

Young Vic

Press Release – Monday 27 February 2023

Images can be downloaded [here](#)

RUTH WILSON IN *THE SECOND WOMAN* ON SALE DATES ANNOUNCED



A Young Vic & LIFT co-production
Produced in association with Ruth Wilson
THE SECOND WOMAN
Created by Nat Randall and Anna Breckon
Presented in proud association with House of Oz

Young Vic Theatre - Main House
Friday 19 May at 4pm until Saturday 20 May at 4pm

The **Young Vic Theatre** and **LIFT** today announce tickets for ***The Second Woman*** starring Golden Globe and Olivier Award winner **Ruth Wilson** in an epic 24-hour performance which will go on priority sale on **Thursday 2 March**, and on general sale on **Monday 6 March at 12pm**.

Tickets will be available for the full 24 hours, for allocated time slots and on-the-door, with full details available at www.youngvic.org

One woman, one scene, one hundred men, one electrifying 24-hour performance.

The UK premiere of ***The Second Woman*** sees **Ruth Wilson** (*Luther*, *His Dark Materials*, *Hedda Gabler*) take on this internationally acclaimed feat of endurance theatre and live cinema at the **Young Vic** commencing on **Friday 19 May, at 4pm and concluding on Saturday 20 May at 4pm**.

Over a full 24 hours, 100 different men, non-binary and queer people are invited to star opposite **Ruth Wilson**, as she performs over and over a scene between a man and a woman in a relationship that has lost its creativity and romance.

In an epic endurance performance inspired by John Cassavetes' film *Opening Night*, none of the 100 different Martyrs have met or rehearsed with **Ruth Wilson's** Virginia and most of them are non-actors.

This production, created by Anna Breckon and Nat Randall, is a collaboration between LIFT and the Young Vic, bringing together two of London's most innovative cultural institutions with one of the world's most celebrated actors.

Whether you choose to stay for 24 minutes or the full 24 hours, *The Second Woman* is a unique, cinematic theatre experience in which the stage offers the audience a wide-angle view of the action, while multiple cameras capture and share live close-ups.

Ruth Wilson said: *"I have a feeling that The Second Woman will challenge all norms of what it means to be actor and audience, to be performer and observer. I'm interested in what happens in that space between us all; if we form a bond as we watch and anticipate the next play partner. This is a one-off, 24-hour experience of pure, spontaneous interaction. It will never happen again."*

Kris Nelson, LIFT Artistic Director and CEO, and Stella Kanu, Executive Director, said: *"We are fortunate to have some amazing partners and not many come close to the Young Vic who have been working with us tirelessly to bring this show to London since 2019! This May, you'll get to witness an incredible performance - a mesmerising concept by Sydney-based artists Nat Randall and Anna Breckon that's all about power, gender and the negotiations we make within a couple. Over 24 hours Ruth Wilson will reveal why she's one of the country's most mercurial and astounding performers. Audiences are in for a real treat!"*

Kwame Kwei-Armah, Young Vic Artistic Director, and Lucy Davies, Executive Director, said: *"The Second Woman is live event theatre at its very best, starring Ruth Wilson in a formidable and truly unique performance. We are proud to present Nat Randall and Anna Breckon's genre-defying work with our brilliant co-producer LIFT, and together bring audiences non-stop, unforgettable theatre over 24 hours."*

The Second Woman is a **Young Vic Theatre** and **LIFT** co-production, produced in association with **Ruth Wilson**, created by **Nat Randall and Anna Breckon**, presented in proud association with **House of Oz**.

Direction is by **Anna Breckon** and **Nat Randall**, Video and Camera Design by **EO Gill** and **Anna Breckon**, Lighting Design by **Amber Silk** and **Kayla Burrett**, UK Lighting Design by **Lauren Woodhead**, Music Composition by **Nina Buchanan** and Set Design by **FUTURE METHOD STUDIO**.

The Second Woman is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and originally supported by Next Wave 2016.

TICKET INFORMATION

The Second Woman goes on sale to Young Vic Soul Mates, Friends and LIFT members on Thursday 2 March at 12pm and on general sale on Monday 6 March at 12pm via www.youngvic.org

Demand for tickets is expected to be exceptionally high and tickets are limited to two per booking. Following priority and general on sales, there will be on-the-door tickets throughout the performance, subject to availability.

Tickets types:

24-Hour Tickets

Guaranteed entry from 4pm on Friday 19 May for the entire 24-hour experience.

Advance Timed Tickets

Book in advance for one of the following time slots: 9.30pm, 12am, 2am, 4am, 6am, 8am or 10am and stay as long as you like from that point onwards.

On-The-Door Tickets

Turn up at any point throughout the performance, join the General Queue and get entry to the show on a first come first served basis as space becomes available.

For all ticket types:

Once seated, you can choose to stay until the performance ends at 4pm on Saturday 20 May or leave whenever you wish. Short breaks outside of the auditorium are permitted. If you choose to leave for a longer period, you will be able to re-enter without paying again, but will have to re-join the General Queue and wait to be re-admitted at the earliest available opportunity.

Full tickets details are available at www.youngvic.org

ENDS

Young Vic Press Contacts:

Su-Ann Chow-Seegoolam, Head of Press and Communications

Su-AnnChow-Seegoolam@youngvic.org

Karl-Lydie Jean-Baptiste, Press Officer

Karllydie@youngvic.org

Images: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/2r3yzaw0kcba4wp/AADbsCUKw4WwqLFooJ8ni-kEa?dl=0>

About the Young Vic Theatre

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

Welcoming more than 100,000 visitors a year to its London Waterloo location, the Young Vic stands out in the city's cultural landscape for balancing daring commercial drive, success and artistic flair with genuine grassroots social impact change in our neighbourhood. 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 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 team.

Built upon the principles of access, innovation, and community, the Young Vic is now deepening its roots nationally and internationally. Recent Broadway transfers include a powerful revival of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* and *The Collaboration*. In London's West End, the Young Vic is currently staging its multi-award-winning production of *Best of Enemies* for Autumn 2022 followed by the smash hit musical, *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!* transferring in Spring 2023.

The Young Vic's founding spirit is iconoclastic and pushing at the forefront of possibility, bringing together artists and audiences on a global scale and using the power of stories to change our world.

Artistic Director: Kwame Kwei-Armah

Executive Director: Lucy Davies

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.

***THE SECOND WOMAN* 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 LIFT

LIFT, London's biennial international festival of theatre, brings joyful, daring and unforgettable theatre from around the world to London, using the whole city as its stage.

Every two years, LIFT presents a festival full of bold and relevant culture, international perspectives, and thought-provoking performances. Whether it's a much-loved venue, iconic landmark or unsung corner of London, LIFT gathers Londoners around incredible art.

LIFT's mission is to create powerful, invigorating experiences that challenge artistic, political and social conventions; to champion artist advancement at home and abroad; to lead sustainable internationalism; and to celebrate and connect London to the world. We engage and create communities around ideas and projects, connect leading artists to locals, connect international artists and local artists to London, and together make incredible art happen. Recent work includes the UK Premiere of award-winning, climate change opera *Sun & Sea* which was presented as part of the 2022 festival.

<https://www.liftfestival.com/>

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.

About House of Oz

House of Oz is a platform to showcase the depth and breadth of Australian talent from the emerging to the veteran, in a venue with a distinctly Australian flavour. Born at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2022 as part of the UK/ Australia Season, House of Oz featured a diverse program spanning genres and generations, quality food and beverage options and an atmospheric courtyard bar, and in this inaugural year, won an award for Best Fringe Venue. More than just four walls, House of Oz provides the production, producing, marketing and PR support for Australians to showcase their work in its best possible light, in a way that makes them proud.