



PRESS CONTACT

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PRESS RELEASE

May 2015

Literary Manager at the Royal Court, Christopher Campbell and established producer Richard Jordan complete the judging panel for this year's Pitch Your Play.

Six teams consisting of a writer, director and producer have been shortlisted to pitch for the opportunity to stage a rehearsed reading of their play onstage at the Theatre Royal Haymarket in front of a selected industry audience.

Writers aged 17-30 were invited apply and the script had to be a new, unpublished piece of writing. Where applicable, most roles including casting for the staged reading will be filled through the Masterclass membership of 17-30 year olds (details of this to be announced).

The winning three pitches will be chosen by the 2015 panel consisting of **Christopher Campbell** (Literary Manager at the Royal Court), established producer **Richard Jordan** and the Theatre Royal Haymarket Masterclass Trust's (Masterclass) Programmer, **Hazel Kerr**.

The following have all made the short list;

AD LIBERATION By David Ralf

ARTHUR By Ben Weatherill

IS THIS A MAN? By Geoffrey Williams

NO FLAG By Natalie Audley

REASONABLE DOUBT By Joel Samuels

SHAKESPEARE'S SISTER By Emma Whipday

Speaking about this year's project, producer and member of the 2015 judging panel **Richard Jordan**, said;

"Pitch Your Play is an exciting opportunity from Masterclass that allows their programme to further open up the Haymarket stage to a new generation of writers, directors and producers. Having had the privilege of being on the panel last time, I look forward to meeting another selection of some of the country's brightest emerging talent."



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Pitch Your Play is supported by the Noël Coward Foundation and Masterclass are very thankful for their generous support in helping to make the project a reality.

Speaking about the scheme Masterclass Programmer **Hazel Kerr** commented;

“It’s always incredibly refreshing to read the work of young writers and we have been thrilled with the quality of their submissions. Now in its second year, Pitch Your Play stands as one of the few creative platforms to not only showcase the work of young, emerging professionals, but to support and nurture their progress in the industry. ”

Masterclass has been incredibly encouraged by the number of submissions for the 2015 project and would like to congratulate the shortlist and pass on their thanks to all who applied.

Pitching will take place at the Theatre Royal Haymarket on **Thursday 14th May** with the successful plays being announced on **Monday 18th May**.

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Notes to Editors

2015 Pitch Your Play Panel

Christopher Campbell

Chris was Deputy Literary Manager of the National Theatre for six years and is currently Literary Manager of the Royal Court. In 2014 Chris was appointed Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government.

As an actor Chris has worked at theatres including The National, The Royal Court, The Traverse, The West Yorkshire Playhouse, The Birmingham Rep, The Gate and English Touring Theatre. Directors have included Howard Davies, Sir Richard Eyre, Sir Peter Hall, Richard Wilson, William Gaskill, Erica Whyman, Stephen Daldry, Ian Brown and Annie Castledine. He most recently appeared alongside Meryl Streep in The Iron Lady.

He has translated plays by Philippe Minyana, David Lescot, Rémi de Vos, Adeline Picault, Magali Mougel, Launcelot Hamelin, Frédéric Blanchette, Catherine-Anne Toupin and Fabrice Roger-Lacan for The National, The Almeida, The Donmar, The Traverse, The Birmingham Rep and The Young Vic among others.

Richard Jordan

Richard Jordan Productions is a London-based Tony Award and Olivier Award-winning international production company under the leadership of the British producer Richard Jordan, enjoying relationships with many of the world's leading artists, writers, theatres and producing organisations. Since 1998, his company has produced and presented over 180 productions in 21 countries including 54 world premieres and 59 European, Australian or US premieres, winning 30 major international theatre awards.

Described by The Stage newspaper as "one of the UK's most prolific theatre producers" Richard has been at the forefront of developing and producing a diverse range of established and emerging artists from around the world. Richard was the first recipient of the TIF/Society of London Theatre New Producers Award. He has also been nominated for the TMA Award for Outstanding Achievement in UK Regional Theatre, the Stage International Award and for the first British Council UK Creative Entrepreneur Award. Richard was an Associate Artist for seven years at London's new writing theatre, The Bush, and is the Patron of the Brighton Fringe, the world's third-largest annual fringe festival

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The Theatre Royal Haymarket Masterclass Trust

We are a small charity that has a big impact on young people's lives with a unique offering of free masterclasses by leading theatre professionals, careers advice sessions, apprenticeships and performance experiences. Masterclass is committed to using theatre and the beautiful Theatre Royal Haymarket to inspire and empower young people, the talent of the future. To date over 70,000 16 – 30 year olds have benefited from our programme. www.masterclass.org.uk

Pitch Your Play is generously supported by the Noël Coward Foundation

The Noël Coward Foundation was set up as a charitable trust in 2000 by Graham Payn and Dany Dasto. The Trust Deed aims to support the advancement of education and Drama by the promotion, whether in England or elsewhere, of the education of students and other persons in the arts of drama and the theatre. www.noelcoward.org

