

## ABOUT TAKING PART

Taking Part is the Young Vic's creative engagement department that works with young people, adults, schools, and our local community. We engage with over 15,000 people a year, providing free tickets to all our shows and free creative and artistic opportunities to our participants. Our three strands, Learning, Participation, and Neighbourhood Theatre, create work that is the beating heart of the organisation. Each year Taking Part's programme responds to a shared theme. This year we are responding to the provocation 'investing in our neighbourhoods'.

## HOW TO TAKE PART

### NEIGHBOURHOOD THEATRE

Neighbourhood Theatre is for adults 25 years and older that live in Lambeth and Southwark. To sign up please email [neighbourhoodtheatre@youngvic.org](mailto:neighbourhoodtheatre@youngvic.org) with your name, home address, a contact phone number, and your date of birth. If you are unable to sign up using email, please give us a call on **020 7922 2862**.

Our Neighbourhood Theatre Producer is **Alisha Artry**.

## COMING SOON...



### PUNCH

SAT 1 MAR – SAT 26 APR

Jacob Dunne, a teenager from Nottingham, spends his Saturday nights seeking thrills with his friends. One fateful evening, an impulsive punch leads to fatal consequences. Experience *Punch*, the latest masterpiece from Olivier Award-winning playwright **James Graham** (*Best of Enemies*, *Dear England*), which brings Jacob Dunne's powerful true-life account to the stage.

## PARTICIPATION

Participation is for young people aged 16 – 25. We offer a wide range of free projects, workshops, and free tickets. If you live or study in our home boroughs of Lambeth or Southwark, there are lots of opportunities to get involved with at the Young Vic. To sign up please email [participation@youngvic.org](mailto:participation@youngvic.org) with your name, borough, a contact phone number, and your date of birth.

Our Participation Producer is **Aaliyah Antoine**.

## LEARNING

Learning is for schools, colleges and alternative provisions. We offer free tickets to all learning centres in Lambeth and Southwark and a wide range of bespoke workshops and projects in alternative provisions.

To find out more or sign-up, please contact [learning@youngvic.org](mailto:learning@youngvic.org) or **020 7922 2862**.

Our Learning Producer is **Melanie Anouf**.

## Young Vic Membership

Our Soul Mates play a vital role in supporting our productions, our artists and communities whilst enjoying amazing benefits including priority booking and rare behind-the-scenes experiences.

Become a Soul Mate today to get even closer to the action.

Join us today

Or email us at [Soulmates@youngvic.org](mailto:Soulmates@youngvic.org)

Young Vic, 66 The Cut, Waterloo, London, SE1 8LZ. Registered charity number 268876. Design by Emilie Chen

# Young Vic

# JAN – FEB



THE COLLECTIVE PRESENTS:

# AiTOPIA

A TAKING PART PRODUCTION FROM YOUNG VIC  
DIRECTED BY MICHELLE PAYNE



YOUNGVIC.ORG

@YoungVicTheatre

Supported and funded by  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

## THE COLLECTIVE

### Actors:

**Adar Owuna, Boma Braide, Yiannis Sykouris, Kandy Rohmann, Katerina Kaloyerou, Kemi Adekoya, Ketrina Briseferf, Lorna Miri, Matilde Cerruti Quara, Moe Farah, Nana Yaa Oforiwaa Osei-Bonsu, Peter Barrs, Sasha Winslow, Shahab Awad, Tracey-Ann Henry, Marina Hussain Leones, Michael Sookhan.**

### Lighting and Sound:

**Darren Anthony Spencer, Liz Heasman, Peter Phillips, Ariel Elkarif.**

### Movement:

**Cherlyn Miller, John Watts, Seamus Kennedy.**

### Set & Costume:

**Anne-Marie Garbrah, Elisa Rovelli, Marilyn Rogers, Matilde Sazio, Ama Ababio, Jennifer Anne Marshall, Roxceina Hibbert.**

### Writers:

**Elsa Joseph, Frances Timlin, Joyce Abosi, J Akre, Kandy Rohmann, Kevin O'Neill, Rahkim Thomas Hunte, Simon Bracken, Stephen Foley, Thelma Purcell, Xanthus Peters.**

### Production:

**Jennifer Anne Marshall.**

## SHOW WARNINGS

**CONTENT WARNINGS:** Discussions of death and grief, including death of a child, strong language, violence, alcohol consumption and references to drug use, dementia, onstage death.

**PRODUCTION WARNINGS:** Haze, flashing lights, loud music, blackouts.

## CREATIVE TEAM

### Director

**Michelle Payne**

### Set & Costume Consultant

**Natalie Pryce**

### Movement Consultant

**Christopher Tendai**

### Musical Director & Composition Consultant

**Matt Greaves**

### Co-Dramaturg

**Emma**

### Dennis-Edwards

### Co-Dramaturg & Executive Producer

**Shereen Jasmin Phillips**

### Lead Producer

### Alisha Artry

### Associate Producer

### Michelle Cullimore

### Assistant Producer

### Enyonam Ansah

### Jerwood Trainee

### Assistant Director

### Nim Gill

### Additional Music Production

### Swim FM by Inigo Duffield

### Stage Manager

**Abi Morris**

### Assistant Stage Manager

**Valentina Cutri**

### Production Manager

**Kat Ellis**

### Head of Stage

**Rhodri Evans**

### Head of Costume

**Aimee Russam**

### Head of Lighting

**Faye Hetherington**

### Deputy Head of Sound

**Neil McKeown**

### Deputy Head of Stage

**Aaron Storey**

### Deputy Head of Costume

**Maddie Bevan**

### Chief Electrician

**Georgina Heaton**

### Workshop Manager

**Rachel MacLoughlin**

### SPECIAL THANKS:

**Ama Ababio, Beatrice Colbrant, Deborah Elizabeth Mali Smith, Eldi Dundee, Nerija Cabéria, Jessica Gonzalez Campos, Luke Rogan, Romayn Rose, Kimberley Maloney, Scott Howland, Roxceina Hibbert, Taking Part Team, Southwark College.**

## ABOUT AITOPIA

In an idyllic, self-governing community where the police have been defunded, the opportunity for an AI After Life promises peace, order and financial reward. But behind closed doors, five families are discovering that innovation has a price. As cracks begin to form and relationships are threatened, will AI help them move beyond their grief or threaten their humanity?

## IN REHEARSAL



## MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR MICHELLE PAYNE:

In our communities, we often have the vision and drive to create something new but lack the resources and experience to fully realise our ideas. And so, The Collective is born! Through our collaboration with consultants, and various masterclasses, we've worked with 50 participants across Lambeth and Southwark to actualise our brand-new production, *AiTopia*.

Participants were initially split into teams, dividing responsibilities for key elements of the production—sound and lighting design, set and costume design, production, scriptwriting, choreography, and of course performing! The teams' ideas have been brought to life over the past eight months with continued guidance and mentorship.

The concept of *AiTopia* developed through a series of improvisations, pitches, and unique contributions from team members. Each idea has added depth and shape to the project, which over time has been refined into our final production!

We hope you enjoy visiting us in *AiTopia*.

## ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT AITOPIA

**BSL Performance:** Fri 31 Jan, 7:45pm.

**All performances are Relaxed Environment.**