

HUMAN NURTURE

By Ryan Calais
Cameron

A Theatre Centre and
Sheffield Theatres Co-
Production



CAST

Harry **Lucas Button**

Runaku **Justice Ritchie**

DJ **Neeta Sarl**

CREATIVES

Writer **Ryan Calais Cameron**

Director **Rob Watt**

Producer **Steven Atkinson**

Sound Designer **Lee Affen**

Movement Director **Yami Lofvenberg**

Lighting Designer **Simisola Majekodunmi**

Composer **Neeta Sarl**

Set and Costume Designer **Tara Usher**

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



LUCAS BUTTON

Harry

For Sheffield Theatres, credits include:

Run Sister Run (Paines Plough/Soho Theatre).

Other theatre credits include:

The Butterfly Lion (Chichester Festival Theatre); *Kes* (Leeds Playhouse); *War Horse* (National Theatre/2017-18 Tour), *The Winter's Tale* (English National Opera/Coliseum); *Pinocchio* and *A Tender Thing* (The Duke's Theatre); *Alan, We Think You Should Get a Dog* (New Diorama Theatre); *Coram Boy*, *Ivanov* and *Romeo and Juliet* (RCSSD); *This is Not a Drill* (Tristan Bates Theatre) and *Five, Four, None* (The Roundhouse).

Television credits include:

Masters of the Air (Playtone/Amblin)
The Witcher: Blood Origins (Netflix) and
Worzel Gummidge (BBC/Leopard Pictures).



JUSTICE RITCHIE

Runaku

Justice graduated this year from Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

Film credits:

Justice recently filmed a small role in the upcoming Paramount film, *Dungeons and Dragons*, following which he won the BBC Carleton Hobbs Bursary Award.



NEETA SARL

DJ/Composer

A wildly innovative and versatile artist, Neeta is an electronic musician, composer, vocalist and producer. A classically trained pianist, Neeta grew up on a diet of Indian classical, Bollywood and RnB before discovering a deep passion for songwriting and electronic music.

Theatre credits include:

Love Reign (Young Vic); *How To Save The Planet When You're A Young Carer And Broke* (Roundhouse).

Neeta's debut solo album, released earlier this year - *Beat Tape Vol. 1* - is scattered with unique sounds and synths she created out of everyday objects, like stones, twigs, kettles and air vents.

CREATIVE BIOGRAPHIES

RYAN CALAIS CAMERON

Writer

Theatre credits include:

For Black Boys Who Have Considered Suicide
When The Hue Gets Too Heavy (Nouveau Riche/
Boundless Theatre/New Diorama 2021); *Typical*
(Nouveau Riche, Edinburgh Fringe Festival and
Soho Theatre Upstairs 2020); *Queens Of Sheba*
(Nouveau Riche, co-written with Jessica Hagan,
which won the 2018 Edinburgh Untapped Award.
Edinburgh Fringe/New Diorama Theatre/London
and national tour 2019).

Ryan was the winner of the 2018 Off West End
'Adopt A Playwright Award' for his play *Rhapsody*,
which was produced at the Arcola in March of that
year. *Retrograde*, which he wrote on his year of
'adoption', was shortlisted for the 2019 Alfred
Fagon Award and Verity Bargate Award 2020.

Ryan is an alumnus of the Royal Court writer's
programme 2017 and the Soho Young Company
2016/17. He is currently under commission to the
Royal Court, the Arcola, Soho Theatre and Theatre
Centre as well as commissions for television.

ROB WATT

Director

A critically acclaimed director, dramaturg and facilitator, Rob collaborates with writers, young people, communities, poets, and designers to make sense of the fractured world we inhabit.

He is currently the Artistic Director for Theatre Centre, regularly teaches at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, and works with the Institute of the Arts Barcelona. He previously was an Associate for Headlong Theatre, headed up the young people's team at the National Theatre, was a Lead Artist at Lyric Hammersmith, an Artist Mentor at the Barbican and Associate Director at Immediate Theatre. He is currently chair of Savvy Theatre's board.

Theatre credits include:

Birds and Bees (Theatre Centre); *Acts of Resistance* (Headlong Theatre & Bristol Old Vic); *Rallying Cry* (Battersea Arts Centre, BBC Contains Strong Words Festival Hull, Brighton Fringe); *It's Not Too Late to Save the World (and Other Lies)* devised by the company (Lyric Hammersmith); *Operation Ghost Raven* (The Department & MSC Grandiosa); *The Exorcism* (Battersea Arts Centre); *How to Survive a Post Truth Apocalypse* (Soho Theatre / Roundhouse / UK Tour); *Love and Information* (Institute of the Arts Barcelona); *SEXY* (Roundhouse / Bristol Old Vic / UK Tour); *Be Prepared* (Underbelly / VAULT Festival); *Party Trap* (Shoreditch Town Hall); *Goosebumps* (The Vaults); *The Joy of Normal* (Orange Tree Theatre); *Earthquakes in London* (Institute of the Arts Barcelona); *Standby For Tape Back-Up* (Summerhall / Soho Theatre / Shoreditch Town Hall / UK tour) and *Road* (Woodberry Down Community Centre, London).

STEVEN ATKINSON

Producer

Steven produces in film, television and theatre through Long Acre Arts and Roots.

He works freelance for Theatre Centre and Original Theatre, is a consultant for Theatre & Dance NI and a BFI NETWORK x BAFTA Crew member. He co-founded and led HighTide, producing with theatres including the National Theatre, The Old Vic, Royal Court Theatre and The Young Vic.

LEE AFFEN

Sound Designer

Lee is a multi-instrumentalist composer, music producer and sound designer from Manchester now based in Sheffield. He has an extensive record in producing high quality creative content in theatre, dance and film, with years of experience in making productions and installations around the country.

Theatre credits include:

Who Are Yer? (Cardboard Citizens); *Jadek* (Imagine If); *The War Within* (Fallen Angels and Birmingham Royal Ballet); *Far Gone* (Utopia Theatre); *Cotton* (About Time Dance Theatre); *Into Our Skies* (Lucy Starkey Dances); *Othello* (Demi-Paradise Productions); *Hansel and Gretel* (Theatr Clwyd); *The Box* (Hawkdance Theatre) *Outside the Igloo* (The Knotted Project); *Ladies that Bus* (The Dukes Theatre); *Sorry, I Disappeared* (Thick Skin Theatre) and *Anna Hibiscus's Song* (Utopia Theatre).

Other credits include:

BBC Radio 3 and New Voices; *Outskirts* (The Bare Project); *Where Two Rivers Meet* (The British Library film).

Lee has also composed and performed original live scores for silent films *Metropolis*, *Nosferatu* and *The Passion of Joan of Arc*. Lee is a company member of The Bare Project and an Associate Artist with Imagine If Theatre, Box Of Tricks and The Dukes Theatre.

YAMI LÖFVENBURG

Movement Designer

Yami Löfvenberg is a multidisciplinary artist and director working in the intersection of movement theatre and cross-arts. Between making theatre and her own work, Yami mentors, educates, and delivers workshops across the UK and internationally, and has collaborated with a multitude of diverse artists, organisations and projects throughout her career.

Yami currently is the lecturer on the first ever Hip-Hop module at Trinity Laban Dance Conservatoire.

Theatre credits include:

Rare Earth Mettle and *Living Newspaper* (Royal Court); *Athena* (The Yard Theatre); *Notes on Grief* (Manchester International Festival); *Fuck You Pay Me* (Bunker); *Breakin' Convention* (Sadler's Wells); *Talawa TYPT* (Hackney Showrooms); *Boat* (Battersea Arts Centre); *Fierce Flow* (Hippodrome Birmingham); *Kind of Woman* (Camden People's); and *Afroabelhas* (Roundhouse/British Council/Tempo Festival (Brazil)).

Assistant Director / Choreographer credits include:

Hive City Legacy (Roundhouse, Home, Millennium).

Yami is a British Council and Arts Council England recipient, Howard Davies Emerging Directors Grant Recipient, One Dance UK DAD Trailblazer Fellow, Marion North Recipient, and a Talawa Make Artist.

She was on the creative choreographic team for the 2012 Olympics Opening Ceremony and is a member of performance collective Hot Brown Honey.

She has a collaborative company called Passion & Purpose that focuses on dance management, creative projects, and artist progression.

SIMISOLA MAJEKODUNMI

Lighting Designer

Simisola graduated from RADA with a specialist degree in Lighting Design.

Theatre credits include:

The WIZ (HopeMill Theatre); *Sessions* (Soho Theatre Upstairs); *Is God Is* (Royal Court Theatre); *J'ouvert* (for Theatre 503/Harold Pinter Theatre); *Lucid* (New Public Company); *Tiger Under the Skin* (New Public Company); *Driving Miss Daisy* (York Theatre Royal); *Invisible Harmony* (Southbank Centre); *Just Another Day and Night* (The Place Theatre); *Living Newspaper Edition 6* (Royal Court Theatre).

Associate theatre credits include:

Shark is Broken (The Ambassadors Theatre); *Carousel* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); *The Old Bridge* (Bush Theatre); *Shoe Lady* (Royal Court Theatre); *15 Heroines* (Jermyn Street Theatre) and *Herding Cats* (Soho Theatre Downstairs).

TARA USHER

Set and Costume Designer

Tara is a Kent/London based Set and Costume Designer. She trained at Wimbledon College of Art and now works across musical, dance and drama productions, more recently branching out into short films and teaching at East 15 Acting School throughout the pandemic.

In 2019 her design for *Little Baby Jesus*, collaborating with director Tristan Fynn-Aiduenu, won the JMK award, spotlighting them as the youngest duo to have been granted the award.

Theatre credits include:

The Prince and The Pauper (Trinity Theatre); *David Copperfield* (Barn Theatre, Cirencester); 2019 JMK Award Winning production of *Little Baby Jesus* (The Orange Tree Theatre); *Queen of the Mist* (Charing Cross Theatre); *Heart of Darkness Immersive Experience* (The Marlowe Theatre); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UK Summer Tour with Immersion Theatre); *The Barber of Seville Tour* (Surrey Opera); *Nuns* (Tristan Bates Theatre); *Sweet Like Chocolate Boy* (Brockley Jack and UK Tour); *See Me For Myself* (Tabard Theatre) and *Sweeney Todd* (The Minack Theatre).

ELIZABETH BOND

Company Stage Manager

Lizzie is a graduate from Rose Bruford College.

Training credits include:

Wondertown (The Ugly Duck Theatre); *Blue Stockings* (The Rose Theatre, Rose Bruford College) and *Spring Awakening* (Stratford Circus).

Theatre credits include:

Paperboy (The Lyric Theatre); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Birmingham Old Rep); *On the Book, Dick Whittington* (The Towngate Theatre); *On the Book, Ballet Central Graduate Tour* (various venues); *The Tide* (various venues); *David Copperfield* (The Barn Theatre) and *On the Book, Beauty and the Beast* (The Towngate Theatre).

MONAY THOMAS

Creative Associate

Monay Thomas is an actor, writer and theatre-maker from South East London. She is an Associate Artist at Sounds Like Chaos Theatre Company, a member of the National Youth Theatre and the BFI Film Academy. Monay is currently studying at The London School of Economics and Political Science for a degree in Anthropology and Law.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Producer **Steven Atkinson**

Schools Tour Booking and Co-ordination **Hannah**

Austin and Niamh Parker-Whitehead

Company Stage Manager **Elizabeth Bond**

Production Manager **Samantha Nurse**

Casting Associate **Becky Paris**

Lighting Programmer **John Payne**

Creative Associate **Monay Thomas**

Artwork **Guy Sanders**

Theatre Centre Staff:

Enterprise Manager **Hannah Austin**

Programme and Admin Co-Ordinator **Niamh
Parker-Whitehead**

Executive Director and CEO **Emma Rees**

Artistic Director **Rob Watt**

THEATRE CENTRE

WHO WE ARE

Theatre Centre is a national touring company that makes bold, relevant and resonant shows with and for young people. We commission new work from the most exciting writers and artists and take this work into schools and theatres across the UK. We have recently launched Future Makers, a whole new way of supporting young people as artists, creatives, active citizens and leaders. It is the core of all of our work and is the key to the way we unlock our young people-centred practice in schools and in our national and local communities.

Future Makers brings young people, artists and practitioners together to develop and share skills, explore big ideas and make work. Our work is all about working with and amplifying the voice of young people, to develop agency and empowerment, while telling relevant, authentic, and relatable stories.

Founded in 1953, we are an acknowledged leader in our field and our practice continues to evolve. Theatre Centre is predominantly a Learning Organisation and has an embedded culture of developing and nurturing everyone involved in or touched by the work.

