

Bristol Old Vic
Theatre School

SPRING SEASON 2020



WELCOME

We are thrilled to let you know about our upcoming season of plays, taking you from small town America to rural Wessex, and from Edwardian London to modern day Russia.

Macbeth, adapted and directed by Toby Hulse and designed by alumna Charlotte Cooke, starts this season off with a tour around schools. This hour-long, fast-paced performance, which visits the Redgrave in February, will provide fun for all the family and is an entertaining and accessible introduction to one of the Bard's most popular plays.

Our graduating cohort of actors will be working on two plays which explore politics, society and LGBTQ issues and will be directed by two of our fantastic alumni. First up, at Circomedia, *Her Naked Skin* directed by Sarah Bedi (who has previously directed productions at Shakespeare's Globe and the Young Vic) explores the Suffragettes' fight against injustice. Lenkiewicz's play navigates the story of Lady Celia Cain and seamstress Eve in 1913 London and was the first play by a living female playwright to be staged on the Olivier stage at the National Theatre. This will be followed by *The Laramie Project*, performed in the Weston Studio at Bristol Old Vic and directed by Nancy Medina (winner of the Genesis Future Director Award, 2017 and the Sir Peter Hall Directors award, 2018). The play uses verbatim theatre to investigate a small town's reaction to a shocking homophobic crime in Wyoming, USA.

Moving into May, our second year students will tour Thomas Hardy's classic story, *Far From the Madding Crowd*, adapted by Mark Healy for the stage. Directed by Head of Acting, Paul Chesterton and designed by alumnus Max Dorey, the smouldering story takes many twists and turns as we find out whether any of the suitors are a match for headstrong Bathsheba Everdene.

After Easter, our Drama Directing MA and Theatre Design MA students, joined by students on acting and technical courses, will showcase their work at the Wardrobe Theatre in a season of contemporary plays. Past students of these courses have gone onto remarkable achievements such as winning the Linbury Prize for design and the Genesis Award for directing – don't miss your chance to see the brilliance of the future directors and designers of the theatre world.

There are more details to follow on our final shows of the year – turn to page 14 for a tease of what is to come!

And finally just to let you know that this season will be Paul's last at the Theatre School as he is retiring at the end of March after thirteen very enjoyable years as Principal.

We look forward to welcoming you to our shows this season, and thank you for your support.

With all good wishes,

Paul Rummer **Jenny Stephens**
Principal Artistic Director

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INTERESTED IN UPDATES ABOUT OUR SHOWS?

We've got a mailing list for you to sign up for at: oldvic.ac.uk/showmarketing

If you'd like to stop receiving this season brochure via post and switch to an e-brochure instead, please email us at marketing@oldvic.ac.uk

MACBETH

Written by William Shakespeare
Adapted and directed by Toby Hulse
Designed by Charlotte Cooke



Image: Mark Beech Illustration

**“DOUBLE,
DOUBLE, TOIL
AND TROUBLE,
FIRE BURN
AND CAULDRON
BUBBLE”**

Tickets: £8

February

Sat 1 10am

Sat 8 10am

Redgrave Theatre

Percival Road

Bristol BS8 3LE

Box Office:

0117 315 7800

redgravetheatre.com

Returning home from battle, the brave Macbeth meets three hideous figures who offer him a vision of his future, a vision that will lead to bloody murder and horrors beyond the imagination...

Performed in under an hour, yet retaining the power and beauty of the original verse, this fast-paced, playful, and accessible production provides the ideal introduction to one of Shakespeare's best-loved tragedies, as well as a thrilling revisiting for all those who already know and love the play.

Suitable for everyone over the age of five.

**“LENKIEWICZ SHOWS
US ORDINARY WOMEN
DOING EXTRAORDINARY
THINGS” THE TELEGRAPH**



Image: Hide the Shark

HER NAKED SKIN

A LOVE STORY SET AMONGST THE SUFFRAGETTES' STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE

Written by **Rebecca Lenkiewicz**

Directed by **Sarah Bedi**

London 1913.

Beginning with the pivotal moment of Emily Davison at the Epsom Derby, *Her Naked Skin* navigates the story of the Suffragettes' fight for a better future. Their personal sacrifice and militant action is met with incarceration and brutality as Lenkiewicz's story draws many parallels with democracy and protest today.

Through this setting, the human story of Lady Celia Cain and seamstress Eve Douglas unfolds, showing how the female suffrage movement transcended class and sexuality. Feeling trapped by social injustices and her marriage, Celia is drawn to Eve and together they spiral into a world of hope and chaos.

Join us as we take on the first original play by a living female writer to be produced on the Olivier stage at London's National Theatre.

Age 14+

Contains scenes which some may find upsetting.

This amateur production of 'Her Naked Skin' is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH LTD, a Concord Theatricals Company.

Tickets from £12

February

Sat 15		7.30pm
Mon 17		7.30pm
Tue 18		7.30pm
Wed 19		7.30pm
Thu 20	2.30pm	7.30pm
Fri 21		7.30pm
Sat 22	2.30pm	7.30pm

Circomedia

St Paul's Church

Portland Square

Bristol BS2 8SJ

Box Office:

0117 924 7615

circomedia.com

““LARAMIE IS A TOWN DEFINED BY AN ACCIDENT, A CRIME. WE’VE BECOME WACO, WE’VE BECOME JASPER. WE’RE A NOUN, A DEFINITION, A SIGN.”

THE LARAMIE PROJECT

A PLAY BY MOISÉS KAUFMAN AND THE MEMBERS OF THE TECTONIC THEATER PROJECT

Written by **Moisés Kaufman**
Directed by **Nancy Medina**

Laramie, Wyoming.

Population: 26,687.

This remarkable play investigates the aftermath of the murder of Matthew Shepard in 1998 and the effect it had on the community of Laramie.

Through news reports and interviews with residents of Laramie, Kaufman’s play uses the words of the locals to examine this shocking example of homophobia in small town America. *The Laramie Project* challenges us to consider society and what it means to be human as it swings from narratives of deep hatred to great compassion.

Age 14+

Contains scenes which some may find upsetting.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

Tickets: £12

February

Thu 20		8pm
Fri 21		8pm
Sat 22	3pm	8pm
Mon 24		8pm
Tue 25		8pm
Wed 26		8pm
Thu 27	3pm	8pm
Fri 28		8pm
Sat 29	3pm	8pm

Weston Studio
Bristol Old Vic
King Street
Bristol BS1 4ED
Box Office:
0117 987 7877
bristololdvic.org.uk

29 April – 23 May
Eves: 7.30pm
Sat mats: 2.30pm
All Tickets: £10 per show
£35 season ticket for all
four shows

Wardrobe Theatre
The Old Market Assembly
25 West Street
Old Market
Bristol BS2 0DF
Box Office: 0117 902 0344
tobaccofactorytheatres.com



Image: Rachel Holman

DIRECTORS' CUTS 2020

A PROGRAMME OF CONTEMPORARY THEATRE
PRESENTED BY OUR GRADUATING DIRECTORS

LOVE SONG

BY JOHN KOLVENBACH
Directed by Ben Prusiner
Designed by Edoardo Lelli
Wed 29 Apr – Sat 2 May

Beane is an eccentric introvert who falls in love with a burglar named Molly. His sister Joan's relationship with her husband Harry is falling apart. All their lives are transformed by Beane's new romance, but Molly's true identity is a secret so shocking it cannot be ignored...

This amateur production of "Love Song" is presented by special arrangement with Josef Weinberger Limited.

BLINK

BY PHIL PORTER
Directed by Laura Hensley
Designed by Benjamin Thapa
Wed 13 – Sat 16 May

Jonah leaves the religious commune he has grown up in to head to London with a red suitcase and a need to start living his life. Sophie just wants to be seen by someone, so she doesn't fade away. Little do either of them know what will happen when Jonah moves in to the flat downstairs.

This amateur production of "Blink" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH LTD a Concord Theatricals Company.

NORTH OF PROVIDENCE AND DOLORES

BY EDWARD ALLAN BAKER
Directed by Victor Lirio
Designed by Carly Brownbridge
Wed 6 – Sat 9 May

Two one act plays.

In *North of Providence* a brother and sister, who are uncovering old wounds on the last day of their father's life. Set in a blue-collar town in Rhode Island, this play follows *Dolores* who, in fleeing her husband, seeks refuge from her sister.

This amateur production of "North of Providence" and "Dolores" is presented by special arrangement with Josef Weinberger Limited.

US/THEM

BY CARLY WIJS
Directed by Lucy Hayes
Designed by Bea Wilson
Wed 20 – Sat 23 May

There is a giraffe in the gymnasium, and you cannot wiggle your toes. Why don't the terrorists want to play with Barbie?

September 2004. Beslan, Russia. 1100 children, parents and teachers are taken hostage.

Beyond the facts, *Girl and Boy* are trying to work out what happened. *Us / Them* is a playful exploration of the way we imagine meaning from trauma.

This amateur production of "Us/Them" is presented by special arrangement with Nick Hern Books.

WEST COUNTRY TOUR 2020
28 MAY – 20 JUNE ACROSS THE WEST COUNTRY

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

By Thomas Hardy
Adapted by Mark Healy
Directed by Paul Chesterton
Designed by Max Dorey

Based on the literary classic by Thomas Hardy, *Far from the Madding Crowd* is the story of Bathsheba Everdene. Having inherited her father's farm, Bathsheba finds herself playing mistress in a man's world. She is pursued by three very different suitors: Gabriel Oak, a sheep farmer, captivated by her fetching wilfulness; the handsome and reckless Sergeant Troy; and William Boldwood, a prosperous and obsessive landowner. But are any of them a match for the independent and spirited Bathsheba?

This amateur production of *'Far from the Madding Crowd'* is presented by special arrangement with Nick Hern Books.

**“HAUNTING...
BROODING...
SMOULDERING...
DYNAMIC
DRAMA”**
THE GUARDIAN

The tour starts at Backwell Playhouse (dates below) and then will continue across the West Country – full details of venues, times and prices online.

Tickets £15 full,
£10 concession

May
Thu 28 7.30pm
Fri 29 7.30pm
Sat 30 2.30pm 7.30pm

Backwell Playhouse
23 Mariner's Drive
Backwell, Somerset
BS48 3HT
Box Office: 0117 987 7877
bristololdvic.org.uk

UPCOMING SHOWS UPCOMING SHOWS UPCOMING SHOWS

WE'VE GOT QUITE A FEW OTHER SHOWS IN THE PIPELINE – FULL DETAILS WILL BE RELEASED SOON BUT READ ON FOR AN IDEA OF WHAT TO EXPECT...

NEW PLAYS IN REP

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF NEW PLAYS IN REP LAST SPRING, WE'RE EXCITED TO DEVELOP A NEW SEASON OF WORK WHICH WILL BE SHOWCASED IN BRISTOL OLD VIC'S WESTON STUDIO.

Scripts for this season will be developed by Bristol Old Vic's Writers Department, found through their yearly call-out to West Country writers.

Last year, *Mr Maglump* by Brook Tate attracted the attention of Andrew Lloyd Webber, whose enthusiastic response was a highlight of the season. We're also so pleased to see that *Wonder Boy* by Ross Willis got picked up for full production on Bristol Old Vic's main stage in Autumn 2020, directed by Sally Cookson.

What will we have in store this year? Spot the freshest talent springing from the page to the stage, interpreted by the talents of our final year acting students and harnessing the technical mastery of our production students.

Keep your eyes peeled for further details in print and online.



Cast & Team of 'Mr Maglump', with Andrew Lloyd Webber

WRITERS' BLOG

Following the launch of our MA in Drama Writing, our first cohort of students will be presenting the culmination of their work later this year. This showcase of their writing will feature the talents of second year acting students.

MFA ACTING GRADUATE SHOW

PERICLES

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Andrew Hilton

Following the success of previous shows such as *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and *Mad Forest*, our talented class of 2020 MFA actors will present this year's graduate show at Bristol Old Vic's Weston Studio in early July. More details and booking information will be announced soon.



Bristol Old Vic
Theatre School

GET INVOLVED AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

Your support is vital in ensuring we continue to recruit the most talented students, regardless of background. We believe that an arts education should be open to all and with your help, we'll continue to break down barriers to training, be they financial, social or geographic.

BECOME A REGULAR DONOR

As an individual, you can become more involved with School activities, including behind-the-scenes events such as our termly Directors' preview evening, open rehearsals, as well as opportunities for special ticket offers.

FOR BUSINESSES

As a charity, we can help you fulfil your corporate social responsibility or community engagement objectives, with a range of opportunities:

- Entertain your clients and staff at our productions;
- Advertise to a targeted audience in our brochure or programme;
- Book our actors as performers for your own business events.

For more information:

oldvic.ac.uk/support

Simon Payne: 0117 973 3535

SHORT COURSES 2020

FOUNDATION COURSE

A taste of conservatoire training

10 WEEK ACTING FOUNDATION COURSE

Mon 6 July – Fri 11 Sep 2020

Course Fee: £5,500

SING OUT!

Singing for musical theatre

FIVE-DAY INTENSIVE SINGING COURSE

Mon 20 – Fri 24 July 2020

Course fee: £475

SHORT ACTING COURSES

ACTING IN CONTEMPORARY DRAMA

Mon 13 – Fri 17 July 2020

ACTING IN SHAKESPEARE PLAYS

Mon 20 – Fri 24 July 2020

Course fee: £475

Exciting three day intensive course working with industry professionals

Wed 25 – Fri 27 March / Tue 14 – Thu 16 April / Wed 8 – Fri 10 July / Mon 13 – Wed 15 July / Mon 14 – Wed 16 Sept

Course Fee: £450 per three day course.

ACTING FOR CAMERA

For further information or to apply, please go to oldvic.ac.uk/short-courses

CALENDAR 2020

Macbeth

Redgrave Theatre
Percival Road
Bristol BS8 3LE

Box office: 0117 315 7800
redgravetheatre.com
Tickets: £8

February

Sat 1 10am
Sat 8 10am

Her Naked Skin

Circomedia
St Pauls Church
Portland Square
Bristol BS2 8SJ

Box office: 0117 924 7615
circomedia.com
Tickets: from £12

February

Sat 15 7.30pm
Mon 17 7.30pm
Tue 18 7.30pm
Wed 19 7.30pm
Thu 20 2.30pm 7.30pm
Fri 21 7.30pm
Sat 22 2.30pm 7.30pm

The Laramie Project

Weston Studio
Bristol Old Vic
Theatre
King Street
Bristol BS1 4ED

Box office: 0117 987 7877
bristololdvic.org.uk
Tickets: £12

February

Thu 20 8pm
Fri 21 8pm
Sat 22 3pm 8pm
Mon 24 8pm
Tue 25 8pm
Wed 26 8pm
Thu 27 3pm 8pm
Fri 28 8pm
Sat 29 3pm 8pm

Directors' Cuts

The Wardrobe Theatre
The Old Market Assembly
25 West Street
Old Market
Bristol BS2 0DF

Box Office: 0117 902 0344
tobaccofactorytheatres.com
Tickets: £10 per show,
£35 season ticket for all
4 plays

Love Song

April

Wed 29 7.30pm
Thu 30 7.30pm

May

Fri 1 7.30pm
Sat 2 2.30pm 7.30pm

North of Providence

Dolores

May

Wed 6 7.30pm
Thu 7 7.30pm
Fri 8 7.30pm
Sat 9 2.30pm 7.30pm

Blink

May

Wed 13 7.30pm
Thu 14 7.30pm
Fri 15 7.30pm
Sat 16 2.30pm 7.30pm

Us/Them

May

Wed 20 7.30pm
Thu 21 7.30pm
Fri 22 7.30pm
Sat 23 2.30pm 7.30pm

Far From the Madding Crowd

West Country Tour 2020

Backwell Playhouse
23 Mariner's Drive
Backwell, Somerset
BS48 3HT

Box office: 0117 987 7877
bristololdvic.org.uk
Tickets:

May

Thu 28 7.30pm
Fri 29 7.30pm
Sat 30 2.30pm 7.30pm

Tour continues across the West Country until 20 June

Various venues – for tour details see pages 12-13 as well as oldvic.ac.uk/events-shows

Box office: various

Tickets: Various prices

More plays are coming to complete our Summer season –
keep your eyes peeled or sign up to our mailing list at
oldvic.ac.uk/showmarketing



WORLD CLASS TRAINING – MADE IN BRISTOL



We're reducing our carbon footprint and have printed this brochure on recyclable paper stock.

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