

Young Vic Welcomes Two New Board Members Varun Chandra and Farah Ramzan Golant join as Trustees

Glenn Earle, Chair of the Board, **Kwame Kwei-Armah**, Artistic Director and **Despina Tsatsas**, Executive Director, today announce the appointment of **Varun Chandra** and **Farah Ramzan Golant CBE** as Trustees of the Young Vic board.

Glenn Earle, Chair of the Young Vic Board, said: *"I am delighted today to welcome Farah and Varun to our board. They are established leaders in their own fields and I know that our board and our theatre will benefit hugely from their intellect, passion and creativity. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our recently retired Trustees for their many years of invaluable service and unwavering support to the Young Vic. They will forever remain dear friends of this theatre".*

Varun Chandra, Managing Partner of Hakluyt, said *"Of all the theatre I've watched over the years, it is at the Young Vic that I've seen the most daring, the most provocative, and the most thought-provoking performances. I'm therefore delighted to be joining the board of this fantastic institution, one of the most brilliant and innovative of its kind in the world. The breadth of the Young Vic's work and impact is extraordinary, and its success in identifying, enabling and promoting emerging talent is particularly noteworthy. It will be an honour to play a role in furthering this mission, and I'm greatly looking forward to working with Kwame, Despina and the other members of their outstanding team."*

Farah Ramzan Golant, Chief Executive Officer of kyu EMEA, said *"It is an exciting time to join the Young Vic as Kwame and the team unleash the visceral power of theatre anew. I am inspired by their vision to curate experiences for audiences which we are all longing to share. It is a privilege to be a part of this movement that is so uniquely Young Vic in its voice and profound cultural effect."*

About Varun Chandra

Varun is the Managing Partner of Hakluyt, which helps leaders of the world's largest companies and investment firms take better decisions, by advising them on the opportunities and risks facing their businesses. Prior to Hakluyt, he worked in investment and merchant banking.

Trained at Lehman Brothers, he went on to help build a regulated advisory firm for former Prime Minister Tony Blair, where he was responsible for transactions typically involving sovereign wealth and emerging markets businesses.

He has also co-founded a merchant bank with a private family investment company; advised a UK foreign secretary on business and economic issues; and invested in a number of early-stage companies.

Varun is a trustee of the Royal Academy Trust and the MCC Foundation, and sits on the boards of Sesame Workshop and IP Group, Inc.

He grew up in the north east of England, and now lives in London with his young family.

About Farah Ramzan Golant CBE

Farah is the Chief Executive Officer of kyu EMEA. She has worked for three decades in the global creative and media industries, with an unfaltering belief in the power of creativity to tackle the world's toughest problems. Farah has led commercial companies of scale as well as a not-for-profit enterprise of significance. Her quest at kyu, since joining in 2018, is to enable purpose-led growth of a creative Collective committed to propelling the economy and society forwards. Farah also serve on the boards of kyu's Member Companies; ATÖLYE, based in Istanbul, Godfrey Dadich Partners, based in San Francisco and Public Digital, based in London.

From 2015 to 2018, Farah was seconded by Nike Inc. to be the CEO of Girl Effect, a creative non-profit building youth brands and mobile platforms to empower girls to change their lives. Previously, Farah

was Chief Executive of All3Media, the UK's biggest independent television content production group. Prior to that, Farah had a 22-year career at Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO, the UK's leading advertising group, rising through the ranks to become Chief Executive and a member of the BBDO worldwide board in NYC. Farah served on the British Prime Minister's Business Advisory Group 2013 - 2015 and has served as a Business Ambassador for the Creative Industries of Britain. Farah currently serves as a Trustee of Sadler's Wells dance company and Prince's Trust International. In 2011, Farah was awarded a CBE, and was named Business Woman of the Year in 2010 Asian Women of Achievement Awards. She graduated with a joint honours' degree from Emmanuel College, Cambridge and has completed the Omnicom Advanced Management Programme at Babson College.

The current Young Vic board members are:

Varun Chandra

Nicky Dunn OBE

Glenn Earle (Chair)

Robert Easton

Farah Ramzan Golant CBE

Kobna Holdbrook-Smith MBE

Ali Hossaini

Kwame Kwei-Armah OBE

Ebele Okobi

Abigail Sewell

Fiona Shaw

Sita Thomas

Steve Tompkins MBE

Anna Williams

ENDS

For images, [click here](#).

For more information, please contact Emma Hardy: emmahardy@youngvic.org

About the Young Vic

For 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 [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 all ticket prices low.

Our [Directors Program](#), the only scheme of its kind, has been running for nearly twenty years and offers young directors a unique opportunity to develop their craft through skills workshops, peer-led projects, paid assistant directing roles through the [Genesis Fellow](#), the [Jerwood Assistant Director Program](#) and the [Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director Program](#), as well as access to the [Genesis Directors Network](#). Twice a year, the recipient of the [Genesis Future Directors Award](#) directs a show in The Clare theatre at the Young Vic with full support from the Young Vic's creative, administrative and production teams, enabling us to support and nurture an emerging director as a part of the Young Vic programme.

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: **Despina Tsatsas**

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The Young Vic's Supporters

Public Support



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Season Support



Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION

The Young Vic's 2021-22 season is also supported by the Genesis Foundation and IHS Markit.

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