

Press Release - 11 October 2022

YOUNG VIC TAKING PART RELEASE PRODUCTION IMAGES FOR YVUNPACKED: I WONDER IF... DIRECTED BY DANIEL BAILEY



Production images available here

YV Unpacked: I Wonder If...

Devised by the Company

Directed by Daniel Bailey

On Tour in Lambeth and Southwark until 20 October

Maria Theatre, Young Vic 24-29 October

"Two people meet. The rest is infinite."

Young Vic Taking Part today releases production images for *I Wonder If...*, the fourth YV Unpacked production which sees Taking Part tour professional work to local community venues across Lambeth and Southwark before a run at the Young Vic. Directed by **Daniel Bailey** (*Red Pitch*) and devised by the company, **YV** *Unpacked: I Wonder If...* is a new play fusing dance, music and dialogue to explore the complex beauty of human relationships.

Established in 2018 by Artistic Director Kwame Kwei-Armah, YV Unpacked was developed to reach audiences who may find it difficult to access theatre by taking professional work directly to them. Following the success of three YV Unpacked tours, *I Wonder If...* will work with 10 organisations to tour to eight locations in Lambeth and Southwark until **20 October** including community centres, specialist schools, a mother's group and women's centre before performances at the **Young Vic's Maria Theatre** from **24-29 October**. The production will also have a livestreamed and BSL performance on **28 October**.

She's moving to Birmingham and he's from London. They end up at the same party. We think we know how this story ends. But what happens next in *this* story will be shaped by the choices they make in each moment. As their growing friendship is steered by the changing beat of the drum, they'll wrestle with which version of themselves they choose to be and the possible futures they could share.

The company includes Danielle Kassaraté, John Rwothomack and Shakira Stellar.

Venues and organisations hosting YV Unpacked: I Wonder If... are Phoenix Place, St Johns Waterloo, The Woodlawns Centre, Blackfriars Settlement, South London Women's Hub/Beth Centre and Draper Together at Draper Hall, Southwark Inclusive Learning Service, Espacio Mamá, and IRMO and High Trees (a part of Building Young Brixton) at Tulse Hill Adventure Playground.

The creative team is complete with co-production by **Shereen Jasmin Phillips** and **Alisha Artry**, movement direction by **Ricardo Da Silva**, design consultation by **QianEr Jin**, musical direction and composition by **Shakira Stellar** and dramaturgy by **Shereen Jasmin Phillips**. The production manager is **James Dawson**

company stage manager is **Sylvia Darkwa-Ohemeng**, the deputy stage manager is **Emily Behague**, the sound operator is **Lateef Salvador Oshinowo**, trainee assistant director is **Sahana Rackal**, and BSL Interpreter is **Sumayya Si-Tayeb**.

More than 300 tickets on the run in the Maria Theatre will be given to Taking Part's community of schools, neighbours and early-career theatre makers.

On Tour in Lambeth and Southwark: until 20 October

Maria Theatre, Young Vic: 24-29 October Streamed Performance: 28 October BSL Performance: 28 October

Tickets for the in-person and livestreamed performances are on sale now.

- ENDS -

For more information, please contact: Karl-Lydie Jean-Baptiste, Press Officer KarlLydie@youngvic.org

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About Taking Part

Taking Part, the Young Vic's creative engagement department, delivers an ambitious programme each year, collaborating with the UK's leading theatre artists to create work for and with our local community. Taking Part work with thousands of participants each year, helping them to develop their creative skills, build meaningful relationships and connections, and tell compelling stories about the world we live in.

About the Young Vic

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 <u>Taking Part</u> 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 <u>Creators Program</u> 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 <u>Genesis Fellow/ Associate Director</u> position. The <u>Genesis Network</u> provides an online community to over 2,000 artists and producers. Each year, the recipient of the <u>Genesis Future Directors Award</u> 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

Youngvic.org

Public Support











Season Support



The Black Heart Foundation provides leadership support for the Young Vic's 2022-2023 season. Additional generous support is provided by the Genesis Foundation and IHS Markit.

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