

PRESS RELEASE
01 February 2018



Lyric Hammersmith Announces 2018 Evolution Festival

The Lyric Hammersmith today announces it will be bringing its *Evolution Festival* back for a third year. *Evolution* showcases artists aged 16 – 25, celebrating the ground-breaking and exciting work being produced by young people in the capital. The four day multi-art form festival will run from Wednesday 14 – Saturday 17 March 2018.

This year the festival celebrates the importance of the individual and explores the idea of 'Self'. The topics and related themes involve the discussion of identity, race, gender, health, stereotypes and culture. The Evolution Festival creates a safe and creative space for artists to share their work, represents the diverse and multi-cultural talent in London and allows artists to connect with a wider audience.

The festival features several projects developed by the Lyric including *Stains*, a collaboration with Wimbledon College of Art; *The Blind Truth* previously a scratch performance in Evolution 2017; and *The Room of Possibilities* performed by Journeys, the Lyric's integrated company of disabled and non-disabled performers.

The festival will also premiere the newly formed Lyric Ensemble's work in progress, directed by international director Anne Louise Sarks, ahead of their summer show.

Sean Holmes, Artistic Director of Lyric Hammersmith said: 'Everyone here can't wait for our third Evolution Festival. Vibrant, surprising and uniquely Lyric'.

For last year's Evolution Festival the Lyric worked with 106 artists and performers aged between 16-25 . 67% of the artists were from BAME backgrounds and 82% of participants were female. The Lyric welcomed over 1,000 young people into the venue across 13 different shows and events and 65% of these audiences were new to the Lyric. Some of the productions showcased last year went on to be performed at the Ovalhouse, The Vaults Festival, and Camden People's Theatre and have received funding from Arts Council England.

Lyric Hammersmith Lyric Square, King Street, London W6 0QL • Tel +44 (0)20 8741 6850 • www.lyric.co.uk

Chair **Lisa Burger** • Artistic Director **Sean Holmes** • Executive Director **Sian Alexander** • Registered Charity No. 278518 • Registered Company No. 1443809 •



LISTINGS

Stains

Wed 14 & Thu 15 March 2018

7pm, 60 mins

A man is on trial for a crime of passion and self-preservation. In his final meeting with his defence lawyer he is offered a plea deal. He wants to tell a different story.

Inspired by verbatim accounts, *Stains* shines a light on the untold stories of the constant struggles of dealing with micro-aggressions.

Talks: Survival of the Fittest

Wed 14 March 2018

7:30pm, 60 mins

FREE

A panel discussion exploring the question "Is there enough space for us all to create?" This conversation will focus on the struggles of becoming an artist. Is it a competition or a collaboration? Our expert panellists will relate their experiences before opening it up to the floor.

Express Yourself

Wed 14 March 2018

8pm, 60 mins

Ages 16+

Join four young artists for an evening of new and developed work exploring the theme of self. The evening will feature: *Make Love* by Violet Vincent, *Autistic Artistic* by Jody Nolan, *N.P.B.D* by Alexandria Macleod, *Feels* by TD.Moyo and *Weak Tea* by Daniel Bailey

Talks: Black Is The New Black

Thu 15 March 2018

7:30pm, 60 mins

FREE

A discussion focussing on colour blind casting and whether or not it works. We will be exploring the pros and cons of colour blind casting using a range of recent stories, experiences and our expert panel.

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Love Letters

Thu 15 & Fri 16 March 2018

8:30pm, 60 mins

'My love has made me selfish... I see no further. You have absorb'd me' John Keats. *Love Letters* is a show that explores the age old theme LOVE. Request your favourite love song, send us a love letter, sit back and enjoy a celebration of our greatest ability. Directed by Stef O Driscoll.

Lyric Ensemble: Work in Progress

Thu 15 & Fri 16 March 2018

8pm, 60 mins

The Lyric Ensemble is a group of 15 actors led by international director Anne Louise Sarks. The ensemble have been working together since September and this is your chance to catch a sneak preview of their work in progress before they showcase their full show in June 2018. Be one of the first to see this dynamic and surprising company in action.

The Blind Truth

Fri 16 & Sat 17 March 2018

7pm, 60 mins

Set in a dystopian future, *The Blind Truth* depicts a world in the aftermath of a war caused by inequality and injustice. Survival is key and there is hope in the remaining survivors. Four teenagers get an unexpected opportunity to share their stories of discrimination.

Journeys: The Room of Possibilities

Sat 17 March 2018

3pm & 6pm, 60 mins

In a world where we are faced with barriers at every turn the *Journeys* company have created a room where anything is possible...

Come and watch them make the most daring attempts and achieve the greatest feats. In this space it will be messy and wild and anything will be possible.

Journeys is a company of disabled and non-disabled actors and performers who seek to create new worlds in their performances.

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Reel Talks: Wonder Women of the Arts

Sat 17 March 2018
6:30pm, 90 mins
FREE

An intimate discussion with actors, producers, and directors. A prestigious panel will be talking about their experiences and answering any questions you might have about the industry and your own career.

Express Yourself

Sat 17 March 2018
8pm, 60 mins
Ages 16+

Join four young artists for an evening of new and developed work revolving around the theme of self. The evening will feature: *For Heavens Cake* by Rachel Vogler, *Tentacles* by David Gilbert and Rebecca Phillips, *Shove It In* by Aaliyah Antoine, *Boys Like Us* by Mateus Daniel and *Rush* by Tiwalade Olulode.

Fresh Faced Film Fest

Sat 17 March 2018
8:30pm, 60 mins
FREE

The fourth Fresh Faced Film Festival curated by TEAfilms in association with the Lyric Hammersmith will not disappoint. A selection of quality films by young directors will be showcased in front of a panel of film industry professionals.

AZ Mag Live Night

Sat 17 March 2018
From 9pm
Tickets £5

Celebrating the talents of young BAME people in the UK with a focus on LGBT+ performers. After last year's sold out AZ Mag Live, expect an evening of poetry, singing and dance; hosted by AZ Magazine's very own, Tay.

Bringing the sounds is one of London's hottest DJ's, Carmen London, with a fresh set giving you the chance to shake a leg and wrap up Evolution 2018.

For press enquiries please contact

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For more information visit www.lyric.co.uk.

Twitter @LyricHammer #LyricEvolution | Facebook LyricHammersmith



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



NOTES TO EDITORS

Booking Information:

Suitable for ages 14+ unless stated otherwise

All tickets are £8 unless otherwise stated

Buy 3 shows for £21 or 5 shows for £30

Tickets: 020 8741 6850 | www.lyric.co.uk
Lyric Square, King Street, London, W6 0QL

Also booking at the Lyric Hammersmith

Jubilee

Thursday 15 February – Saturday 10 March 2018

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Sat at 2.30pm. Also Wednesday 07 March at 2.30pm. (No 7.30pm performance Saturday 24 February).

Free First Night: Thursday 15 February at 7.30pm. For more information: www.lyric.co.uk

Previews: Friday 16 February & Monday 19 February 2018 (No performances Saturday 17 February)

Press Performance: Tuesday 20 February at 7pm

Audio Described Performance: Wednesday 28 February at 7.30pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 03 March at 7.30pm

Preview Tickets: From £15 | Tickets: From £15

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The Plough and the Stars

Thursday 15 March – Saturday 07 April 2018

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Sat at 2.30pm (Excluding Sat 17 Mar). Also

Thu 22 March at 1.30pm.

(No performance Monday 02 April)

Free First Night: Thursday 15 March at 7.30pm. For more information: www.lyric.co.uk

Previews: Friday 16 March – Monday 19 March 2018

Press Performance: Tuesday 20 March at 7pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 31 March at 2.30pm

Audio Described Performance: Saturday 31 March at 7.30pm

Preview Tickets: From £10 | Tickets: From £15

4:48 Psychosis

23, 24, 26, 28, 30 April, 02 & 04 May

All performances at 7.30pm;

Free First Night: Monday 23 April at 7.30pm. For more information: www.lyric.co.uk

Press Performance: Tuesday 24 April at 7.30pm

All performances are sung in English and surtitled

Tickets: From £15

Hofesh Shechter / Shechter II – Clowns & New Creation

Tuesday 08 May – Saturday 12 May 2018

Tue-Sat 7.30pm; Also Sat at 2.30pm

Free First Night: Tuesday 08 May at 7.30pm. For more information: www.lyric.co.uk

Press Performance: Tuesday 08 May at 7.30pm

Tickets: From £15

Fatherland

Friday 25 May – Saturday 23 June 2018

Mon-Thu & Sat 7.30pm; Fri 8pm

Also Sat & Wed 2.30pm (excluding Sat 26 May & Wed 30 May. No performance on Mon 28 May)

Free First Night: Friday 25 May at 7.30pm. For more information: www.lyric.co.uk

Previews: Saturday 26 – Wednesday 30 May 2018

Press Performance: Thursday 31 May at 7pm

Preview Tickets: From £10 | Tickets: From £15

o t h e l l o m a c b e t h

Friday 5 October – Saturday 3 November 2018

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Wed 1.30pm (excluding Wed 10 & Wed 24 October) & Sat 2:30pm (excluding Sat 6 October)

Free First Night: Friday 5 October at 7.30pm. For more information: www.lyric.co.uk

Previews: Friday 5 – Tuesday 9 October 2018

Press Performance: Wednesday 10 October at 7pm

Preview Tickets: From £10 | Tickets: From £15

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