### Young Vic

Press Release – Wednesday 8 February 2023 Images can be downloaded here

### YOUNG VIC THEATRE ANNOUNCES SPRING – AUTUMN 2023 PROGRAMME

- Golden Globe and Olivier Award winner Ruth Wilson will star in the internationally acclaimed epic The Second Woman one woman, one scene, one hundred men, one electrifying 24-hour performance. The UK premiere at the Young Vic Theatre is co-produced with LIFT, produced in association with Ruth Wilson, created by Nat Randall and Anna Breckon and presented in proud association with House of Oz, 19 to 20 May.
- The UK premiere of *Beneatha's Place*, written and directed by Artistic Director Kwame Kwei-Armah, is a blistering satirical drama about history, power and the cost of letting go, inspired by the ground-breaking 1950s civil rights drama *A Raisin in the Sun.* 27 June to 5 August, with press night 5 July.
- House Father and pioneer of the London Ballroom scene Jay Jay Revlon and award-winning director
  Tristan Fynn-Aiduenu re-join forces with Taking Part, the Young Vic's creative engagement
  department, as the worlds of ballroom and theatre come together in Sundown Kiki Reloaded, in the
  Maria Theatre from 31 July to 11 August. The acclaimed production will follow the first ever ball at
  the Young Vic as Jay Jay Revlon x Young Vic Taking Part present THE FABRIC with COLOUR
  VOGUE BALL on 15 April especially for the Ballroom community.
- untitled f\*ck m\*ss s\*\*gon play, Kimber Lee's sharply-comic play and winner of the International Award for The Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting in 2019, explores identity, invisibility and misrepresentation. A world premiere co-production with Royal Exchange Theatre, Factory International for Manchester International Festival and Headlong, directed by the Royal Exchange's Co-Artistic Director Roy Alexander Weise, at the Young Vic from 18 September to 4 November, with press night 22 September following a Manchester opening.
- Tribe is a celebration of family in all its forms, combining immersive exhibition and live performance, presented by Taking Part and Community Partner Beth Centre (Women in Prison). It will run in the Maria Theatre from 28 October to 4 November.
- Five Shorts brings together five artists Andrea Ling, Annie Kershaw, Ashen Gupta, Nikhil Vyas
  and Zoe Templeman-Young and five creative collaborators Olivia Poglio-Nwabali, Jasmin MandiGhomi, Sanjay Lago, Marek Horn and Marina Carr to create five five-minute live performances as
  part of the Young Vic Creators Program.
- Zinnie Harris' Further than the Furthest Thing also opens in 2023, from 9 March to 29 April, with
  press night 16 March. Based on real events on one of the world's most remote inhabited islands,
  directed by Genesis Fellow / Young Vic Associate Director Jennifer Tang in a visionary new
  production starring Jenna Russell, Cyril Nri, Gerald Kyd, Archie Madekwe and Kirsty Rider with
  live vocals by Shapla Salique.

Kwame Kwei-Armah, Young Vic Theatre Artistic Director, says: "I'm delighted to announce our upcoming shows in the Spring to Autumn 2023 programme at the Young Vic Theatre; a continuation of works about power, revolution and disruption. We are living in revolutionary times where both beauty and hardship lie in the constancy of change and I believe that one of the best guides to help steer us through is art, to enable us to interrogate, to disrupt and to inspire.

"Further than the Furthest Thing explores the impact of globalisation on communities and the need for a climate revolution; The Second Woman challenges power dynamics and defies our expectation of the theatrical artform, revolutionising how we tell stories and push beyond the boundaries of performance through epic event theatre; Beneatha's Place sits in the revolutionary time of the first wave of independence across Africa, and the battles in modern day academia around whose histories are deemed valid, by whom and when; untitled f\*ck m\*ss s\*\*gon play speaks to the revolution of representation that is happening and must continue in the theatre industry, ensuring this stays at the centre of the Young Vic's work.

"This theme runs right through to our space at the Young Vic and the revolution inside our own four walls. The Young Vic's ambitions to be an anti-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary house of art where all our communities are welcomed and can see themselves is brilliantly embodied through Taking Part's **THE FABRIC with COLOUR VOGUE BALL, Sundown Kiki Reloaded**, and **Tribe.** We are proud to create a space for and with the ballroom community in our theatre, providing a platform where our young people and the ballroom community can joyously express themselves.

"At the Young Vic we are driven by bold innovation and the desire to entertain, challenge and captivate audiences in London, across the UK and internationally. These works speak to and inform our approach and we can't wait to showcase them on our stages."

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

The Young Vic's first show of 2023 is *Further than the Furthest Thing*, the multi-award-winning play by **Zinnie Harris** (*Macbeth (an undoing), This Restless House, How To Hold Your Breath*), directed by **Genesis Fellow** / **Young Vic Associate Director Jennifer Tang** (*Al, Mountains: The Dreams of Lily Kwok*).

Based on real events, 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 bind with their land. But when one of the inhabitants brings an outsider to the island, their way of life is changed forever.

In the first major London staging of the play in more than 20 years, Jennifer Tang's visionary interpretation revisits this haunting play through a contemporary lens, interrogating the climate emergency and globalisation.

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

The creative team is completed by Designer Soutra Gilmour, Lighting Designer Prema Mehta, Sound Designer George Dennis, Video Designer Ian William Galloway, Composer Ruth Chan, Movement Director Ingrid Mackinnon, Voice and Dialect Coach Victoria Woodward, Musical Director Michael Henry, Illusions Designer John Bulleid, and Casting Director Charlotte Sutton CDG.

Relaxed Performances: Wed 5 April, 7.30pm & Sat 8 April, 2.30pm

BSL Performance: Fri 31 March, 7.30pm

Audio Described Performance: Tue 11 April, 7.30pm Captioned Performance: Thu 13 April, 7.30pm Socially Distanced Performance: Tue 4 April, 7.30pm

Tickets for Further than the Furthest Thing are on sale now at www.youngvic.org

# Jay Jay Revlon x Young Vic Taking Part present THE FABRIC with COLOUR VOGUE BALL Maria Theatre Saturday 15 April

It's time to go back to the playground and back to fun!

Ballroom is about being creative so Jay Jay Revlon and Young Vic Taking Part are bringing this back in TWENTY TWENTY THREE with *THE FABRIC with COLOUR VOGUE BALL*, a special birthday ball that puts the scene first. So grab all your fabric bits and bobs 'cos on this night, all roads lead to the Young Vic Theatre.

**Jay Jay Revion** has been an early and devoted influence on the London Ballroom scene for the past five years and has been instrumental in defining how Ballroom in the UK is run. As Father of the UK House of Revion and founder of the Kiki House of Tea, Jay Jay is a leading authority of Ballroom in the UK.

There will be 15 categories on the night. These include: Under My Barbie Duvet - Tag Face; Love Reign - Best Dressed; Uncontained - LIPSYNC; American Dream - AA Runway; Soul Train Line 70s Fashion - WAACKING; 1960s Hippie Jeans - Realness With A Twist.

Full category details are available at www.youngvic.org

The judges will be announced at a later date.

THE FABRIC with COLOUR VOGUE BALL goes on sale to walkers today.

Public booking opens 30 March.

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
Main House
Friday 19 – Saturday 20 May, 4pm-4pm

One Woman. One Scene. One Hundred Men. One Electrifying 24-Hour Performance.

Golden Globe and two-time Olivier Award winner **Ruth Wilson** (*Luther, His Dark Materials, Hedda Gabler*) stars in **The Second Woman**, an internationally acclaimed feat of endurance theatre and live cinema.

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 Martys have met or rehearsed with **Ruth Wilson**'s Virginia and most of them are non-actors.

This production 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 says**: "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."

**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.** 

Lighting Design is by Lauren Woodhead, Video Design is by EO Gill.

**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.

The Second Woman will go on sale at a later date, with further details to be announced.

Young Vic Theatre presents

BENEATHA'S PLACE

Written and Directed by Kwame Kwei-Armah

Main House

27 June to 5 August

Press Night: 5 July

"Some things we do for those we are responsible for, some things for ourselves, and some things we do for the ancestors. Today, it's all three!"

**Beneatha's Place,** written and directed by **Artistic Director Kwame Kwei-Armah,** will have its UK premiere this summer. This blistering satirical drama about history, power and the cost of letting go is inspired by the ground-breaking 1950s' civil rights drama *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Lagos, 1959. The newly married Beneatha, and her Nigerian husband, rising political star, Joseph Asagi Funmilayo, are moving into their home in the white suburbs. But soon overbearing aunties and mysterious neighbours descend, pulling the young couple into the political storm of Nigerian independence and changing their lives forever.

Lagos, current day. A group of Ivy League professors meet with Beneatha in the same house to decide the future of their university. As they debate whose histories should be taught, and whose privileges examined, tensions threaten to reach breaking point.

Set and Costume Design is by **Debbie Duru**, Lighting Design is by **Mark Henderson**.

Full casting and further creative team to be announced.

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

BSL Performance: Fri 28 July, 7.30 pm

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

Beneatha's Place goes on sale to Soul Mates today, and Friends on 13 February.

Public booking opens 17 February.

A Taking Part production

SUNDOWN KIKI RELOADED

Creative Direction by Jay Jay Revlon Directed by Tristan Fynn-Aiduenu Maria Theatre 31 July to 11 August

"When we walk, we have the ability to make the world tremble with every step."

The House of Telfar and the House of Dunn are back in the explosive **Sundown Kiki Reloaded** following the sell-out run of *Sundown Kiki* in 2021. Watch the worlds of theatre and ballroom come together as the two families go head-to-head in an evening of pumping music, dance and partying that celebrates a Queerer London in all its glory.

Brought to you by the one and only UK Father of House of Revlon and pioneer of the London Ballroom Scene **Jay Jay Revlon** and award-winning director **Tristan Fynn-Aiduenu** (For Black Boys Who Have Considered Suicide When The Hue Gets Too Heavy). Created with and performed by Queer Black and Brown artists, the acclaimed show returns to the Young Vic. And we are ready for the DRAMA!!!

The cast of *Sundown Kiki Reloaded* includes: Amani, Asa Haynes, Diogo Varela, Emanuel Vuso, Georgie Lynch, Jay Lafayette Valentine, Joshua Asaré, Laura Sérgio, Sarah-Angel Sharma and Tatenda Shamiso.

The creative team is Creative Director Jay Jay Revlon, Director Tristan Fynn-Aiduenu, Set Designer Khadija Raza, Sound Designer and Composer XANA, Lighting Designer Pablo Fernández Baz, Costume Designer John Bastos, Movement Assistant Omar Jordan Phillips, Stage Manager Sylvia Darkwa-Ohemeng.

Relaxed Performances: All performances Mon 31 July - Fri 11 August

Sundown Kiki Reloaded goes on sale to Soul Mates today, and Friends on 13 February.

Public booking opens 17 February.

A Royal Exchange Theatre, Factory International for Manchester International Festival, Young Vic Theatre and Headlong co-production untitled f\*ck m\*ss s\*\*gon play

By Kimber Lee
Directed by Roy Alexander Weise
Main House
18 September to 4 November
Press Night: 22 September

untitled f\*ck m\*ss s\*\*gon play by Kimber Lee (*Tokyo Fish Story*) jumps through time – wriggling inside of and then exploding lifetimes of repeating Asian stereotypes, wrestling history for the right to control your own narrative in a world that thinks it can tell you who you are. Winner of the inaugural Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting 2019, International Award, this powerful world premiere is directed by Roy Alexander Weise (*The Mountaintop*) and opens at the Royal Exchange Theatre as part of Manchester International Festival from 23 June to 22 July with opening night on 29 June, before transferring to the Young Vic from 18

September to 4 November with opening night for press on 22 September.

Kim is having one of those days. A terrible, very bad, no-good kind of day, and the worst part is...it all feels so familiar. Caught up in a never-ending cycle of events, she looks for the exit but the harder she tries, the worse it gets and she begins to wonder: who's writing this story? She makes a break for it, smashing through a hundred years of bloody narratives that all end the same way. Can she find a way out before it's too late?

Further creative team and full cast to be announced.

Relaxed Performances: Fri 20 October, 7.30pm & Sat 21 October, 2.30pm

BSL Performance: Fri 27 October, 7.30pm

Audio Described Performances: Fri 6 October 7.30pm & Thu 19 October, 7.30pm Captioned Performances: Tue 17 October 7.30pm & Thu 2 November, 7.30pm

untitled f\*ck m\*ss s\*\*gon play at the Young Vic goes on sale to Soul Mates today, and Friends on 13 February.

Public booking opens 17 February.

## A Taking Part production from Young Vic Theatre and the Beth Centre (Women in Prison) \*\*TRIBE\*\* Maria Theatre 28 October to 4 November

Embark on a creative journey that explores and celebrates all the different forms that family can take - from single parent families to large communities, chosen families to blood relatives. Part immersive exhibition and part live performance, *Tribe* is an entertaining and joyous adventure filled with movement, music and art.

The show will be created with a collective of women who will work as a company devising in collaboration with a dynamic creative team.

#ThisIsOurTribe

Relaxed Performances: All Performances, Sat 28 October – Sat 4 November BSL Performances: Fri 3 November 7.45pm & Sat 4 November 2.45pm & 7.45pm

Tickets for Tribe will go on sale later in the year.

#### **FIVE SHORTS**

*Five Shorts* will bring together five artists to work with five creative collaborators to create five 5-minute live performances as the Young Vic Creators Program continues its work with early-career artists and theatremakers to develop their craft.

This year's collaborations will see **Andrea Ling** writing and directing *Untitled (Conversations with Death)* with dramaturgy by **Olivia Poglio-Nwabali**; **Nikhil Vyas** directing **Marek Horn**'s *Haunting and Renting*; **Annie Kershaw** directing **Jasmin Mandi-Ghomi**'s *Light*, **Zoe Templeman-Young** directing **Marina Carr**'s *Young Vic 10 (Demeter and Persephone)*; and **Ashen Gupta** directing **Sanjay Lago**'s *All Round Roti.* 

Design is by Jida Akil, with Casting by Monica Siyanga.

Five Shorts was launched in 2013, formerly as Five Plays, and to date has worked with more than 100 writers and directors offering an opportunity to widen their knowledge of creatives, to make new connections and challenge their working practices. The artists will be mentored by Young Vic Associate Artistic Director **Sue Emmas** and Creative Lead **Anastasia Osei-Kuffour** and receive the support of a production team. The shorts will be rehearsed over five days, culminating in a live performance in the Clare Theatre for an invited audience.

#### **ENDS**

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Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bpirhmpr6ejfi61/AADoJY7ldCj28EHOSyx17Jc8a?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 and BENEATHA'S PLACE are 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.

#### **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.

#### **About Royal Exchange Theatre**

Manchester's Royal Exchange Theatre Company transforms the way people see theatre, each other and the world around them. Our historic building was taken over by artists in 1976. Today it is an award-winning cultural charity that produces new theatre in-the-round, in communities, on the road and online.

Exchange remains at the heart of everything we make and do. Now our currency is brand new drama and reinvigorated classics, the boldest artists and a company of highly skilled makers - all brought together in a shared imaginative endeavour to trade ideas and experiences with the people of Greater Manchester (and beyond).

The Exchange's unique auditorium is powerfully democratic, a space where audiences and performers meet as equals, entering and exiting through the same doors. It is the inspiration for all we do; inviting everyone to understand the past, engage in today's big questions, collectively imagine a better future and lose themselves in the moment of a great night out.

The Royal Exchange was named Regional Theatre of the Year in 2016 and School of the Year at The Stage Awards 2018. Our work, developed with an incredible array of artists and theatre makers, includes HAMLET with Maxine Peake (for stage and film), THE SKRIKER (with the Manchester International Festival), KING LEAR (co-produced with Talawa Theatre Company, filmed for BBC iPlayer and BBC Four), THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA (a co-production with Graeae theatre Company), OUR TOWN (directed by Sarah Frankcom), LIGHT FALLS (a world-premiere from Simon Stephens directed by Sarah Frankcom with original music by Jarvis Cocker), WUTHERING HEIGHTS (directed by Joint Artistic Director Bryony Shanahan), ROCKETS AND BLUE LIGHTS (by award-winning writer Winsome Pinnock and directed by Miranda Cromwell), THE MOUNTAINTOP (Digital Streaming directed by Joint Artistic Director Roy Alexander Weise), ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS (Digital commission for Dec 2020), OH WOMAN! (Digital commissions for International Women's Day 2021) and BLOODY ELLE – A GIG MUSICAL by Lauryn Redding, directed by Bryony Shanahan and which reopened the Theatre in June 2021.

#### **About Manchester International Festival**

Manchester International Festival (MIF) is an artist-focused festival of original, new work and special events reflecting the spectrum of performing arts, visual arts and popular culture, staged every two years in venues across Greater Manchester, UK – from theatres, galleries and concert halls to railway depots, churches and car parks. MIF works closely with venues, festivals and other cultural organisations globally, whose financial and creative input helps to make many of these projects possible and ensures that work made at MIF goes on to be seen around the world.

MIF's future home is Factory International, a global destination for arts music and culture opening in the heart of Manchester in 2023. The design of the landmark new cultural space is led by Ellen van Loon of the world-leading practice Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA). Its development is being led by Manchester City Council, with backing from HM Government and Arts Council England.

Factory International will commission, present and produce an ambitious year-round programme of original creative work, music and special events by leading artists from across the globe, as well as delivering the city-wide festival every other year. At 13,350 square metres, Factory International will be ultra-flexible, enabling large-scale artistic work of invention and ambition that isn't made anywhere else in the world - from major exhibitions and concerts, to intimate performances and immersive experiences – including over 80 gigs a year.

Attracting up to 850,000 visitors annually, Factory International will add £1.1 billion to the economy over a decade and create up to 1,500 direct and indirect jobs. Its pioneering programme of skills, training and engagement will benefit local people and the next generation of creative talent from across the city.

MIF23 takes place 29 June to 16 July 2023, opening with a major exhibition at Factory International, You, Me and the Balloons, celebrating three decades of Yayoi Kusama's spectacular inflatable sculptures, shown together for the first time.

Factoryinternational.org

#### **About Headlong**

Headlong is one of the most ambitious and exciting theatre companies in the UK, creating exhilarating contemporary theatre: a provocative mix of innovative new writing, reimagined classics and influential twentieth century plays that illuminate our world. Led by Artistic Director Holly Race Roughan and Executive Director Lisa Maguire, Headlong makes bold, ground-breaking productions with some of the UK's finest artists. We take these industry-leading, award-winning shows around the country and beyond, in theatres and online, attracting new audiences of all ages and backgrounds. We make work with and for people who are marginalised by the industry and engage as deeply as we can with these communities as this helps us become better at what we do. Previous Headlong productions include *Jitney, Best of Enemies, Corrina, Corrina, After Life, People Places and Things, Junkyard, The Nether, Pygmalion, This House, Richard III, Labour of Love.* Publicly supported by Arts Council England.