

National Theatre

Tuesday 13 August 2024

REHEARSALS BEGIN FOR THE WORLD PREMIERE OF TANIKA GUPTA'S *A TUPPERWARE OF ASHES*



Rehearsals are officially underway at the National Theatre for the upcoming production of **Tanika Gupta's** (*A Doll's House*, Lyric Hammersmith) new play, [*A Tupperware of Ashes*](#) starring Meera Syal.

The production is a vivid and heart-breaking family drama about life, immigration and the Indian spiritual cycle of death and rebirth to be directed by **Pooja Ghai** (Artistic Director of Tamasha Theatre Company) and staged in the Dorfman theatre from 25 September to 16 November.

An ambitious Michelin-Star chef, Queenie is used to having the last word. But when her children notice gaps in her memory and her grip on reality loosening, they are faced with an impossible choice. As Raj, Gopal and Kamala battle to reconcile their life-long duty to their mother, the ramifications of their decision take on a heartbreaking permanence.

The cast includes **Raj Bajaj, Natalie Dew, Marc Elliott, Stephen Fewell, Shobna Gulati, Avita Jay, Meera Syal** and **Zubin Varla**.

The creative team, led by director Pooja Ghai, includes set and costume designer **Rosa Maggiora**, lighting designer **Matt Haskins**, composer **Nitin Sawhney**, sound designer **Elena Peña**, illusions director and designer **John Bulleid**, movement director **Anjali Mehra**, fight and intimacy directors **Rachel Bown-Williams** and **Ruth Cooper-Brown** of Rc-Annie Ltd, casting director **Naomi Downham**, dialect coach **Hazel Holder**, music associate **David Shrubsole** and staff director **Layla Madanat**.

A Tupperware of Ashes is playing in the Dorfman theatre from 25 September until 16 November 2024, with press night on 2 October.

Tickets are available from £20 and are on sale now via the National Theatre website. For further information, including details about assisted performances, please visit nationaltheatre.org.uk.

ENDS

Notes to Editor

For further press information, please contact Emily Ritchie (eritchie@nationaltheatre.org.uk) and Anoushka Chakrapani (achakrapani@nationaltheatre.org.uk).

Marketing image and cast headshots can be found [here](#).

Assisted performances of *A Tupperware of Ashes*:

Captioned Performances: Wednesday 16 October 2024 – 7.30pm, Saturday 16 November 2024 – 2:30pm

Integrated BSL Performances: Saturday 26 October 2024 – 2:30pm, Saturday 09 November 2024 – 7.30pm

Audio described: Saturday 19 October 2024 – 2:30pm (with a touch tour at 1pm), Tuesday 12 November 2024 – 7.30pm (with a touch tour at 6pm)

Relaxed performance: Wednesday 30 October 2024 – 7.30pm

With Thanks

This play is a recipient of an Edgerton Foundation New Plays Award.

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 every local authority 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

[@NationalTheatre](#)

[@NT_PressOffice](#)