PRESS RELEASE

Thursday 5 September 2019

**FULL CASTING FOR THE LYRIC HAMMERSMITH THEATRE’S CINDERELLA AND OTHER FESTIVITIES ANNOUNCED**

* CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR THE LYRIC HAMMERSMITH THEATRE’S ANNUAL PANTOMIME, ***CINDERELLA***
* RAYMOND BRIGGS’ **FATHER CHRISTMAS** RETURNS TO THE STUDIO THEATRE
* **JOE STILGOE** RETURNS TO THE LYRIC HAMMERSMITH THEATRE FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY
* NEW **LYRIC** **BAR & GRILL** OFFERS FOR CHRISTMAS

CINDERELLA CASTING ANNOUNCED

[DOWNLOAD MAIN IMAGE](https://we.tl/t-G7pFfGg46s%20)

A Lyric Hammersmith Theatre production:

By **Jude Christian**

Directed by **Tinuke Craig**

16 November 2019 – 05 January 2020

Press Night: Saturday 23 November 2019, 6pm

The **Lyric Hammersmith Theatre** today announces the cast for **Cinderella,** with **Timmika Ramsay** playing the title role in her Lyric and Panto debut.

The Lyric’s annual Pantomime will be directed by **Tinuke Craig** and written by the returning **Jude Christian,** co-writer and director of last year’s panto, Dick Whittington. Expect a mix of live music, bonkers characters, awesome adventures, singing, dancing, good guys, bad guys (behind you!) and dreams of astrophysical quantum accelecommunicatian.

Joining Timmika are **Shobna Gulati** (Madame Meanie), best known for playing Sunita Alahan in Coronation Street and Anita in dinnerladies and **Rhys Taylor** (Fairy Fredbare) who’s recent work includes Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens at the Union Theatre.

Cinderella’s step-sisters will be played by **Mairi Barclay** (Topsy) and **Lauren Samuels** (Popsy). **Jodie Jacobs** (Buttons) returns to the Lyric stage after playing Bow Belles in Dick Whittington last year.

The Lyric’s annual pantomime is now in its 11th year, having run every year since Richard Bean, Morgan Lloyd Malcolm, Joel Horwood and Ché Walker’s adaptation of Jack and the Beanstalk opened in 2009, directed by Steve Marmion with Stephen Fry as the voice of the giant. Mel Giedroyc, Vikki Stone and Stevie Webb have all joined the Lyric’s pantomime over the years to sing ‘Glory Glory Hammersmith’.

As part of the Lyric Hammersmith Theatre’s commitment to nurturing young talent, the main cast will be joined by an ensemble of young performers: **Jon Alderson, Bradley Bryant, Melanie Joyce-Ashurst, Jessica Manu, Carla Reid** and **Rachel Shobande.**

The pantomime has launched many new careers through the Panto Ensemble, a group of young performers given training and the experience of taking to the stage to perform, many in their first paid professional roles. Previous Ensemble members have included Nathan Byron who has appeared in Benidorm, Krystal Dockery who after the ensemble went on to play the title role in Cinderella at the Lyric, Karl Queensborough who played the title role in Aladdin at the Lyric in 2016, and Jamael Westman who played the title role in Hamilton in the West End.

#LyricPanto

CREATIVES

Written by                          Jude Christian

Directed by                         Tinuke Craig

Design by                           Frankie Bradshaw

Lighting by                         Joshua Pharo

Composed & Arranged by          Corin Buckeridge

Sound by                           Lorna Munden

Choreography by                   Shelly Maxwell

Musical Direction by               Joanna Cichonska

Casting by                          Will Burton CDG

RAYMOND BRIGGS’ FATHER CHRISTMAS

A Lyric Hammersmith Theatre and Pins and Needles Production:

Adapted by **Pins and Needles**

Directed by **Emma Earle**

Wednesday 20 November – Sunday 29 December 2019

Now established as a Christmas tradition at the Lyric, this critically acclaimed production of Raymond Briggs’ Father Christmas returns for another brilliant bloomin’ year.

Watch Briggs’ grumpy but loveable Father Christmas as he gets ready for his busiest day of the year, Christmas Eve. Preparing his Christmas deliveries, feeding his reindeer and finally taking flight into the snowy night.

Full of merry touches with plenty of live music, songs and playful puppetry. A perfect festive treat for under 6s and their families.

CREATIVES

Based on the Book by             Raymond Briggs

Adapted by                            Pins and Needles

Directed by                            Emma Earle

Associate Director                    Eva Sampson

Design by                             Zoe Squire

Lighting by                            George Ogilvie

Music and Sound by                  Lucy Rivers

Puppet Designer                      Max Humphries

Dramaturg                            Adam Peck

Little Lyric is supported by The Collective

JOE STILGOE’S CHRISTMAS HOUSE PARTY RETURNS TO THE LYRIC HAMMERSMITH THEATRE FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY

The Lyric Hammersmith Theatre and epb present,

**Joe Stilgoe’s Christmas House Party**

Monday 16 December 2019, 7.30pm

Today we also announce the return of Joe Stilgoe for a one night event this Christmas.

Back by overwhelming demand for his fourth consecutive year, Joe returns to the Lyric Hammersmith Theatre with Joe Stilgoe’s Christmas House Party. Once again, Joe will be joined for one night only by his stupendous band and star guests.  Expect a mix of the old, the new, classics and surprises, all tied up neatly with a bow.

Joe Stilgoe is an internationally acclaimed singer, pianist and songwriter. Over the course of his varied career he has become a true modern-day entertainer, known globally as a performer of wit, style and a level of musicianship which has seen him recognised as one of the best singer-pianists in the world.

BAR & GRILL CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Christmas magic extends across our building with ticket and catering packages designed for your perfect fairy-tale Christmas party.

We have a range of spaces to hire, and festive menus to offer; including post-work festive cocktails; a 3 course Christmas dinner looking out over our Roof Garden, Christmas films and festive snack packages in our intimate 54 seater cinema; and pre-show Christmas party packages.

For bespoke Christmas party packages contact hires@lyric.co.uk.

For press enquiries please contact **Armani Ur-Rub** in the Lyric Hammersmith Theatre’s Press Office:

**armani.ur-rub@lyric.co.uk** **| T: 020 8741 6822 (ext 429)**

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

Twitter: @LyricHammer | Facebook: LyricHammersmith



**NOTES TO EDITORS**

Booking Information

Tickets 020 8741 6850 | [www.lyric.co.uk](http://www.lyric.co.uk)

Lyric Square, King Street, London, W6 0QL

Christmas at the Lyric

**Cinderella**

Saturday 16 Nov 2019 ‐ Sunday 05 Jan 2020

Free First Night: Saturday 16 November

Press Performance: Saturday 23 November, 6pm

Relaxed Performance: Wednesday 04 December, 6pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 14 December, 6pm

Audio Described Performance: Wednesday 18 December, 6pm

BSL Performance: Friday 27 December, 2pm

See [full schedule](https://lyric.co.uk/shows/cinderella/) online for show times, Mon-Sun

Preview Tickets from £10 | Tickets from £15

**Family Offer for Cinderella:** £75 Family Tickets are available for Cinderella. (Family tickets are for two adults and two children or one adult and three children. Valid on full price and under 16 tickets in bands B and C only). To book online add one of these combinations of tickets to your basket and the discount will automatically apply. Alternatively book via the Box office by calling 020 8741 6850.

**Raymond Briggs’ Father Christmas**

Wednesday 20 November – Sunday 29 December 2019

For full schedule: [www.lyric.co.uk](http://www.lyric.co.uk)

Tickets: from £10. No booking fee.

**Joe Stilgoe’s Christmas House Party**

Monday 16 December 2019, 7.30pm

Tickets: from £15. No booking fee.

**Coming up next at the Lyric Hammersmith Theatre:**

**A Doll’s House**

Friday 06 September – Saturday 05 October

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Weds 1.30pm and Sat at 2.30pm

Free First Night: Friday 06 September

Press Performance: Wednesday 11 September, 7pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 28 December, 2.30pm

Audio Described Performance: Saturday 28 September, 7.30pm

Preview Tickets from £10 | Tickets from £15

**Also booking at the Lyric Hammersmith Theatre:**

**Solaris**

Thursday 10 October - Saturday 02 November 2019

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Wed at 1.30pm and Sat at 2.30pm.

Free First Night: Thursday 10 October.

Press Performance: Monday 14 October, 7pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 19 October, 2.30pm

Audio Described Performance: Saturday 19 October, 7.30pm

Preview Tickets from £10 | Tickets From £15

**Love, Love, Love**

Thursday 05 March – Saturday 04 April 2020

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Wed at 1.30pm and Sat at 2.30pm.

Free First Night: Thursday 05 March.

Press Performance: Wednesday 11 March, 7pm

Audio Described Performance: Saturday 28 March, 7.30pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 28 March, 2.30pm

Preview Tickets: From £10 | Tickets From £15

**Sophocles’ Antigone: The Burial at Thebes**

Saturday 18 April – Saturday 16 May 2020

Mon-Sat 7.30pm

Also Wed at 1.30pm and Sat at 2.30pm.

Free First Night: Saturday 18 April.

Press Performance: Thursday 23 April, 7pm

Audio Described Performance: Saturday 09 May, 7.30pm

Open Captioned Performance: Saturday 09 May, 2.30pm

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

**In the West End**

**Noises Off**

Friday 27 September – Saturday 04 January 2020

Mon – Sat 7.30pm

Also Sat and Wed at 2.30pm

Press Performance: Thursday 03 October

Captioned Performance: Mon 11 November, 7.30pm

Audio Described Performance, Tue 26 November, 7.30pm

[**Find out more**](https://lyric.co.uk/shows/noises-off-at-the-garrick-theatre/)

**Ghost Stories**

Thursday 03 October – Saturday 04 January 2020

Mon – Thurs 7.30pm

Friday 7pm & 9.30pm

Saturday 2.30pm

Press Performance: Wednesday 09 October, 7.30pm

[**Find out more**](https://lyric.co.uk/shows/ghost-stories-at-the-ambassadors-theatre/)

**Cinderella Cast Biographies**

Mairi Barclay plays **Topsy:**

**Theatre credits include:** Rain Man (UK Tour); Pippin (Manchester Hope Mill Theatre, Southwark Playhouse – OFFIE Award Winner for Best Performance in a Supporting Role in a Musical); The Snow Queen (Royal and Derngate Northampton) and A Damsel in Distress (Chichester Festival Theatre)

**Film credits include:** Sarah in Pretty (Short Film, Gal Productions)

**Television credits include:** 2014 Olivier Awards (ITV).

**Radio credits include:** Friday Night is Music Night (BBC Radio 2).

Shobna Gulati plays **Madame Meanie**

**TV credits include**: dinnerladies (BBC); Coronation Street (ITV); 4Stories – On the Edge (Blacklight Productions),  Doctor Who, Moving On Hold The Sunset  Doctors  Casualty, In the Club  Eastenders, New Street Law, Magnolia (BBC1);  River City, (BBC Scotland), Paranoid, (ITV1/Red/Netflix); You, Me and Them, (UKTV Gold); The Slammer, Jackanory (CBBC); Bedtime Stories' Cbeebies, The Circle (Channel 4), Where The Heart Is (ITV1)

**Theatre credits include**: Richard II (The Globe); Everybody’s Talking About Jamie (The Apollo Theatre); Daisy Pulls It Off (The Park); Anita & Me (Birmingham Rep and Touring Consortium); Grease (Leicester Curve Theatre); Mamma Mia International Tour 2015- 2016, Jon Godber's April in Paris (Derby Playhouse and National Tour); B!rth, Hunger for Trade, Come Closer Pretend You Have Big Buildings , Cafe Vesuvio ( Royal Exchange, Manchester); The Jungle Book, (West Yorkshire Playhouse), dinnerladies (National tour),  Girl's Night (National Tour), The Vagina Monologues ( Mark Gucher Ltd); Romeo and Juliet ( Leicester Haymarket); A Midsummer Night's Dream (Tara Arts, National Tour); How High is Up (West Yorkshire Playhouse)

**Latest film credits include**: Everyone’s Talking About Jamie (Film4 and Warp Films)

**Television credits include:** 4Stories - On the Edge (Blacklight Productions); Doctor Who (BBC);

Moving On (LA Productions); River City (BBC Scotland); Treasure Champs (CBeebies); Edith

(BBC); Casualty (BBC); Doctors (BBC1); Coronation Street (ITV) and Dinnerladies (BBC)

**Presenter:** Loose Women (ITV Productions)

**Film credits include:** Everybody's Talking About Jamie (Warp Films); Love Eventually (British Muslim TV); Junkhearts (Coded Pictures) and Satinder (BFI/Film)

**Jodie Jacobs** plays Buttons:

**For the Lyric:** Dick Whittington.

**Theatre credits include:** Unexpected Joy (Southwark Playhouse); Myth (The Other Palace); Bananaman (Southwark Playhouse); Lizzie (London and Denmark); Disaster – The Musical (Charing Cross Theatre); Oliver (Grange Park Opera); Carrie (Southwark Playhouse); Rock of Ages (Shaftesbury Theatre); Footloose (UK and Ireland Tour); The Wedding Singer (UK and Ireland Tour); We Will Rock You (Dominion Theatre); Fame (Aldwych Theatre); Evita (Adelphi Theatre) and Little Shop of Horrors (The Duke of York’s Theatre ).

**Television and radio credits include:** Talk Sport; The Amazing World of Gumball (Cartoon Network) and Drop Zone (BBC).

**Timmika Ramsay** plays Cinderella:

**Theatre credits include:** Magna Carta (NT Studio), Madagascar (Selladoor) and Storylab (Kiln Theatre).

**Television credits include:** Adult Material (Channel 4) and Enterprice (BBC3).

Lauren Samuels plays **Popsy**

**Theatre credits include:** We Will Rock You (Dominion Theatre); The Water Babies, Peter Pan (Curve); The Last 5 Years (Tabard); The Wizard of Oz (Cyprus); The Children of Eden (Prince of Wales); Vampirette (Manchester Opera House); The Buskers Opera (Park Theatre); Vanities (Trafalgar Studios); La Ronde (Bunker Theatre); Romantics Anonymous (Sam Wanamaker Playhouse); A Hundred Words For Snow (Arcola); Jenny in The Big Corner (Octagon Theatre); Henry V (Barn Theatre) and Bend It Like Beckham (Phoenix Theatre).

Rhys Taylor plays **Fairy Fredbare**

**Theatre credits include**: The Book of Mormon (Prince of Wales Theatre); Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens (Union); Now and Then (Above the Stag) and Rob and the Hoodies (Vienna’s English Theatre).

**Television include:** Cher: The Greatest Showgirl (ITV/Potato)

**Cinderella Creative Biographies**

**Jude Christian**
Writer

**For the Lyric** (as Director, Associate Director or Writer):  Dick Whittington, othellomacbeth, Jack and the Beanstalk, Shopping and F\*\*\*ing, Aladdin, The Seagull.

**Theatre credits include**: Dark Night of the Soul (The Globe), Trust (Gate Theatre), Three Sisters (Rash Dash), Split/Mixed (Summerhall); Nanjing (Yard Theatre and Shakespeare’s Globe); Blue (RWCMD); Lela & Co. (Royal Court); I’d Rather Goya Robbed Me Of My Sleep Than Some Other Arsehole (Gate Theatre/Boom Arts Portland) and Bwyta Eliffant, Sut Mae Gwneud Hynny Dwedwch?/How Do You Eat An Elephant? (National Youth Theatre of Wales).

**Tinuke Craig**

Director

Tinuke was the Gate Theatre’s Associate Director from 2015-2016. In 2014 she was the winner of the Genesis Future Director Award. She is a selector for the National Student Drama Festival, an associate of the National Youth Theatre, and an Education Associate Practitioner at the RSC. She trained as a director at LAMDA.

**Directing credits for Theatre include**: The Colour Purple (Leicester Curve)  Random/Generations (Chichester Festival Theatre); I Call My Brothers (Gate Theatre); Dirty Butterfly (Young Vic).

**Assistant/Associate Director for Theatre includes**: Wonder.land (National Theatre),  Hamlet, All’s Well that Ends Well  (RSC) and The Changeling (Young Vic).

**Upcoming productions include**: Vassa (Almeida Theatre).

**Frankie Bradshaw**

Designer

Frankie Bradshaw is a set and costume designer for theatre and performance. She is nominated with director Lynette Linton for the Stage Best Creative West End Debut Award for Sweat at the Gielgud Theatre 2019. She was a Jerwood Young Designer in 2017, she won the Off West-End Best Set Design award in 2016, and was a Linbury prize finalist in 2015.

**Frankie’s latest design credits for theatre include:** Sweat (West End/Donmar Warehouse), Two Trains Running (Royal & Derngate/UK Tour), Napoli Brooklyn (UK Tour/Park Theatre), Skellig (Nottingham Playhouse),Trying It On (UK Tour/RSC/Royal Court), Kiss Me Kate, Jerusalem, Nesting, Robin Hood (Watermill Theatre), Cookies (Theatre Royal Haymarket), On The Exhale (Traverse),This Is (Arts Ed), Hansel (Salisbury Playhouse).

**For opera she has designed:**Macbeth, Idomeneo and Elizabetta for English Touring Opera.

[www.frankiebradshawdesign.com](http://www.frankiebradshawdesign.com)

**About the Lyric Hammersmith Theatre**

The Lyric has created some of the UK’s most adventurous and acclaimed theatrical work. This includes the debuts of Harold Pinter’s The Birthday Party (1958) and Michael Frayn’s Noises Off (1982), which returned this year and opens in the West End late September. Other iconic productions include the Olivier award-winning revival of Sarah Kane’s Blasted (2009), the triumphant Bugsy Malone (2015) and the international cult hit Ghost Stories, which is back in the West End this Autumn.

Under the joint leadership of Artistic Director Rachel O’Riordan and Executive Director Sian Alexander, the Lyric’s 2019/2020 programme of reimagined classics, contemporary plays and bold new works celebrates its unique Matcham theatre.

At the heart of the Lyric is a commitment to young people’s creativity. The theatre has a national reputation for its ground breaking work to forge pathways into the arts for young talent from all backgrounds, helping to diversify our industry. The theatre is West London’s largest creative hub and home to an innovative partnership of arts organisations who work together to deliver life-changing creative opportunities for thousands of young West Londoners.

 **Free First Night**

The Lyric is proud to call Hammersmith their home. In 2016 they celebrated the 20th anniversary of their Free First Night scheme, part of their long term partnership with the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, through which they give free tickets to people who live or work locally. Through this scheme last year they offered 3799 Free First Night tickets to people who may not have had an opportunity to see theatre before. And as part of this commitment to the local community, they also provided 2,000 tickets to Hammersmith & Fulham schools. For full details including dates of future Free First Nights, www.lyric.co.uk.

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

Twitter: @LyricHammer | Facebook: LyricHammersmith

