

# National Theatre

FINAL WEEKS TO SEE  
DUNCAN MACMILLAN'S SMASH HIT PLAY  
*PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS*

AT THE TRAFALGAR THEATRE IN LONDON'S WEST END  
UNTIL 10 AUGUST 2024



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The National Theatre, Gavin Kalin Productions, Mark Gordon Pictures/Eilene Davidson Productions, Seaview and Second Half Productions' smash hit production of *People, Places and Things* is in its final weeks at the **Trafalgar Theatre**. *'Blisteringly funny, brilliantly physical and aching human'* (Financial Times), **Duncan Macmillan's** intoxicating play, directed by the acclaimed, award-winning **Jeremy Herrin** and originally co-produced by the National Theatre and Headlong, will conclude its critically acclaimed run on the **10 August 2024**.

*'Theatre at its most vivid'* (The Times), the cast includes, **Denise Gough**, who reprises her Olivier Award-winning role as Emma, a struggling actress whose life is spinning recklessly out of control. *'Denise Gough's performance is one of the greatest of her generation. Shocking, magnetic, unbelievably real'* (The Independent).

**Sinéad Cusack** (*V for Vendetta*, Warner Bros; *Rock 'n' Roll*, Royal Court Theatre) plays the roles of Doctor/Therapist/Mum, **Malachi Kirby** (*Small Axe: Mangrove*, BBC; upcoming *Anansi Boys*, Amazon Prime) plays the role of Mark, **Danny Kirrane** (*Baby Reindeer*, Netflix; *The Sandman*, Netflix) plays the role of Foster and **Kevin McMonagle** (*Scoop*, Netflix; *Best of Enemies*, Young Vic) plays the roles of Dad/Paul.

**Holly Atkins** (*This Country*, BBC; *Sons of the Prophet*, Hampstead Theatre), plays the role of Charlotte, **Paksie Vernon** (*Shetland*, BBC; *Angels in America: Part One*, National Theatre) plays the role of Jodi, **Ryan Hutton** (*A Midsummer's Night Dream*, Royal Shakespeare Company; *Only Fools and Horses*, Theatre Royal Haymarket) plays the role of Shaun, **Ayò Owóyèmi-Peters** makes her West End debut playing the role of Laura and **Dillon Scott-Lewis** (*Piglets*, ITV; *Juliet*, Shaftesbury Theatre) plays the role of T.

Completing the company are **Russell Anthony** (*Call the Midwife*, BBC; *Trouble in Butetown*, Donmar Warehouse), **Louise Templeton** (*Jayson Bend: Queen and Country*, Amazon Prime; *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Curtain*, Theatre Royal Bath), **Miriam Elwell-Sutton** (*Dolly the Musical*, Leicester Curve; *Mamma Mia!*, West End), **Emma Jane Fearnley** (*Betty Blue Eyes*, Union Theatre; *Made in Dagenham 20th Anniversary Concert*, London Palladium), **Genevieve Labuschagne** (professional debut), **Imogen Mackenzie** (*Mother of Exiles*, *The Moors*; Hope Theatre) and **Lottie Power** (*Sinatra*, Birmingham Rep).

**Emma was having the time of her life. Now she's in rehab. Her first step is to admit that she has a problem. But the problem isn't with Emma, it's with everything else. She needs to tell the truth. But she's smart enough to know that there's no such thing. When intoxication feels like the only way to survive the modern world, how can she ever sober up?**

**Denise Gough** won 'Best Actress' at the 2016 Olivier Awards and at the Critics' Circle Theatre Awards for her *'career defining performance'* (Evening Standard) as Emma in *People Places and Things* at the National Theatre in 2015. Critics hailed her performance as *'extraordinary'* (The Observer), *'ingenious'* (New York Times) and *'stunning'* (Time Out). She went on to win her second Olivier Award ('Best Actress in a Supporting Role', 2018) for her performance in Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* for which she was nominated for a Tony Award® (2018) when the National Theatre production transferred to Broadway. Gough has also been nominated for a British Academy Television Award (2022) for her performance in Clara Salaman incendiary three-part ITV series *Too Close*. More recently she played the role of Dedra Meero in Disney+'s hugely successful Star Wars spin-off series, *Andor*.

**Duncan Macmillan's** critically acclaimed play '*mixes dark wit, intellectual ambition and emotional intelligence*' (The Times). Other work includes *Every Brilliant Thing* (Paines Plough/Pentabus, Edinburgh, UK tour & New York), George Orwell's *1984* (adapted with Robert Icke, Headlong/Nottingham Playhouse/Almeida/West End), *Lungs* (Paines Plough & Sheffield Theatres, Washington DC), *Don Juan Comes Back From the War* (Finborough) and *Monster* (Royal Exchange, Manchester).

**Jeremy Herrin** is Co-Director of Second Half Productions. His '*endlessly inventive staging*' (New York Times) of ***People Places and Things*** was during his tenure as Artistic Director of Headlong (2013-2020). Current work includes his critically acclaimed production of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, starring Brian Cox, at Wyndham's Theatre. Other recent work includes *A Mirror* (Trafalgar Theatre), *Ulster American* (Riverside Studios) and 2022 South Bank Show Award for 'Best Theatre Production', *Best of Enemies* (Young Vic/ West End).

***People, Places and Things*** garnered widespread critical acclaim when it had its world premiere at the National Theatre's Dorfman theatre in September 2015 in a co-production with Headlong. The production transferred to Wyndham's Theatre in London's West End in March 2016 before transferring to St. Ann's Warehouse in New York in October 2017.

The creative team includes director, **Jeremy Herrin**; set designer, **Bunny Christie**; costume designer, **Christina Cunningham**; lighting designer, **James Farncombe**; music, **Matthew Herbert**; sound designer, **Tom Gibbons**; video designer, **Andrzej Goulding**; movement director, **Polly Bennett**; casting by **Jessica Ronane CDG CSA**; and original casting by **Wendy Spon**.

**Bunny Christie** has recreated her '*cabinet-of-curiosities*' (New York Times) set design with on-stage seating, bringing an element of intimacy to this vivid and transfixing portrayal of addiction.

ENDS

#### Notes to Editors

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#### FURTHER PRESS MATERIALS

- Trailer is available to view here and download [here](#)
- Production images © Marc Brenner are available [here](#)
- Rehearsal images © Marc Brenner are available [here](#)
- Poster Image (Photography © Matt Humphrey) is available [here](#)
- Cast headshots are available [here](#)
- Denise Gough filmed interview is available to view [here](#) & download [here](#)
- Creative team & cast bios are available [here](#)

#### LISTING INFORMATION

**Dates:** Until 10 August 2024

**Website:** [PeoplePlacesAndThingsOnStage.com](http://PeoplePlacesAndThingsOnStage.com)

**Address:** Trafalgar Theatre, 14 Whitehall, London, SW1A 2DY

**Performance Schedule:** Monday – Saturday, 7.30pm with a matinee on Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30pm\*

\*schedule may differ during previews and bank holidays, please see website for details

**Remaining Assisted performances:**

**Captioned Performances:** Saturday 6 July, 2.30pm & Tuesday 16 July, 7.30pm

**BSL Performance:** Saturday 20 July, 2.30pm

**Audio Described:** Saturday 13 July, 2.30pm & Thursday 25 July, 7.30pm

**Box Office:** Book via [trafalgartheatre.com](http://trafalgartheatre.com) / Telephone Booking: **0333 009 6690**  
In Person: Box Office is open Mon-Sat from 10am until 7.45pm

Or book via [nationaltheatre.org.uk](http://nationaltheatre.org.uk) / **020 7452 3000**  
(lines open Monday to Saturday 9:30am – 8pm)

For Groups 10+ contact: **0207 206 1174**

**Running Time:** Approx. 2 hours 40 mins including a 20 mins interval

**Recommended Age:** 14+

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## **About the National Theatre**

The National Theatre makes theatre that entertains and inspires using its creativity, expertise and unique reach. The National Theatre shares unforgettable stories with millions of audience members across the UK and around the world – on its own stages, on tour, in schools, on cinema screens and streaming at home.

World-leading artists make their best work at the National Theatre with the widest possible audience and impact. The National Theatre invests in talent and innovation on stage and off, taking seriously its role as the nation's theatre. Of the new productions developed each year with a wide range of theatre companies, a third of that research and development resource is dedicated to shows staged at theatres outside London.

Through touring our work to local theatres and schools and nationwide education and community programmes, we are active in 71 of the 109 levelling up priority areas in the UK. A registered charity with deeply embedded social purpose, the National Theatre works with hundreds of schools and communities across the UK to fire imagination and inspire creativity, and to develop skills and pathways for careers in theatre.

For more information, please visit [nationaltheatre.org.uk](https://nationaltheatre.org.uk)

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## **About Headlong**

We're Headlong.

We make theatre with the power to move.

Big, exhilarating productions that use the unexpected to connect everyone we reach, right across the nation.

Whether a work is old or new, there are always different questions we can ask. So our productions are an invitation: to come and see something in a new way. Join us.

Headlong is fifty this year. Long may we learn.

Our previous include *untitled f\*ck m\*ss s\*\*gon play*, *A Play for the Living in a Time of Extinction*, *Henry V*, *Jitney*, *Best of Enemies*, *People, Places & Things* and *Enron*, and major digital theatre innovations *Signal Fires* and *Unprecedented*.

Artistic Director - Holly Race Roughan, Executive Director - Lisa Maguire

Publicly supported by Arts Council England

[headlong.co.uk](https://headlong.co.uk)

## **About Gavin Kalin Productions**

Gavin Kalin Productions is an award-winning theatrical production company that specialise in producing theatre in the West End, on Broadway and internationally.

Recent West End credits include *Sunset Boulevard*, *Vanya*, *A Little Life*, *Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cabaret*, *Back to the Future*, *Cyrano*, *Betrayal*, *9 to 5 The Musical*, *Pretty Woman The Musical*, *Come From Away*, *Pinter at the Pinter*, *Oslo* and *The Ferryman*.

Recent Broadway credits include *A Doll's House*, *Plaza Suite*, *Betrayal*, *Leopoldstadt*, *Funny Girl*, *Sea Wall/ A Life* and *The Ferryman*.

Other entertainment: *Monopoly Lifesized*, *London* and the *Paddington Bear Experience* set to open on the Southbank, London this Spring.

For more [gavinkalinproductions.com](https://gavinkalinproductions.com)

Gavin is also the founder of Totally Theatre Productions Ltd, a TV/Video production company that specialize in producing Broadcast and online content for theatre and live entertainment. Clients are worldwide with many in the West End and on Broadway.

For more [totallytheatreproductions.com](https://totallytheatreproductions.com)

## **About Mark Gordon Pictures**

Mark Gordon Pictures (Producer) is an international film, television, and theatre production company. In 2020, with an acclaimed history in film (*Saving Private Ryan*, *Speed*, *The Day After Tomorrow*, *The Messenger*, *2012*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Source Code*, *Molly's Game*, *The Patriot*) and television (*Grey's*

*Anatomy, Criminal Minds, Ray Donovan, Designated Survivor, Private Practice, Quantico, Army Wives, The Rookie, The Rookie: Feds*), Mark Gordon Pictures expanded into theatre development and production in the US and the UK.

On Broadway, MGP has produced *Life of Pi; The Piano Lesson*, nominated for a TONY for Best Revival of a Play; and *POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive*. Off-Broadway and regional US theatre credits include *Nollywood Dreams* (MCC); *The Buddy System* (Circle in the Square Downtown); *Highway Patrol* (Chicago - The Goodman Theatre); and *TEETH* (Playwrights Horizons), a new musical by Anna K. Jacobs and Pulitzer- and TONY-winner Michael R. Jackson, returning Off-Broadway this fall at New World Stages.

UK credits include *The Old Man and the Pool* (West End); Jocelyn Bioh's Lortel Award-winning *School Girls; Or, the African Mean Girls Play* (Lyric Hammersmith); and *PUNCH* at Nottingham Playhouse.

### **About Eilene Davidson Productions**

Eilene Davidson is a producer working on Broadway and in the West End. Recently produced plays include *A Merchant of Venice* at the RSC, on tour and at the Criterion; *Macbeth* in London, on UK tour and in Washington DC; *Plaza Suite* at the Savoy, London and Hudson, on Broadway; *Enemy of the People* at the Duke of York's, as a co-producer with Wessex Grove; *The Hills of California* with Neal Street; the premiere of Edna O'Brien's *Joyce's Women* at the Abbey, Dublin; and *Anything Goes* at the Barbican. Work on Broadway includes *The Shark is Broken* at the Golden; the award-winning *Prima Facie* on Broadway; *A Doll's House* and *Death of a Salesman* at Hudson Theatre; and *Leopoldstadt* at Longacre. Previous West End plays include *Uncle Vanya* at the Harold Pinter; *The Grinning Man* and *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* at Trafalgar Theatre; *Starry Messenger* at Wyndham's; *9 to 5* at the Savoy; and the Olivier-winning *Emilia* at the Vaudeville. Eilene Davidson Productions is developing two new plays and a musical with ATG for production in the West End later this year.

### **About Seaview**

Seaview is a Tony and Olivier Award-winning theatre and film company.

On stage: *An Enemy of the People* starring Jeremy Strong, *Lempicka* directed by Rachel Chavkin, *Stereophonic* directed by David Adjmi with original music by Will Butler, *Illinois* directed and choreographed by Justin Peck with music and lyrics by Sufjan Stevens and book by Jackie Sibblies Drury, *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea* starring Aubrey Plaza and Christopher Abbott, Michael Arden's Tony Award winning revival of *Parade*, *The Sign In Sidney Brustein's Window* starring Oscar Isaac and Rachel Brosnahan, Alex Edelman's *Just For Us* (streaming on Max), Mike Birbiglia's *The Old Man & The Pool* (streaming on Netflix), Selina Fillinger's *POTUS*, Jeremy O. Harris's *Slave Play*, and *Sea Wall / A Life* starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Tom Sturridge.

On screen: HBO's *Reality* starring Sydney Sweeney and NEON's *Stress Positions* starring John Early, along with projects in development at Amazon Studios, FilmNation, 2AM, Automatik, and more.

Upcoming: *The Queen of Versailles* starring Kristin Chenoweth with music by Stephen Schwartz.

### **About Second Half Productions**

Second Half Productions is an entertainment company founded by Jeremy Herrin, Alan Stacey and Rob O'Rahilly to generate innovative productions for stage. By commissioning world-leading artists to create new work and by breathing new life into classic stories, we invigorate audiences in London, the UK and beyond. Our ambition is to produce entertainment that engages the broadest range of people and in doing so creates meaningful opportunities for those who are currently underrepresented in the sector. We're a company of creatives, producers and general managers and we're driven and inspired by the artists that we work with. Recent and upcoming productions include *The Glass Menagerie* at the Duke of York's Theatre, *Best of Enemies* at Noël Coward Theatre, *Ulster American* at Riverside Studios, *A Mirror* at Trafalgar Theatre, *Long Day's Journey Into Night* at Wyndham's Theatre, *The Spy Who Came In From The Cold* at Chichester Festival Theatre and *The Little Foxes* at the Young Vic.

Our team is co-founders and directors, Jeremy Herrin, Alan Stacey and Rob O'Rahilly; Casting Director, Jessica Ronane CDG, Creative Associate, Lucie Lovatt, Associate Producer, Alecia Marshall, General Manager, Grace Nelder, Finance Manager, Sophie Wells, Production Assistant, Immie Maclean, Casting Associate, Abby Galvin and Casting Assistant, Poppy Apter.