

DEM PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

BROTHER

A NEW MUSICAL



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LIVE-STREAMED WORKSHOP PRODUCTION
SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE
5 - 6 MARCH 2021

Brother is an intimate new folk musical by **Robin Simões da Silva** and **Annabel Mutale Reed** about grief, new beginnings and brotherly love.

Reid is an aspiring artist and a young transgender man beginning to find his way in the world; Jackson is his smart and focused older brother, set on a career in medicine and beginning to re-navigate his relationship with his younger brother after years away. Their mother Cassie is their biggest champion, and the heart of their home. Everything seems possible and wonderful – until Cassie's sudden death causes the brothers to lose their most important lifeline, and contemplate the loss of their childhood home and all the memories it holds.

Please note that there is a content warning in place for **BROTHER** due to references to death/loss of a parent, self-harm, and domestic abuse.

The 3.15pm performance on Saturday, 6 March will be captioned, and we can make a copy of the script available to anyone who might need it for any performance. Please email boxoffice@southwarkplayhouse.co.uk if you would like to request one.

CREATIVE TEAM

Music & Lyrics by Robin Simões da Silva

Book by Annabel Mutale Reed

Directed by Tom Jackson Greaves

Musical Direction and Orchestrations by Jack Trzcinski

Lighting Design by Zoe Spurr

Sound Design by Roly Botha

Livestream Production by Christian Czornyj & Adam Lenson for theatrical.solutions

Company Stage Manager - Abbii Clark

Deputy Stage Manager - Roni Neale

Associate Producer & General Manager - Ceri Lothian

Producer - Ramin Sabi

CAST

Cassie - Melanie La Barrie

Iris - Georgina Lloyd-Owen

Jackson - Sam Peggs

Reid - Robin Simões da Silva

WITH THANKS TO

Ambersphere Solutions

All that Scratch & The Other Palace, Dominic Cook, Adam Dawson, Natalie Dunne, Francesca Ellis, Bethany Gupwell, Siubhan Harrison, Evie Rose Lane, Emily Lunnon, Pete Mchale, Helen Reed, Orbital Sound, Jabez Sykes, Whitelight
Previous Workshop Director - Annabelle Hollingdale

Cassie - Melanie La Barrie

Melanie most recently played Nurse in the Original West End cast of **& Juliet** at the Shaftesbury Theatre, for which she received a WhatsOnStage nomination for Best Supporting Actress in a Musical. Previous to this she played Madame Morrible in **Wicked** at the Victoria Apollo, London. Melanie also appeared in the historic return of the Liverpool Everyman repertory company, playing roles including Golde in **Fiddler on the Roof**, and the Nurse in **Romeo and Juliet**.

Theatre credits include: Bow Belles in **Dick Whittington** (National Theatre); Mrs Phelps in **Matilda** – original cast (RSC Stratford and Cambridge Theatre, Nominated BroadwayWorld Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical); **Breakfast at Tiffany's** (Theatre Royal Haymarket); **Bakkhai** (Almeida); **The Lorax** (Old Vic); **Play Mas** (The Orange Tree); **White Christmas** (West Yorkshire Playhouse); **Guys and Dolls** (Chichester Festival); **A Christmas Carol** (Birmingham Rep) **Once On This Island** (Hackney Empire), **Ma Rainey's Black Bottom** (Liverpool Playhouse), **The Sunshine Boys** (West Yorkshire Playhouse), **Les Misérables** (Queens), **Daddy Cool** (Shaftesbury), **Mary Poppins** – original cast (Prince Edward).

Film: London Road.

Television: Casualty and Eastenders (BBC).

Recordings: Daddy Cool (OCR), Mary Poppins (OCR), Matilda (OCR).

Iris - Georgina Lloyd-Owen

Georgina has over 15 years experience as a musician and cellist, working with renowned musicians and conductors such as Yo Yo Ma and Natalia Luis-Bassa. Her performance highlights include concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, and solos given at the Roundhouse and the Royal Festival Hall.

She read musicology at Oxford University, graduating with First Class Honours in 2019. She now studies at Abbey Road institute, where she is developing her skills as an engineer and music producer.

Georgina has been involved in many musicals as a cellist, most recently **The Last Five Years** at the Minack Theatre, and a digital production of **BKLYN The Musical** with Lambert Jackson Productions.

This will be her acting debut.

Jackson - Sam Peggs

Training: The Arts Educational Schools London

Credits: Swing/Assistant Dance Captain in **Les Misérables** (Sondheim Theatre, West End), Hog-Eye in **Sunset Boulevard** (UK/European Tour & Concert Revival 2020), Ben Levitowitz in **Rags** (Hope Mill Theatre, Manchester), Maier Burnich in workshop of **To Paint The Earth** (Southwark Playhouse, London), Dick in **Dick Whittington** (Kenton Theatre, Henley-On-Thames), Cosmo in charity performance of **Singin' In The Rain** (Adelphi Theatre, West End), Phileas Fogg in **Around The World in 80 Days** (Union Theatre, London), Issac Tallentire in **The Hired Man** (Union Theatre, London), Barry in **When Harry Met Barry** (Above The Stag, London)

Twitter: @Peggs96

Robin Simões da Silva - Reid/Music & Lyrics

Originally from Australia, Robin's previous acting credits include **Spring Awakening**, directed by Luke Sheppard (Hope Mill Theatre), **Imaginary** (The Other Palace) with the National Youth Music Theatre company, and various workshops of new musicals. He has also performed as an actor-musician in previous workshops of **Brother**, and in new play, **Charmane** (Tobacco Factory Theatres 2019, UK Tour 2020).

Brother is Robin's musical theatre writing debut, with the show having previous workshops at the Tristan Bates theatre in 2019 and the Turbine Theatre for MT Fest in 2020. He also composed the score for new play, **Charmane** (Tobacco Factory Theatres 2019, UK Tour 2020), and in 2015, three of Robin's original songs were recorded and released worldwide by Sony ATV/EMI Production Music as licensed Sync Music.

Annabel Mutale Reed - Book

Tom Jackson Greaves - Director

Jack Trzcinski - Musical Director & Orchestrator

Zoe Spurr - Lighting Design

Zoe Spurr's lighting has been seen on the West End, throughout the UK and internationally. She won the 2019 Theatre and Technology Awards 'Creative Innovation in Lighting' award for Frantic Assembly's **The Unreturning**; the Lightmongers' and ALD's 'New Talent in Entertainment Lighting' Award and an OFFIE award for her work on **Tiny Dynamite** at the Old Red Lion. Recent designs include **Wuthering Heights** (Royal Exchange); **Run Sister Run** (Sheffield Crucible/Paines Plough); **An Edinburgh Christmas Carol** (Royal Lyceum Theatre); **A Friendly Society** (Kiln Theatre); **Hedda Tesman** (Chichester Festival Theatre); **How Not To Drown** (Traverse Theatre); **The Phlebotomist** (Hampstead); **Emilia** (West End); **The Maids** (Manchester HOME) and **Silence** (Mercury Colchester).

Roly Botha - Sound Design

Roly is a sound designer and composer working across stage and screen.

Credits include **Warheads** (Park Theatre - Olivier Nomination, Outstanding Achievement In An Affiliate Theatre), **Making Fatiha** (Camden People's Theatre), **BOYS** (touring inc. Southbank Centre, New Diorama, Latitude Festival), **GIRLS** (touring inc. Manchester Home, VAULT Festival, Nottingham Playhouse), and **Start** (Theatre Peckham).

Roly is an Associate Artist of The PappyShow.

Christian Czornyj & Adam Lenson for theatrical.solutions - Livestream Production

theatrical.solutions was established at the start of 2020 to provide a broad range of affordable services to theatrical productions. These services include: cast recording, multi-cam video capture, live streaming, print design, marketing planning and delivery, PR, production management, technical and creative crew provisions, set design and construction, sound design, orchestration, click track creation and more. Founded by sound designer and videographer, Christian Czornyj, and theatre director and producer, Adam Lenson they have worked with clients all over the world.

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Ceri Lothian - Associate Producer & General Manager for DEM Productions

DEM's Productions include: **The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾ - The Musical** (Ambassadors Theatre, West End); **Dust** (Trafalgar Studios); **Working** (Southwark Playhouse) **Spring Awakening** (Hope Mill Theatre, 2019 WhatsonStage Award for Best Regional Production); the world premieres **Karagula**, **Four Play**, **Sense Of An Ending**, and **Donkey Heart**, as well as revivals including Paula Vogel's Pulitzer prize-winning **How I Learned to Drive**. DEM won the 2016 Off West End award for Best Producer.

External general management includes **The Wild Party** (The Other Palace), and **The Rink** (Southwark Playhouse).

Ceri Lothian was previously Assistant Producer at Theatre503, where credits include World Premieres of **And Then Come The Nightjars** by Bea Roberts (National Tour 2016), and **Rotterdam** by Jon Brittain (Olivier Award Winner 2017). Outside of D.E.M she is Producer for theatre company Worst Absurd (@WorstAbsurd), and has also produced new comedy writing and scratch nights around London and at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Ramin Sabi - Producer for DEM Productions

Ramin founded DEM Productions in 2014. Separately to DEM, West End Producing credits include: **Gypsy** starring Imelda Staunton (Savoy Theatre, 4 Olivier Awards); **Company** (Gielgud Theatre, 4 Olivier Awards); **Nativity The Musical** (World Premiere - Hammersmith Apollo and UK Tour); **Annie** (Piccadilly, National Tours and Toronto); **1984** (Playhouse Theatre); **9 To 5** (Savoy Theatre and UK Tour); **Show Boat** (New London Theatre, Olivier nominee); **Heisenberg** (Wyndham's Theatre) and **The Wild Party** (The Other Palace).

Broadway shows include: **The Ferryman** (Jacobs – 9 Tony nominations) and **1984** (Hudson).

This production is dedicated to Dr Sally Beckwith

