to 29 April

Press Night: 16 March

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

The **Young Vic Theatre** today announces full casting for its 2023 new season opening production *Further than the Furthest Thing*, the multi-award-winning modern classic by **Zinnie Harris** (*Macbeth (an undoing)*, *This Restless House*, *How To Hold Your Breath*) in a visionary revival by Genesis Fellow / Young Vic Associate Director **Jennifer Tang** (*AI*, *Mountains: The Dreams of Lily Kwok*). It runs in the **Young Vic Main House** from **9 March to 29 April** with opening night for press on **16 March**. Tickets are on sale at www.youngvic.org

Gerald Kyd (*The Seagull*, *Deep Blue Sea*) plays Mr Hansen, **Archie Madekwe** (*Midsommar*, *See*) plays Francis, **Cyril Nri** (*Trouble in Mind*, *The Barbershop Chronicles*, *The Bill*) plays Bill, **Kirsty Rider** (*The Sandman*, *The Doctor*, *Nora: A Doll's House*) plays Rebecca, and Olivier Award-winning and Tony Award-nominated **Jenna Russell** (*Fun Home*, *Piaf*) plays Mill, with live vocals provided by **Shapla Salique** (*No Boundaries*).

Based on real events on the island of Tristan da Cunha, the most remote inhabited archipelago in the world, the story follows a community haunted by its past and under threat from a modern world in crisis.

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.

Director **Jennifer Tang's** new interpretation, the first major London staging in more than 20 years, revisits the play through a contemporary lens interrogating the climate emergency and globalisation. It will be the closing production in her role as Genesis Fellow / Associate Director at the Young Vic following her ground-breaking production *AI* in 2021.

The Genesis Fellowship is a two-year full-time position within the Young Vic team, offering a freelance director or theatre maker the opportunity to contribute creatively and strategically to a major arts organisation while exploring their practice by making work for our stages.

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.

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**, Musical Director **Michael Henry**, Illusions Designer **John Bulleid**, and Casting Director **Charlotte Sutton CDG**.

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

About the Genesis Fellowship

The Genesis Fellowship is a two-year full-time position within the Young Vic team, offering a freelance director or theatre maker the opportunity to contribute creatively and strategically to a major arts organisation while exploring their practice by making work for our stages. Previous Genesis Fellows before **Jennifer Tang** include **Nadia Latif**, **Gbolahan Obisesan**, **Natalie Abrahami**, **Carrie Cracknell** and **Joe Hill-Gibbins**.

The Genesis Fellowship is made possible by the Genesis Foundation.

ENDS

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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



SEASON SUPPORT



THE BLACK HEART FOUNDATION



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE IAN BURFORD AND ALEC CANNELL FOR GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING THE YOUNG VIC'S MISSION.