

Sunset Song: Danielle Jam to take on lead role in new adaptation



21st July 2023

Dundee Rep Theatre, in co-production with the Royal Lyceum Theatre, are thrilled to announce that Danielle Jam will play the iconic role of Chris Guthrie, in the return of *Sunset Song* to stages across Scotland in Spring 2024.

Leading an exciting ensemble cast, rising star Danielle Jam (*Dracula: Mina's Reckoning*, *Kidnapped*, *James IV: Queen of the Fight*, *Wings Around Dundee*) will take on the dynamic central role in this innovative, contemporary adaptation of the classic Scottish novel. As an alumnus of the Dundee Rep graduate actor scheme – a programme which supports acting graduates in the transition from drama school into the industry – Danielle's return to the Rep stage is especially meaningful.

Danielle said "I'm grateful to be returning to Dundee Rep where I was on the graduate actor scheme five years ago. Chris Guthrie is such a rich role any actor would love to play so I'm really looking forward to learning more about her world and bringing such an iconic Scottish story to the stage."

Sunset Song tells the story of Scotland's most loved literary heroine, and a coming-of-age tale that has moved audiences across the world.

Faced with a choice between a hard farming life and a world of learning, spirited Chris Guthrie chooses to remain in her rural community of Kinraddie, bound by a deep love of the land. Her journey to womanhood in the early 20th century sees her face crushing poverty, harrowing family trials, stirring love, and the ever-looming threat of the First World War. Her enduring strength is tested as her way of life is altered beyond recognition. With a profound lyrical intensity, *Sunset Song* tells the story of human resilience in the face of great loss.

This revitalised and reimagined production brings together an award-winning Scottish creative team.

Sunset Song is co-conceived by writer Morna Young (*Lost at Sea, The Stamping Ground*) and director Finn den Hertog (*The Enemy, Square Go*). Composer Finn Anderson (*Islander, A Mother's Song*) provides the music. With a rich Scots language text, dynamic and physically charged staging, and vivid live music, *Sunset Song* promises to deliver a thrilling celebration of Lewis Grassie Gibbon's powerful and resonant novel.

QUOTE FROM ANDREW PANTON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, DUNDEE REP THEATRE

"I am delighted that Dundee Rep is bringing such an iconic Scottish classic to the stage. In Morna Young, Finn den Hertog and Finn Anderson, we have assembled a team that is ready and primed to interpret this important story for audiences both familiar with the novel, and those who are experiencing the story for the first time."