LONDON THEATRE COMPANY



CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR EUROPEAN PREMIERE OF SUZAN-LORI PARKS' WHITE NOISE DIRECTED BY POLLY FINDLAY

Suzan-Lori Parks' *White Noise* will receive its European premiere at the Bridge Theatre, directed by **Polly Findlay** with a cast comprising **James Corrigan**, **Ken Nwosu**, **Faith Omole** and **Helena Wilson**.

Performances are from 5 October – 13 November 2021 with opening night on 12 October 2021. Set designs are by **Lizzie Clachan** with costumes by **Natalie Pryce**, lighting by **Jackie Shemesh**, movement by **Jade Hackett** and sound by **Donato Wharton**.

Thirty-somethings Leo, Misha, Ralph and Dawn have been inseparable since college. Making their way together in the big city, they are liberal, open-minded and socially aware. Misha is producing the hit online show 'Ask A Black'; Ralph is waiting for tenure at his university, and as a lawyer, Dawn spends her days fighting for social justice. Leo would be a talented visual artist – if only he could sleep. As best friends and lovers, confident in their woke-ness, their connection with each other is stronger than anything else – until, that is, Leo is assaulted by the police in a racially motivated incident. Shaken to the core, he brings to the group an extreme proposition. White Noise takes an unflinching look at race in the 21st century from both a black and white perspective.

James Corrigan's theatre credits include *King Lear* at Duke of York's Theatre, *Julius Caesar*, *Coriolanus, Antony & Cleopatra, Two Noble Kinsmen, The 7 Acts of Mercy, Wendy and Peter Pan, Othello, The Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare Birthday* all for the Royal Shakespeare Company, *Hay Fever* for Kay & Mclean Australia and Bath Theatre Royal and *The Big Meal* also for Bath Theatre Royal. His television credits include *Manhunt, The Tempest, Temple, and This Is Going To Hurt. His film credits include This Nan's Life and School's Out Forever.*

Ken Nwosu's theatre credits include *An Octoroon, Three Sisters* and *As You Like It* all for the National Theatre, *The Alchemist, Othello and The Merchant of Venice* all for the Royal Shakespeare Company and *Ghosts* for Home Manchester. On film his credits include *The Witches, Christopher Robin* and *Look the Other Way and Run*. On television his credits include *Sticks and Stones, Killing Eve, The Letter for the King, Upstart Crow* and *Catastrophe.*

Faith Omole's theatre credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Shakespeare's Globe, *Standing at the Sky's Edge* for Sheffield Theatres, *An Ideal Husband* at the Vaudeville Theatre, *Bushmeat* for High Tide, *Twelfth Night* for the Royal Exchange, *The Rolling Stone* for the Orange Tree and the Royal Exchange Theatre, *Custody* for Faith Drama Productions and Talawa Theatre Company and *Walk in the Light* for the National Theatre. On television her credits include *We are Lady Parts* and *Endeavour* and on film *Love Type D*.

Helena Wilson's theatre credits include *The Deep Blue Sea* for Chichester Festival Theatre, *Measure for Measure, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and *The Lady from the Sea* all for The Donmar Warehouse, *Love Me Now* at Tristan Bates Theatre, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at The Old Vic, *Flog* for the Oxford Playhouse and Cambridge Junction and *Romeo and Juliet* on the Thelma Holt International Tour.

Suzan-Lori Parks is a multi-award-winning American playwright and the first African-American woman to receive the Pulitzer Prize in Drama for her Broadway hit *Topdog/Underdog*. Parks' adaptation of *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* won the 2012 Tony Award for Best Revival of a Musical. Her other works include *The Book of Grace, Unchain My Heart: The Ray Charles Musical, In the Blood, The Death of the Last Black Man in the Whole Entire World, The America Play* and *Fucking A.* Her project *365 Days/365 Plays* - where she wrote a play a day for an entire year - was produced in over 700 theatres worldwide, creating one of the largest grassroots collaborations in theatre history. Parks is a MacArthur "Genius" Fellow. Her novel *Getting Mother's Body* is published by Random House. She also works extensively in film and television, most recently, as the screenwriter for *The United States vs Billie Holiday* and, also premiering earlier this year, as showrunner/executive producer/head writer for *Genius: Aretha*. In her spare time she writes songs and fronts her band *Sula & The Noise*.

Polly Findlay returns to The Bridge where she previously directed Caryl Churchill's *A Number*. Her other recent directing credits include *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and *Limehouse* for the Donmar Warehouse, *The Alchemist* and *The Merchant of Venice* for the Royal Shakespeare Company and *Rutherford and Son, Beginning* and *As You Like It* for the National Theatre.

White Noise received its world premiere at the Public Theater in New York in March 2019 and was the winner of the 2019 Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Off-Broadway Play.

IMAGES

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k6b8x8sy8c0pvlb/AAAD89xqiBDOOpsHeqtow1kQa?dl=0

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Address: Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields Park, London, SE1 2SG

Box Office: 0333 320 0051 or boxoffice@bridgetheatre.co.uk
Access: 0333 320 0051 or access@bridgetheatre.co.uk

Website: <u>www.bridgetheatre.co.uk</u>

Twitter: @_bridgetheatre Instagram: _bridgetheatre

Facebook: <u>facebook.com/bridgetheatrelondon</u>

For further press information Janine Shalom, Premier, <u>Janine.shalom@premiercomms.com</u> or <u>ella.taibel@premiercomms.com</u>