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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Tuesday 31 July 2018

THEATRE MAKERS OF THE FUTURE ASSEMBLE: THEATRE CRAFT RETURNS FOR 2018

Booking is now open for TheatreCraft, the UK's largest free theatre careers event for young people, which returns to the Waldorf Hilton Hotel on Monday 19 November 2018.

TheatreCraft is a full day of activities offering a unique glimpse into a range of non-performance careers from directing, stage management and producing to marketing, lighting and automation.

More than a careers fair, TheatreCraft remains entirely free and offers attendees the opportunity to take part in dynamic workshops led by leading industry professionals, explore the vibrant marketplace of exhibiting arts organisations and education providers, connect with peers and potential employers through various networking opportunities and speak with experts in one-to-one advice sessions.

Aspiring theatre makers, whether students taking their first steps into a future career or young professionals looking for a job change or inspiration, are encouraged to book places at the event via the TheatreCraft website (www.theatrecraft.org). For the first time, the event is open to 16-30 year-olds (instead of 16-25 as in past years), in acknowledgment of the necessity to provide services for people changing career as well as entering the sector.

For the third year running TheatreCraft will return to the Waldorf Hilton Hotel, who have generously donated their stunning Palm Court to play host to TheatreCraft's renowned marketplace of exhibiting arts organisations and several further rooms for interactive workshops.

Speaking about TheatreCraft returning to the Waldorf Hilton Hotel General Manager, Guy Hilton, commented:

"I am delighted that the Waldorf Hilton, which resides in the heart of Theatreland, can once again be a part of TheatreCraft. TheatreCraft provides a unique opportunity to nurture the talent of young people in the world of dramatic art, which echoes very well our own commitment to create opportunities for young people in the hospitality industry."

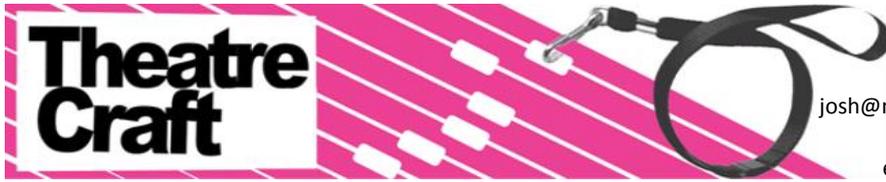
Behind-the-scenes roles in theatre can often go unrecognised, but this year TheatreCraft is championing theatre's heroes-in-hiding to highlight the extraordinary skillsets and roles available within the industry, and inspire a whole new generation to consider offstage career opportunities in the theatre.

TheatreCraft Partners



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Fronting this year's campaign are a selection of inspiring theatre makers from different corners of the industry: **Daniel Walker** (Head of Armoury at the Royal Opera House), **Debbie Hicks** (Producer), **Kadhija Raza** (Set & Costume Designer) **Rajiv Pattani** (Lighting Designer & Technician at the Bush Theatre), **Sam Shuck** (Prosthetics & Make Up Artist) and **Sunita Hinduja** (Company and Stage Manager).

Commenting on this year's event, Rajiv Pattani said:

"TheatreCraft is something I wish I was aware of much earlier in my career. The event provides a fascinating insight into the industry and a vital platform for young people to explore all the avenues of life that goes into making such amazing West End and Fringe productions. I'm incredibly proud to be supporting this year's campaign and can't wait for the doors to open again in November this year!"

Kadhija Raza, who attended TheatreCraft in 2015, commented:

"TheatreCraft is so important for young people to learn about the multitude of roles that exist within theatre. When I attended in 2015 I completely fell in love with all aspects of theatre design, so it's great to be representing designers for TheatreCraft this year."

In 2017, SOLT and UK Theatre's Workforce Review found that off-stage theatre, despite benefiting from a passionate, engaged workforce, is struggling with a shortage of skilled technical workers.

TheatreCraft, which was originally created by [Theatre Royal Haymarket Masterclass Trust](#) (Masterclass) in 2003, is one of several ongoing initiatives to improve inclusion and accessibility in different areas of the theatre industry.

Other initiatives include SOLT and UK Theatre's recent [Inspiring the Future of Theatre](#), a campaign to get theatre industry professionals to visit UK schools, inspiring children about theatrical jobs and [Bridge the Gap](#), a Stage One initiative to offer training, support and opportunities to budding producers from underrepresented backgrounds,.

TheatreCraft is organised in partnership with the Theatre Royal Haymarket Masterclass Trust, the Royal Opera House, the Society of London Theatre and Mousetrap Theatre Projects.

The event is generously sponsored by the Waldorf Hilton Hotel, White Light, John Good, Delfont Mackintosh Theatres and Nederlander Theatres.

To book a free place at TheatreCraft 2018 visit the [website](#).

19 November 2018 | 9:30 – 16:30 | Waldorf Hilton Hotel

www.theatrecraft.org | [@TheatreCraft](#) | #TheatreCraft | #TheatreMakersAssemble

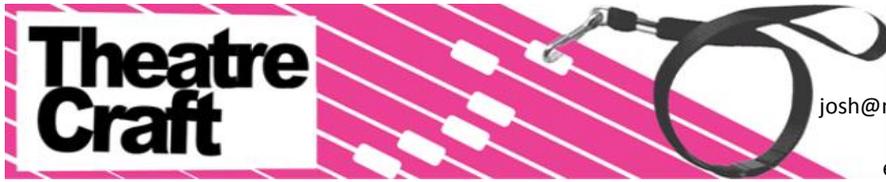
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For a selection of images and artwork, [please click here](#)

Notes to Editors

Theatre Royal Haymarket Masterclass Trust (Masterclass) is in-house education charity at the Theatre Royal Haymarket. For the last 20 years the Masterclass programme has hosted inspiring and empowering talks with leading industry figures, onstage workshops, careers advice sessions, creative opportunities and paid apprenticeships for young people aged 16 – 30. For more information visit www.masterclass.org.uk

Society of London Theatre (SOLT) is a not-for-profit organisation representing the London theatre industry. SOLT also runs the Olivier Awards, West End LIVE, TKTS, Theatre Tokens and Official London Theatre. For more information visit solt.co.uk

The Royal Opera House is home to The Royal Ballet, The Royal Opera and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. Each year more than 500 performances are given with over 774,000 attendances; ROH partner with 15 UK companies with performances being given across 50 venues, and our ROH Live Cinema programme reaches more than 60 countries. For more information visit www.roh.org.uk

Mousetrap Theatre Projects is a theatre education charity committed to enabling young people with limited resources, access or support to engage with the best of London theatre. Since 1997, Mousetrap has enabled nearly 175,000 young people to see outstanding theatre, much of it in the West End, with best seats from £5 – £10. Most theatre visits are supported by one of our 21 access, education and youth engagement programmes delivered by a range of professional theatre practitioners – from musical theatre composition to the ‘business of theatre’ to sound and lighting design to critical reviewing. For more information visit www.mousetrap.org.uk

The Waldorf Hilton Hotel is one of London’s most iconic hotels, blending the elegance and grandeur of Edwardian London, with modern comfort. Perfectly positioned in the very heart of London’s glitzy theatre district, The Waldorf Hilton is a short walk to the Capital’s best shops, bars, galleries and landmarks such as Royal Opera House, Somerset House and Covent Garden Piazza.

Designed by Rennie Mackintosh’s brother-in-law, Sir Alexander Marshall Mackenzie, The Waldorf Hilton has an iconic Edwardian façade bookended by two of the West End’s most prestigious theatres. Inside, the hotel houses 298 rooms including 19 suites, four restaurants and bars including Homage Restaurant, Good Godfrey’s Bar & Lounge, Private Homage and Waldorf Tea Room as well as a stunning art deco entertainment space, Palm Court – which lays claim to London’s first Tangos in the 1920s. The hotel has hosted stars of stage and screen for decades and its long links to London’s theatre scene are reflected in its entertainment programme including Pre-Theatre Dinner and Jazz with Blue Rose and themed Tea Dances in the spectacular Palm Court.

Proud to have been welcoming guests since 1908, the hotel celebrates its 110th anniversary in 2018. For more information, visit [The Waldorf Hilton](#).

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