

**SOHO**  
THEATRE

**ARDENT**  
THEATRE COMPANY

A NEW PLAY BY ANDREW MUIR

# SACRIFICE

PRODUCED BY ARDENT THEATRE COMPANY AND PRESENTED BY THE ARDENT8



**TUE 31 JUL - SAT 4 AUG**

# INTRODUCTION

For the past ten years I have been lucky enough to work on a part-time basis as writer in residence at the Bournemouth & Poole College in Dorset. This role has enabled me to work closely with many talented young people studying on the degree programme in performing arts.

Each academic year, I get the opportunity to create an original piece of work for the new cohort, and each year it's always so different in terms of story but each year it's always so similar in terms of the heart of that story – it's lively, honest and unpredictable. I am always overwhelmed by the standard of performance from the individual and blown away by the enthusiasm and commitment. The problem that I was seeing at the end of the programme was that there was a distinct lack of opportunity for the graduates to continue their learning within the industry.

Every year I would watch the talent disappear into other means of making a living, and before long, the steady flow of a monthly income was enough to suppress the performer. I'm not saying that earning a living is wrong, it's not, it's essential, but what I am saying is that with a distinct lack of opportunity for anyone hoping to work in the creative industries as a performer, Dorset is unable to cater for that individual. The only real hope was for any of these graduates was to make the leap to London, and for a lot of these people, that leap was simply too much – for whatever reason, but mainly, the financial implication was beyond their means.



# BY ANDREW MUIR

And this was why Mark Sands and myself wanted to create an opportunity for these 'outsiders' to access industry professionals through various workshops to be held in London as well as a fully paid opportunity to perform in a new play, written specifically for them and produced at the Soho Theatre. We both felt that these young people deserved an equal opportunity, and this is how we view the ARDENT8 – providing an equal opportunity for those young people who perhaps otherwise would never have had the chance to access an industry that can often overlook some of the regions around the UK.



I worked with the Ardent8 during their time at the college, and this gave me the insight to be able to turn around SACRIFICE relatively quickly and with little fuss. Prior to the performances at Soho Theatre there is one-week rehearsal in London, so overall, this becomes a two-week London residency. Since the start of the Ardent8 programme, there have been no false promises, we have simply said, that this is an opportunity for you to experience a part of the industry that you worked so hard to learn about as part of your education. There is no guaranteed pot of gold at the end of this, but what we hope there will be is an experience that may well determine what your next step might be.

# SACRIFICE

“ - Six grand a month for one room in the basement of a disused pub on the corner of a dirty high street with no natural light and damp black walls that make it feel more like a coffin than a home?”

“ - It's the going rate - ”

## CAST

Sam	Sam Weston
Nathan	Nathan Linsdell
Jamie	Jamie Parker
Garry	Garry Skimins
Angela	Angela Crispim
Clare	Clare Hawkins
Jordan	Henry Holmes
Sophie	Sophie Coulter

## PRODUCTION

Written & Directed by	Andrew Muir
Produced by	Mark Sands
Stage Manager	Chloe Brown
Press	Kate Morley PR
Filming	Gareth McLeod
Publicity Photos	Jimmy Lee Photography
Rehearsal Photos	Adam Bennett
Production Photos	Mark Douet

## THANKS TO

Kamilah Hassan, Ellie Gocoul, Soho Theatre, Bournemouth and Poole College, Theatre Deli, Old Diorama Arts Centre, Nina Steiger, Hannah Sands, Ryan Todd.

## OUR FUNDERS

Cockayne - Grants for the Arts  
The London Community Foundation  
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The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Foundation  
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## OUR DONORS

Aimee Kember, Amanda Mckenzie, Amelia Goulder-Perks, Amy Cradick, Andrew Wheaton, Annie Firbank, Anthony Prior, Barry Kitcherside, Ben De Wynter, Bob Cryer, Charles Glanville, Charlotte Beaton, Chloe Brown, Clare Hawkins, Curtis Holder, Darryl Clark, David George, David Hare, David Harris, David Hendon, Deborah Hassan, Edward Sweatman, Elizabeth Hill, Erin Gavaghan, Frances Anderson-Lamb, Francis Matthews, Freya Purdy, Gary Donaldson, Gary Merry, Germaine Morgan, Grant Hawkins, James McCarthy, Jane Bridgeford, Jane Gollogly, Jennie Cooke, Jessica Higgs, Joanne Hedley, John Collins, Juan Carlos Vieira De Gouveia, Julie Walters, Kamilah Hassan, Karen West-Whyllie, Kay Cousins, Kelly Fagan Robinson, Kerena Fussell, Liza Ward, Louise Stern, Mark Hopkinson, Mark Skimins, Michael McEvoy, The Owls Nest, Paul O'Connor, Penny Horner, Peter Abraham, Rachel Sims, Richard Pearce, Rita & Ralph Sands, Robert Wolstenholme, Rosemary Jones, Russell Beaton, Saleem Fazal, Sally Grey, Samuel Weston, Sarah-Jane Ash, Scott Mckenzie, Sophie Coulter, Sophie Ward, Stephen Ridal, Tanya Pearce, Thomas Lawrie, Tim Davies, Tracy Ryan, Wayne Tassie, Yvonne Warham.



COCKAYNE



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# ACTORS



SAM WESTON



NATHAN LINSELL



JAMIE PARKER



GARRY SKIMINS



ANGELA CRISPIM



CLARE HAWKINS



HENRY HOLMES



SOPHIE COULTER

## OUR VISION

Theatre is a place where no one feels like an outsider.

## OUR MISSION

We achieve this through the stories we choose to tell, the people we employ to tell them and the audience we engage to experience them. We are committed to producing theatre that speaks about the world we live in; both newly commissioned writing and established text with a contemporary relevance. Our work always enables us to have a voice within the mainstream theatre scene or engages audiences on a grassroots, national level. Through our artistic development programme and casting policy we support the careers of young, recently trained artists from outside London. We work with non-theatre organisations that share similar ambitions to take a sector-wide approach to giving voice to those who struggle to be heard.

## OUR VALUES

We believe theatre should be for everyone, irrespective of their background or economic circumstances. We believe artists deserve fair pay based on industry-recognised rates. We believe theatre can be a vehicle for change, where we challenge or deepen our understanding of the world.

## CREATIVE DIRECTORS

Andrew Muir  
Mark Sands

## TRUSTEES

Rebecca Hunt  
Saleem Fazal  
Wayne Tassie



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