Louise Jameson and Thomas Mahy return to star in Philip Ridley's acclaimed *Vincent River*, one of the most powerful explorations of hate crime ever written



Louise Jameson and Thomas Mahy Photo Scott Rylander

Louise Jameson and Thomas Mahy reprise their roles in Robert Chevara's acclaimed production of Philip Ridley's *Vincent River*, transferring to Trafalgar Studios from Park Theatre.

Davey has seen something he can never forget. Anita has been forced to flee her home. Tonight, they meet for the first time... and their lives will change forever.

Philip Ridley's modern classic was a huge success when it premiered at Hampstead Theatre in 2001, and a West End smash at Trafalgar Studios in 2007. This production was seen at London's Park Theatre in 2018. Thrilling, heartbreaking and darkly humorous by turns, it is now seen as one of the most powerful explorations of hate crime - and society's need to crush 'difference' - ever written.

The production will run from Thursday 16 May to Saturday 22 June.

## Press night: Tuesday 21 May at 7.00pm.

Louise Jameson played the iconic role of assistant Leela in *Dr Who* opposite Tom Baker in the Seventies. She later starred in *Tenko, Bergerac* and *EastEnders*. In a 40-year career, her first love, the theatre, has seen her on stage at the National Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Company, amongst many others. Louise was nominated for an Off West End Award for her performance in *Vincent River* at Park Theatre.

Thomas Mahy graduated from Drama Centre, London in 2017. He was also nominated for an Off West End Award for his performance in *Vincent River* at Park Theatre, which was his London professional debut.

Produced by Danielle Tarento in association with Steven M. Levy, by arrangement with Celia Dugua and Park Theatre.

Director Robert Chevara said "Vincent River is a modern classic and a dazzling, prescient piece of theatre. The play is even more prophetic now than when it was first produced. The murder of Jo Cox MP in 2016 shocked the nation and hate crimes have risen by 17% this last year alone. But hate crimes against LGBT people in the UK have surged over 78% in the last five years. One in five LGBT people have experienced a hate crime because of their sexual orientation in the last 12 months and four in five younger LGBT people have not reported the hate crimes they've endured, and are particularly reluctant to go to the police."

Producer Danielle Tarento said "Having produced the 20th anniversary production of *The Pitchfork Disney* back in 2012, I am delighted to be returning to Philip's work and transferring *Vincent River* to Trafalgar Studios."

Creative Team: Director: Robert Chevara. Set & Costume Designer: Nicolai Hart-Hansen. Lighting Designer: Marty Langthorne.

Robert Chevara is an award-winning theatre and opera director, known in the UK and US for his passionate, visionary work. His production of Tennessee Williams's *In The Bar Of A Tokyo Hotel* at Charing Cross Theatre was named by The Times as one of the 10 best productions of 2017.

Philip Ridley has written many highly regarded and hugely influential stage plays including the seminal *The Pitchfork Disney, The Fastest Clock In The Universe* (winner of a Time Out Award, the Critics' Circle Award for Most Promising Playwright, and the Meyer-Whitworth Prize), *Ghost From A Perfect Place* (nominated for The Evening Standard Best New Play Award), *Vincent River, Mercury Fur, Leaves of Glass, Piranha Heights, Tender Napalm* (nominated for the London Fringe Best Play Award), *Shivered* (nominated for the Off-West End Best New Play Award), *Dark Vanilla Jungle* (winner of an Edinburgh Festival Fringe First Award), *Radiant Vermin, Tonight With Donny Stixx and Karagula* (nominated for the Off-West End Best New Play Award), In 2012 WhatsOnStage named him a Jubilee Playwright (one of the most influential British writers to have emerged in the past six decades). Philip has won both the Evening Standard's Most Promising Newcomer to British Film and Most Promising Playwright Awards, the only person ever to receive both prizes.

Danielle Terento is a freelance producer and casting director. She won Best Producer at the Off West End Awards 2012, was nominated Producer of the Year at the Stage Awards 2015 and was listed as one of the top 10 producers of Musical Theatre in 2016 in The Stage. She is co-founder of the Menier Chocolate Factory.

## LISTINGS INFO

Danielle Tarento in association with Steven M. Levy, by arrangement with Celia Dugua and Park Theatre, presents

VINCENT RIVER by Philip Ridley

16 May - 22 June, 2019

Trafalgar Studios 2 14 Whitehall London SW1A 2DY

0844 071 7632 www.atgtickets.com

Previews: 16 – 20 May Plays: 21 May – 22 June

Press Night: Tuesday 21 May at 7.00pm

Mon – Sat Evening 7.45pm Thu & Sat Matinees 3.00pm

Prices £20 - £40

Social media

Facebook: @tarentoproductions

Twitter: @VincentRiver2



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