

Young Vic

Press Release – Thursday 29 February 2024

Images can be downloaded [here](#)

CAST ANNOUNCED FOR THE EARTHWORKS DIRECTED BY ANDREA LING



The **Young Vic Theatre** today announces casting for ***The Earthworks*** directed by **Andrea Ling**, the 2023 **Genesis Future Directors Award** recipient. Written by Olivier Award winner **Tom Morton-Smith** (*My Neighbour Totoro*, *Oppenheimer* at the RSC), it will be in the Young Vic's Clare Theatre from **26 March** to **6 April**.

Olivier Award nominated actress **Natalie Dew** (*Mates in Chelsea*, *Bend It Like Beckham: The Musical*) will play Clare, **Mark Edel-Hunt** (*Leopoldstadt*, *Sister Boniface Mysteries*) will play Fritjof and **Anemone Rasmussen** makes her professional theatre debut as Herta.

The universe doesn't care if we know how it works.

A hotel bar in Geneva, the night before the Large Hadron Collider is switched on. A woman walks up to a man. She's a journalist, trying to write a career-defining article, and he is a scientist, still reeling from a recent loss. What could have an obvious ending, turns into a story of two people's worlds colliding for a brief, yet life-changing moment. *The Earthworks* is a moving and hilarious exploration into carrying the weight of grief and knowing when it's time to let go.

The creative team is completed by Designer **Emma Bailey**, Lighting Designer **Bethany Gupwell**, Sound Designer **XANA**, Movement & Intimacy Director **Chi-San Howard**, Voice and Dialect Coach Elspeth Morrison, Casting Director **Polly Jerrold** and Associate Designer **Alys Whitehead**.

Made possible by the **Genesis Foundation**, the **Genesis Future Directors Award** provides early-career directors with the opportunity to explore and develop their craft by creating their first fully resourced production at the Young Vic, with mentoring and support from the theatre's core artistic team including Artistic Director Kwame Kwei-Armah and Taio Lawson, Genesis Fellow / Associate Director.

Since its inception in 2012, the Genesis Future Directors Award has supported 16 emerging directors and theatre-makers. Among them are **Diyan Zora**, who directed *Mom, How Did You Meet The Beatles?* this summer at Chichester Festival; **Debbie Hannan**, Associate Director at the National Theatre of Scotland; **Nancy Medina**, Artistic Director of Bristol Old Vic; **Matthew Xia**, Artistic Director and joint CEO of Actors Touring Company; **Lekan Lawal**, Artistic Director of Eclipse Theatre; **Tinuke Craig**, who directed August Wilson's *Jitney* in 2022 at Leeds Playhouse and the Old Vic.

Natalie Dew (Clare) has appeared across stage, television and film. Her recent credits include *Mates in Chelsea* at the Royal Court, *The Capture* (BBC), *Sandylands* (Gold) and *The Marlow Murder Club* (Drama & UKTV Play). Natalie received an Olivier nomination for portraying Jess Bhamra in *Bend It Like Beckham: The Musical* (West End) and returns to the Young Vic where she previously played Olivia in *Twelfth Night*.

Mark Edel-Hunt (Fritjof) has appeared across stage and screen. He most recently appeared in *Leopoldstadt* (West End) with recent television credits including *All The Light We Cannot See* (Netflix), *Sister Boniface Mysteries* (BBC), *The Royal Mob* (Sky) and *The White Princess* (Starz).

Anemone Rasmussen (Herta) is a recent East 15 Acting School graduate. The *Earthworks* will be her professional debut.

BSL Performance: Thu 4 April 2024, 7.45pm

Captioned Performance: Fri 5 April 2024, 7.45pm

Audio Described Performance: Sat 6 April 2024, 7.45pm

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Images can be downloaded [here](#)

About the Genesis Foundation

The Genesis Foundation has supported the Young Vic's Directors Program (now Creators Program) since its inception 20 years ago and currently funds the Genesis Future Directors Award and the Genesis Fellow.

The Foundation was founded by John Studzinski and has supported thousands of artists in their career development since 2001. Through its partnership model, it provides opportunities for talented artists, principally in theatre and music.

The Foundation's focus is on partnerships with leading UK arts organisations that include the Almeida Theatre, National Theatre, Young Vic and The Sixteen, and on training initiatives - such as the Genesis Theatre Design programme, and the Genesis Future Curators programme at the Royal Academy of Arts – that equip emerging artists for life as a creative professional.

For more information, please visit genesisfoundation.org.uk

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 2,500 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 transfers include a *Death of a Salesman* and *The Collaboration* on Broadway, and *Best of Enemies* and *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!* in the West End.

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.

We thank Lambeth Council and Southwark Council for their support.

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

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