



Pilot Theatre presents

NORTHERN GIRLS

Co-produced with ARCADE and supported by Arts Council England,
Creative Europe and the National Lottery Community Fund.

About Northern Girls

Last year I had an incredible opportunity to do a part-time leadership fellowship, but one of the things I started to notice at the talks and events I attended, was that above a certain level in the performing arts industry, you encounter far fewer women and you rarely if ever, hear a regional accent.

In my day-to-day life in 2020, constrained like many people to an online working world and otherwise a very local existence, I suddenly began to pay much closer attention to the theatre culture immediately surrounding me. I looked at leadership in theatre in Yorkshire and noticed that here the creative leadership continues to be predominantly white and male. Where are the women I found myself asking? And then more specifically: where are the northern women? I.e. The ones like me who grew up in this region and now are working as creative leaders? Where are my northern sisters?

So at the start this project was about starting a conversation around this – and it was a search for solidarity (and if you go to our website you will find the Tenacious Women panel discussion where some of the amazing northern women in performing arts discussed this subject). This project was about redressing an inequality that has always gone a bit undiscussed in the North perhaps, which is about specifically women and girls empowerment here, and giving them the stage to tell their stories and experiences unfiltered and uncensored. Men have tended historically not to programme work by women on theatre stages which is why the statistics are so bad when it comes to mid and larger scale work - and it's why the syllabus still has so few plays by women on it. These are facts that are connected and they are not an accident. I believe this affects women, and girls growing up, and it deeply concerns me. And it's as much of an issue in Yorkshire and the North East as anywhere else in the country.

This project unashamedly intends to get the participants to stand in their power, to motivate them and to enable them to visualise freedom from this continuing patriarchy. We have called on all the women who've participated in this to be courageous and to step beyond their comfort zone with their work and to write about being set free. I have not the words to say how deeply proud I am of everyone who has risen to this call. Everyone involved has put their whole hearts into this work. I feel honoured to have worked on it, alongside every single brilliant and inspiring person involved in the project.

Northern Girls has been of huge personal importance to many people including to me, and I know it has already raised awareness and created a discourse about these subjects in the North which is good to see. I hope with all my heart it creates the sea change I and many others want to witness. Yet what none of us could have predicted when we programmed this, is how acute the subject matter covered in this performance might feel in October 2021, in the light of recent horrifying national but also locally resonant and painful events. Once again this underlines why work like this, and the continuing fight for women's rights and safety in public spaces is so important. We hope this collection deeply moves and inspires you to speak up too, to write about your experiences too, and to take a stand where you can, to make the world a better, safer and more equal place for women, girls, and for everyone who identifies as female, wherever they may be.

Esther Richardson
Artistic Director, Pilot Theatre

Northern Girls Bridlington has been curated by Esther Richardson, Oliver O'Shea, Rach Drew and Lydia Marchant.





Running Order

Northern Girl

Written by Shannon Barker, performed by Shannon Barker

Chippy

Written by Jennifer Burdon, performed by Stephanie Manton
Directed by Rach Drew

Children of the Sea

Written by Nadia Emam, performed by Nadia Emam

To My Heroine

Written by Charlotte Anderson, performed by Chloe Wade
Directed by Lizi Perry

My Geography Teacher's Weird Volcano Obsession

Written by Daisy Wynn, performed by Stephanie Manton
Directed by Rach Drew

My Love for Drama

Written by Emmie Fraser, performed by Nadia Emam
Directed by Rach Drew

Sexy Sex Bod

Written by Ellen Brammar, performed by Chloe Wade
Directed by Lizi Perry

Can Anybody Hear Me?

Written by Shannon Barker, performed by Shannon Barker

WRITERS



Charlotte Anderson

Charlotte is 15 years old. She is in her final year at Headlands School in Bridlington. She enjoys playing piano, attending Sparklers drama class and loves Kate Bush.



Jennifer Burdon

Jennifer is 21 years old and from Bridlington. She has recently graduated from Lincoln University where she studied Drama and Theatre Studies. She loves watching Tarantino films.



Emmie Fraser

Emmie Fraser is 19yrs old and lives in Bridlington. She loves performing and is a member of the Northern Lights Theatre Company, having performed in their recent productions. She also loves watching Kdrama (Korean Drama).



Daisy Wynn

Daisy is 15 years old. She is in her final year at Headlands School in Bridlington. She reads a lot of books and watches a lot of musicals, her favourite is Phantom of the Opera.



Shannon Barker

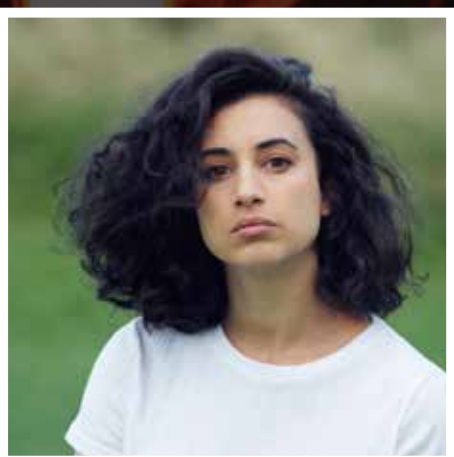
Shannon will be performing her pieces.

Shannon has spent most of her creative career on stage as an actor and singer/songwriter, however last year she took part as a debut writer in the original Northern Girls Scarborough to develop her skills as a theatre writer. This opportunity led to being commissioned by Burn Bright to write her first short play 'The Burning Question' for the series 'Better in person'. Since then, she has joined the Northern Girls Bridlington project as a professional writer, where she has used her songwriting skills to create 1 new song and revisit 1 song she wrote for the original Northern Girls Scarborough. Outside of writing, Shannon performs locally with Beach Hut Theatre Company and she recently started working as a trainee producer for ARCADE.



Ellen Brammar

Ellen is a Hull-based writer and founding company member of Middle Child Theatre. Her theatre credits include, I HATE ALONE (2017) with Middle Child Theatre, WALK IN THE PARK (2019) with Back to Ours, TEN with Hull Truck Theatre (2019) and ORDINARY PEOPLE (2016) with Middle Child and Leeds Playhouse. She was longlisted for the BBC Comedy Script Room in 2016 and shortlisted in the same year for the CBBC sketch show, CLASS DISMISSED. Ellen was part of the 2020 BBC Writersroom Northern Voices cohort, an initiative that helps a writer to create their first TV script. She is currently writing a new show for Middle Child Theatre.



Nadia Emam

Nadia will be performing her piece.

Stage credits include: *Burkas and Bacon Butties* (Bolton Octogan); *The Secret Garden* (West Yorkshire Playhouse); *The Desire Paths* (Third Angel); *Where We Are* (Manchester HOME); *This is Not America* (Bush Theatre); *Heartworm* (Royal Exchange Theatre); *Flood* (Slung Low); *Belonging* (Take Back & Hope Mill Theatre); *Birth* (Royal Exchange Theatre); *Come Closer* (Royal Exchange Theatre); *Chamaco* (Manchester HOME); *Rugby Songs* (Slung Low)

Television Credits Include: *Flood: To the Sea* (BBC TV)

Radio Credits Include: *Keeping the Lights On* (Ragged Edge Productions); *Wheatish* (Sparklab for BBC Radio 4); *The Mother* (BBC Radio 3); *Stone* (BBC Radio 4); *Playing Dead* (BBC Radio 4)

Further Credits Include: *Doughnut* (Falstooth Films); *Tiny Little Rocks* (Brettinthecity); *Our Stories* (Stephen Joseph Theatre)

PERFORMERS



Stephanie Manton

Stephanie is an Actor from Bridlington who trained at Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts in London. Since graduating, she has appeared in productions such as: Measure for Measure (Donmar Warehouse) The Provoked Wife (Kings Weston Hall) Growing Pains (Mimic theatre) and Along Came a Visitor (Short Film Festival). Stephanie currently writes and records spooky audio stories for UKCreepyPasta on Youtube.



Chloe Wade

Chloe Wade is an actor, writer and proud northerner. She trained at The International School of Screen Acting and is an alumna of WoLab's Actor-Writer course. Having worked in film, tv and theatre for over 10 years, Chloe is a versatile actor best known for playing Joanne Grantham in BBC's Doctors, and the lead role of Emily Davis in the British independent film Honeycomb Lodge (Winner of Best Film at Delhi International Film Festival), directed by Lesley Manning (BBC's Ghostwatch). Chloe's writing has been performed at various venues across the UK, including The Lowry, 53Two, The Cockpit, The Bunker Theatre, Theatre N16 and King's Head Theatre. Chloe is the reigning champion at Birmingham Rep Theatre's Monologue Slam with her self-penned comedy piece 'May I Take Your Order,' Chloe recently performed the role of Ophelia in *The Secret Love Life of Ophelia*, alongside Helen Mirren and can be seen playing the role of Emily in the film *The Fall*, directed by Robert Bathurst (Cold Feet/Downton Abbey) on Sky.

DIRECTORS



Rach Drew

Rach is Co Director of ARCADE, and trained to be a Theatre Director in 2008. She has directed shows in both professional and community contexts, including; A History of Scotland (in 60 mins or less), Grease, Our Day out, Electra, Wind in the Willows and Blackout, in addition to writing and devising work with groups.

Passionate about making space for northern voices, Rach is delighted to be involved in Northern Girls again, this time as part of the creative team on this very special project.



Lizi Perry

Lizi Perry is a theatre maker, working primarily as a director and dramaturg, working with a focus on devised and improvised theatre. She is co-founder and Co-Artistic Director of The Roaring Girls, a company committed to creating work which promotes female voices often using autobiographical narratives to create informal, intimate, and sometimes improvised, theatre - directing credits with the company include Beach Body Ready and Broken Little Robots. Lizi also works extensively in educational settings, including with the University of Hull, Hull Children's University, and The Herd.

WORKSHOP TEAM



Hannah Davies

Hannah Davies is a writer and performer from York. She studied playwriting at the Royal Court theatre, London and her first play was in part of their Young Writers Festival in 2007. She has since worked as a writer with companies including: York Theatre Royal, Trestle, Company of Angels, Dry Write, Pilot Theatre, Ice and Fire, Tara Finney Productions, The Guild of Misrule. Hannah also writes and performs her own spoken word poetry and is an Associate Artist at Say Owt, York's very own gobby poetry night gang. Hannah is Artistic Director of Common Ground Theatre and lectures in Playwriting at the University of York.



Alison Watt

Since graduating, Alison has been involved in many different areas of the entertainment industry. Her work includes script writing, acting, directing, stage-management, theatre-in-education and performance/playmaking facilitation. As a theatre writer she has had original plays produced by Soho Theatre Company, Hull Truck and the Stephen Joseph Theatre. As a screenwriter she has worked on the television series EastEnders and Crossroads. With her partner, John Pattison, she co-founded Beach Hut Theatre Company in 2007. Since then she has written and directed fifteen original plays for the company, including eight musicals. She has also helped to develop the work of numerous emerging playwrights. In 2016 she was the winner of the Writers' Guild of Great Britain Olwen Wymark Award for theatre encouragement. Beach Hut Theatre Company remains committed to the development of new talent.



PRODUCTION TEAM



Sarah Rhodes-Canning | Stage Manager

Recent shows include *Half a Sixpence*, *The Addams Family*, *Madagascar* (The musical), *Snoopy the Musical*. (Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance), *Quality Street* (Northern Broadsides), *Sleeping Beauty* (Jordan Productions), *Birthdays past Birthday Present and Seasons Greetings* (SJT), *Noughts and Crosses* (Pilot Theatre).



Charlotte Bickley | Sound Design

Charlotte has been working as a composer and sound designer for installations, theatre and radio since late 2017, alongside playing live electronic sets, producing and DJing under the alias CARLOS.

As CARLOS she has released a tape with Manchester-based record label, Cong Burn, and featured on compilations for Reel Long Overdub, Bathtime Sessions and Easy Does It, amongst others.



Ben Cowens | Lighting Design

Ben trained at The Academy of Live & Recorded Arts in stage management and technical theatre specialising in lighting design for theatre, events & dance between 2011-2013.

Since graduating he has designed productions internationally and re-lit productions around the United Kingdom. He has also been nominated for best lighting designer 2016 in the off west end awards.

Lighting design work includes: *Mold Riots* (Theatr Clwyd); *Romeo & Juliet* (Aiglon College); *The Witches* (Watford Palace Theatre); *Moonfleet* (ALRA Theatre); *Thunder Road* (UK Tour); *Build a Rocket* (Stephen Joseph Theatre); *Even the Stones* (Jacksons Lane).



Luke James | Production Manager

Luke has worked within stage and technical management for several years, on a variety of shows and a number of small and large scale, site-specific and outdoor performances, such as *Zara* (Mind the Gap/Walk the Plank), *Everything is Possible* (York Theatre Royal/Pilot Theatre) and *Blood and Chocolate* (Slung Low/Pilot theatre/York Theatre Royal).

He regularly works with Pilot Theatre on their national tours of *Crongton Knights*, *Noughts and Crosses* and *Brighton Rock*, Tribeca Film Festival 2019 nominated *Traitor*.

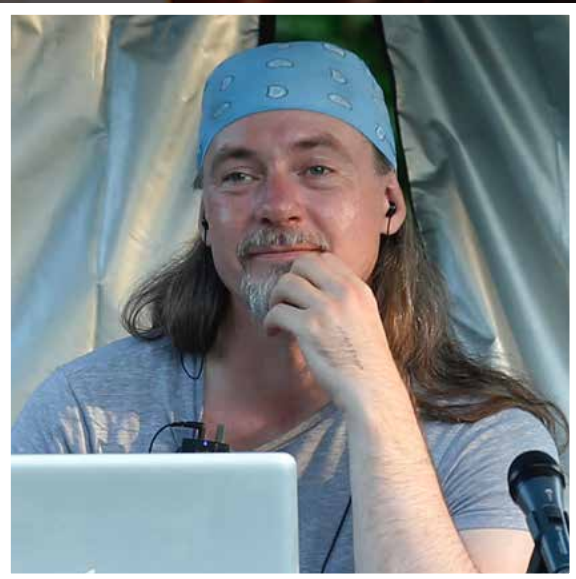


David Coull | Associate Lighting Designer

David graduated from the University of Derby in July 2020 with a first-class honours degree in Technical Theatre. Working as a Theatre technician, with an emphasis on Lighting Design and Production LX.

Working across the UK in theatres including Derby Theatre & The Lighthouse Theatre, Kettering. Recently establishing his own business, Carpe Noctem, offering Lighting, Sound & Stage solutions to the UK.

Lighting design work includes: *The Pillowman* (2019, Derby Theatre); *Seven Acts of Mercy* (2020, Derby Theatre); *Derby Rises* (2020, Derby Theatre).



Mike Redley | Associate Sound Designer

Mike is a sound and lighting designer, and is proper chuffed to be working with Pilot Theatre.

Previous work includes: *The Grand Old Dame Of York*, *The Mercy Seat*, *Can't Stand Up For Falling Down* (York Theatre Royal); *Underneath A Magical Moon*, *The Snow Queen*, *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* (Tutti Frutti national tours); *The Serpent Woman*, 24-Hour Theater (Tantalus Theater, Chicago); *Park Bench Theatre* (Engine House); *Henry V* (York Shakespeare Project); *Helver's Night* (Company Of Angels); and *Whoops! Macbeth* (uncleSIDS).

He loves a good story and will trade your words for as much tea as you can drink.

PILOT THEATRE

Pilot Theatre are an international touring theatre company based in York. We're committed to creating high quality mid-scale theatre for younger audiences, and will be many people's very first encounter with this form.

We also make work outside of traditional theatre buildings, where our projects pursue a relationship with our audience that is often playful, interactive and participatory.

We are always curious about our ongoing and changing relationship with technology, and often explore this theme.

Across all our projects we seek to create a cultural space where young adults can encounter, express and interrogate big ideas, powerfully relevant to our lives right now.

Pilot's most recent productions were *Crongton Knights* by Alex Wheatle adapted by Emteaz Hussain and *Noughts & Crosses* by Malorie Blackman, adapted by Sabrina Mahfouz.

Winners of the Excellence in touring award at the UK Theatre Awards 2019.

Esther Richardson | Artistic Director and Joint Chief Executive

Mandy Smith | Executive Producer and Joint Chief Executive

Sarah Rorke | Company Administrator

Lucy Hammond | Marketing and Projects Producer

Sam Johnson | Digital Officer

Oliver O'Shea | Creative Associate

Helen Nakhwal | Finance Director

Helen Ruxton | Finance Officer

Pilot Livestream Team

Ed Sunman

David Grant

Melanie Paris

pilot-theatre.com



ARCADE

ARCADE is a charitable community producing company led by Rach Drew and Sophie Drury-Bradey. We think everyone is creative and we believe culture belongs to everyone.

Our mission is to

- make incredible cultural experiences happen with artists and communities
- support our community to develop creativity and ideas
- collaborate to make community-led change happen using the arts

We do this through creative projects, workshops, shows, festivals and events. Quite often these are in Scarborough or Bridlington, but we also work across the UK and with national partners.

Rach Drew | Co-Director

Sophie Drury-Bradey | Co-Director

Jim Taylor | Assistant Producer

Shan Barker | Trainee Producer

Aidan Hardy | Digital Communications Assistant

Kelsie Acton | Access Associate

Yssi Wombwell | Inclusion Associate

We'd love to hear from you, get in touch by emailing: info@hello-arcade.com

Or keep in touch with what we are up to by following us on social media:

www.hello-arcade.com



PILOT CONNECTS

We provide a range of educational resources and workshops to accompany all of our productions. Our Pilot Connects programme has been developed in response to the restrictions and uncertainties brought about by Covid-19 to provide different programmes of work suitable for English and Drama students in KS3 and KS4.

Resources

1. Crongton Knights: A comprehensive teaching resources around *Crongton Knights*, Alex's Wheatle's award winning novel which Pilot presented as a stage production in Spring 2020, adapted by Emteaz Hussain.

These packs, tailored for KS3 English and Drama, and GCSE Drama, include exclusive access to the webcast of *Crongton Knights* as part of this teaching package for you and your class to view as many times as you wish over the academic year.

2. Noughts and Crosses: These teaching resources are focussed on our award-winning 2019 production of Malorie Blackman's *Noughts and Crosses*, adapted by Sabrina Mahfouz. This pack is for students studying Drama and Performing Arts and can be used as a text to perform or a devising stimulus for KS3, GCSE, BTEC or A Level. It contains comprehensive lesson plans, handouts, access to filmed scenes of the production, and includes the newly published playtext of the adaptation by the playwright Sabrina Mahfouz

Booking Information

Workshops

Pilot also offer the opportunity to book a workshops (either via Zoom or in school if possible) with a range of creatives – covering areas such as character development, design, beatboxing, directing and writing.

Workshop Offers

WITH THANKS

Pilot Theatre would like to thank

- Lucy Casson - Casting Director
- Sarah Rorke - Company Stage Manager
- Pauline Rourke
- Slung Low
- York Theatre Royal
- Mark Lonsdale and his team at Bridlington Spa
- Ali Watt - Creative Enabler
- Ben Wilson - Headlands School
- Claire Rimington
- David Wilcockson
- Rev. Ian Greenfield and the Team at St. John's Burlington Methodist Church
- Skipton Building Society
- The Lords Feoffees
- Sarah Hartley of Ervas Community Hub
- Emily Blake
- Yay! Coffee

The logo for ARCADE, with each letter in a different color: A (pink), R (yellow), C (green), A (blue), D (purple), E (red).The logo for explore Libraries and Archives, with "explore" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font and "Libraries and Archives" in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font below it.The logo for the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, featuring the text "Co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union" in a sans-serif font.



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