

# Young Vic

Press Release – Tuesday 16 May 2023

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

## FULL CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR UK PREMIERE OF BENEATHA'S PLACE AT THE YOUNG VIC THEATRE

- **Cherrelle Skeete** will star as Beneatha, with **Zackary Momoh**, **Sebastian Armesto**, **Jumoké Fashola**, **Tom Godwin** and **Nia Gwynne** completing the cast.
- A blistering new drama written and directed by Young Vic Artistic Director **Kwame Kwei-Armah**, inspired by the modern classic *A Raisin in the Sun*.
- *Beneatha's Place* runs in the Young Vic Main House from **27 June to 5 August**, with press night on **5 July**. Tickets via [www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

The Young Vic Theatre today announces full casting for Artistic Director **Kwame Kwei-Armah's** (*The Collaboration*) razor-sharp satire and UK premiere, *Beneatha's Place*, about the power of knowing your history and the cost of letting it go. The production runs in the Main House from **27 June to 5 August** with opening night for press on 5 July.

**Cherrelle Skeete** (*Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *Hanna*) will star as Beneatha Younger, **Zackary Momoh** (*Seven Seconds*, *The Nevers*) as Joseph Asagai/Wale Oguns, **Sebastian Armesto** (*Leopoldstadt*, *The Tudors*) as Daniel Barnes/Prof Mark Bond, **Jumoké Fashola** (*The High Table*, *For All the Women Who Thought They Were Mad*) as Prof Shirley Jones/Aunty Fola, **Tom Godwin** (*Best of Enemies*, *Tina – The Tina Turner Musical*) as Mr Nelson/Prof Gary Jacobs, and **Nia Gwynne** (*Tolkien*, *Timon of Athens*) as Mrs. Nelson/Dr Harriet Banks.

1959. The first wave of independence is sweeping across Africa and Beneatha has left the prejudice of 1950s America for a brighter future with her Nigerian husband in Lagos. But on the day they move into their new house in the white suburbs, it doesn't take long for cracks to appear, changing the course of the rest of their lives.

Present day. Now a renowned Dean whose colleagues are questioning the role of African American studies for future generations, Beneatha returns to the same house in search of answers.

Inspired by the groundbreaking civil rights drama, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Beneatha's Place* challenges today's culture wars about colonial history and reckoning with the past.

The creative team is completed by Set and Costume Designer **Debbie Duru**, Lighting Designer **Mark Henderson**, Sound Designer **Tony Gayle**, Voice and Dialect Coach **Esi**

**Acquaah-Harrison**, Casting Director **Heather Basten CDG**, Jerwood Assistant Director **Ellis** and Jerwood Trainee Assistant Director **Tia-zakura Camilleri**.

Tickets are on sale now at [www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

Relaxed Performances: Fri 21 July, 7.30pm & Sat 22 July, 2:30pm

BSL Performance: Fri 28 July, 7.30pm

Audio Described Performances: Thu 13 July, 7.30pm & Thu 20 July, 7.30pm

Captioned Performances: Mon 17 July, 7.30pm & Thu 3 August, 7.30pm

**ENDS**

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**Images and biographies:**

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w76asay2k12i2k5/AAA3\\_R4LzQIkPaJHTxO4tQeJa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w76asay2k12i2k5/AAA3_R4LzQIkPaJHTxO4tQeJa?dl=0)

**About the Young Vic Theatre**

Founded in 1970 as a space for world-premiere productions as well as innovative and unexpected takes on classic plays, boldly conceived, that speak urgently to our present, the Young Vic Theatre has been one of London's leading theatres for more than fifty years. We foster future artists 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.

Built upon the principles of access, innovation, and community, the Young Vic stands out for balancing commercial success, drive and artistic flair with genuine grassroots social impact change in our neighbourhood.

Recent productions in the West End and on Broadway include: *Best of Enemies* at the Noël Coward Theatre and *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!* at Wyndham's Theatre; and on Broadway, *Death of a Salesman* at the Hudson Theatre and *The Collaboration* at Manhattan Theatre Club's Samuel J. Friedman Theatre. Bringing together artists and audiences on a global scale and using the power of stories to change our world, the Young Vic extends well beyond the boundaries of its walls.

**Artistic Director: Kwame Kwei-Armah**

**Executive Director: Lucy Davies**

[www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

**The Young Vic's annual activities are made possible with public funding from Arts Council England.**

**Additional support is provided by The Black Heart Foundation and the Genesis Foundation.**

***Beneatha's Place* is generously supported by The Charlotte Aitken Trust.**

**We gratefully acknowledge Ian Burford and Alec Cannell for generously supporting the Young Vic's mission.**

**About The Charlotte Aitken Trust**

The Charlotte Aitken Trust is a charitable foundation set up by the celebrated literary agent Gillon Aitken in his daughter's name. The purpose of the Trust, as defined by Gillon, is to support, encourage, sustain and promote literary creativity in all its forms. The Trust was established in 2020 and since then has given grants and created associations with the Young Vic, The Brontë Parsonage, the Forward Poetry Prize and The Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award, among others.