

A Sheffield Theatres and Theatre Centre Production

# DIZZY

by  
Mohamed-Zain  
Dada



Wed 25 Sep –  
Sat 12 Oct

**SHEFFIELD THEATRE  
THEATRES CENTRE**

**PLAYHOUSE**

# WELCOME



Welcome to this performance of **Dizzy**.

This is our fourth collaboration with **Theatre Centre**, following our co-production of **Human Nurture** by **Ryan Calais Cameron** in 2022, **Birds and Bees** by **Charlie Josephine** in 2023 and **Wish You Weren't Here** by **Katie Redford** earlier this year.

We're thrilled to be working with Theatre Centre once more, bringing Olivier-nominated writer **Mohamed-Zain Dada's Dizzy** to the Playhouse. Theatre Centre has a rich history of producing outstanding work that highlights and prioritises the voices and experiences of young people.

Looking forward to the remainder of 2024 in the Playhouse, we are thrilled to be co-producing **KENREX**: a gritty, gripping, true-crime show with a foot-stomping soundtrack from the creators of the Olivier nominated *Cruise*. Whilst in the Crucible we round off the year with the wild, dark and hilarious rock musical **Little Shop of Horrors**.

There's also a range of ways you can get more involved, whether it's through our regular work with schools, our ambitious Talent Development programme in The Bank, or the activities of our multi-generational participation company, Sheffield People's Theatre. You can find routes into all these activities on our website.

Thank you, as always, for supporting Sheffield Theatres, and I hope you enjoy *Dizzy*.

**Tom Bird**

Chief Executive, Sheffield Theatres

First performed at the Tanya Moiseiwitsch Playhouse, Sheffield on Wednesday 25 September, 2024.

**SHEFFIELD  
THEATRES**

# CAST

Stax

**Brendan Barclay**

Qamar

**Sera Mustafa**

Voice of Dizzy

**Reda Elazouar**

# CREATIVE TEAM

Writer

**Mohamed-zain Dada**

Director

**Rob Watt**

Designer

**Hannah Sibai**

Lighting Designer

**Jess Bringham**

Sound Designer and  
Soundscape Composer

**Mwen**

Movement Director

**Yami Löfvenberg**

Graffiti Consultant

**Cherry Bee**

Company Stage Manager

**Lizzie Bond**

Production Manager

**Herbe Walmsley**

# CAST BIOGRAPHIES



## **BRENDAN BARCLAY**

Stax

Brendan trained at Italia Conti.

**Theatre credits include:** *The Importance of Being...Earnest?* (UK Tour); *There Is A War* (Italia Conti), *A Small Family Business* (Italia Conti); *Hangmen* (Italia Conti).

**Voice over credits include:** *Sunny* (Northern Rascals); *SHED* (Northern Rascals).



## **SERA MUSTAFA**

Qamar

Sera trained at LAMDA.

**Theatre includes:** *Crackers* (Polka Theatre); *The Leftovers*, *We Anchor in Hope*, *New Labour*, *Emilia*, *It's True It's True It's True* (LAMDA); *What Was Left* (The Bridge Company).

**Film and TV includes:** *Joan* (ITV); *The Return* (Short Film – LAMDA).



## **REDA ELAZOUAR**

Voice of Dizzy

Reda Elazouar trained at RAaW London.

**TV and film credits include:** *Sex Education* (Netflix); *Baghdad Central* (Channel 4/Hulu); *The Little Drummer Girl* (BBC/AMC); *Pirates* (BBC Films/Picturehouse Entertainment); *Outside the Wire* (Netflix); *Eastenders* (BBC); *Voyagers* (Lionsgate).

# CREATIVE BIOGRAPHIES

## **MOHAMED-ZAIN DADA**

Writer

Mohamed-Zain Dada, goes by the name Zain, is a playwright and cultural producer. His first writing credit, *Emily (Glitched) In Paris* was for the Royal Court Theatre's Living Newspaper series in March 2021.

He is also an alumnus of BBC Drama Room's 2022-23 cohort and NFTS x Left Bank Pictures inaugural Diverse Writer's Room Programme 2024. Zain's debut play, *Blue Mist* premiered at the Jerwood Theatre Upstairs at the Royal Court Theatre in October 2023 to four and five star reviews and was nominated for an Olivier Award.

**Writing credits include:** *Blue Mist* (Royal Court Theatre), *Emily (GLITCHED) In Paris* (Jerwood Theatre); *LOOT* (Jerwood Theatre).

## **ROB WATT**

Director

Rob is currently the Artistic Director for Theatre Centre, he regularly teaches at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, and works with the Institute of the Arts Barcelona. He is also chair of Savvy Theatre's board and governor of Addy and Stanhope Secondary School in Lewisham.

**For Sheffield Theatres, credits include:** *Wish You Weren't Here; Birds and Bees; Human Nurture.*

**Other theatre credits include:** *There is a War* (Institute of the Arts Barcelona); *Acts of Resistance* (Headlong Theatre and Bristol Old Vic); *Rallying Cry* (Battersea Arts Centre, Brighton Fringe); *It's Not Too Late to Save the World (and Other Lies)* (Lyric Hammersmith); *The Exorcism* (Battersea Arts Centre); *How to Survive a Post Truth Apocalypse* (Soho Theatre / Roundhouse / UK Tour); *Love and Information* (Institute of the Arts Barcelona); *SEXY* (Roundhouse / Bristol Old Vic / UK Tour); *Be Prepared* (Underbelly / VAULT Festival); *Goosebumps* (The Vaults); and *Standby For Tape Back-Up* (Summerhall / Soho Theatre / Shoreditch Town Hall / UK tour).

## **HANNAH SIBAI**

Designer

Hannah is a British/Syrian performance designer based in Yorkshire. Since training at Wimbledon School of Art in London she has designed over 100 productions across fifteen years in the UK and Europe. This includes theatre, opera, musicals, film, music videos and installations.

**For Sheffield Theatres, credits include:** *Bassett*.

**Other theatre credits include:** *Northanger Abbey* (Orange Tree, Bolton Octagon, Stephen Joseph and Theatre by the Lake); *Arabian Nights* (Bristol Old Vic); *24* (Day); *The Measure of my Dreams* (Almeida Theatre); *The Lost Spells* (Goblin, Watford Palace, Theatre by the Lake and Polka); *The City and the Town* (Riksteatern Sweden and Matthew Linley Creative Projects); *A Christmas Carol* (Shakespeare North); *The Doncastrian Chalk Circle* (National Theatre Public Acts + Cast co-production); *A Tale of Orpheus and Eurydice* (Opera North); *Love n Stuff* (Gitika Buttoo, Oldham Coliseum); *The Magic of Wild Heather* (James Blakey, CAST and National Theatre Public Acts); *The Travelling Pantomime* (Juliet Forster, York Theatre Royal); *The Elves and the Shoemakers* (Juliet Forster, York Theatre Royal); *Two* (Tom Wright, Gala Theatre); *666 Comments* (Daniel Bye); *Pygmalion and Handbagged* (Tom Wright, English Theatre Frankfurt); *Instructions for Border Crossing* (Alex Swift, Daniel Bye); *The Astonishing Vacuum Cleaner Adventure* (Sarah Punshon); *Instant Light Circus Company* (Slung Low); *Weekend Rockstars* (Middle Child); *SET FIRE TO EVERYTHING!!!* (RashDash); *The Situation Room* (Oscar Mike); *Country Music* (Leeds Playhouse).



## **YAMI “ROWDY” LÖFVENBERG**

Movement Director

Yami is a lecturer in Hip-Hop and Vernacular Dances at Trinity Laban Dance Conservatoire. A British Council and Arts Council England recipient, Howard Davies Emerging Directors Grant Recipient, One Dance UK DAD Trailblazer Fellow, Marion North Recipient and a Talawa Make Artist.

She was on the choreographic team for the 2012 Olympics Opening Ceremony (NHS Section) and is a member of the internationally acclaimed performance collective *Hot Brown Honey*.

**For Sheffield Theatres credits include:** *Birds and Bees*; *Human Nurture*.

**Movement Director credits include;** *Is God Is* (LAMDA); *Talawa on tour* (Talawa); *Queens of Sheba* (Soho Theatre); *Imposter 22* (Royal Court); *The UK Drill project* (Barbican); *Roundabout 22* (Paine's Plough); *The Concrete Jungle Book* (The Pleasance); *Kabul goes Pop* (Brixton House); *Athena* (The Yard Theatre); *Notes on Grief* (Manchester International Festival); *Rare Earth Mettle and Living Newspaper* (Royal Court); *F\*\*k You. Pay Me* (Bunker); *Breakin' Convention* (Sadler's Wells); *Talawa TYPT* (Hackney Showrooms); *Boat* (BAC).

**Director credits include;** *Fierce Flow* (Hippodrome Birmingham); *Kind of Woman* (Camden People's Theatre); *Afroabelhas* (Roundhouse/British Council/ Tempo Festival, Brazil).

**Assistant Director/Choreographer credits include;** *Hive City Legacy* (Roundhouse, Home, Millennium); *Hive City Legacy; Dublin* (Dublin Fringe).

## **JESS BRIGHAM**

Lighting Designer

Jess Brigham is a lighting designer from Hull, having graduated with a first-class degree from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts. She was selected to be a member of the SLX Lighting Programme and The Godber Theatre Foundation during this time and has more recently been a recipient of the MGC Futures Bursary.

**For Sheffield Theatres, credits include:** *Wish You Weren't Here.*

**Theatre credits include:** *THREE* (Seven Dials Playhouse, Dangerosity); *Medusas First Kiss* (Little Angel Theatre); *Grimm* (Sugar Punch Co., Hull and Grimsby Tour); *Identities* (Close to Home Productions, UK Tour); *Mumsy* (Hull Truck Theatre); *Katzenmusik* (London Youth Theatre, Seven Dials Playhouse); *A Sudden Violent Burst of Rain* (The Gate Theatre); *The True Adventures of Marian and Robin Hood* (Barn Theatre); *Patricia Gets Ready (for a date with the man that used to hit her)* (UK Tour); *Greatest Days* (UK Tour); *Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons* (Harold Pinter Theatre and UK Tour).

**MWEN**

Sound Designer

Mwen's compositions and productions have received airplay on BBC Radio 1, BBC Radio 6, XFM, NTS, Rinse FM, been supported by DJs including Rob da Bank, Mary Anne Hobbs and Tom Robinson and synced to TV and fashion film.

Currently, Mwen is based in London and DJs regularly on the London club scene. Mwen is also in-house Ableton tutor at Hub16 Studios in East London and a tutor at The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance (ICMP).

Mwen is an artist in residence at the University of Birmingham's Music Department on the 2023/24 Sounding Change Artist Residency Programme.

# PRODUCTION CREDITS

## **For Theatre Centre**

Production Manager

**Herbe Walmsley**

Company Stage Manager

**Lizzie Bond**

Producer

**Rowan Prescott, Emma Rees**

Casting Consultant

**Becky Paris**

Schools Resources

**Susie Ferguson**

Schools Tour Booking and  
Coordination

**Becky Ide, Rowan Prescott**

Marketing Manager

**Rachel Bellman**

Marketing Consultants

**Jane Morgan Associates**

Public Relations

**Storytelling PR**

Artwork

**Rebecca Pitt**

## **For Sheffield Theatres**

Technician

**Tobi Leadbitter**

Technical Operations  
Manager

**Gary Longfield**

Captioner

**Cara Lawless**

## **HERBE WALMSLEY**

Production Manager

Herbe trained in audio production and entered the live event world via concert and festival production.

After dipping toes in the corporate AV world; he has since spent two years as Stanley Arts' Senior Venue Technician; building his understanding of the inner workings of theatre shows and sound engineering for productions.

Herbe is also part of Croydon's Borough of Culture programme.

**Theatre credits include:** *Family (Dys)function* (Stanley Arts); *Recognition* (Stanley Arts); *South Norwood's Carnival of Invention*; *Talawa Firsts 2024* (UK Tour); *Talawa Young People's Theatre 2024*.

## **LIZZIE BOND**

Company Stage Manager

Lizzie trained in Stage and Events Management at Rose Bruford College (First Class Honours).

**Sheffield Theatre credits include:** *We Could All Be Perfect;* *Human Nurture;* *Birds and Bees.*

**Other credits include:** *When We Strike* (Southwark Playhouse, Elephant); *What The Butler Saw* (UK Tour); *Child's Play* (The Barn Theatre, Sidcup); *Cinderella* (The Towngate Theatre, Basildon); *Angry Salmon* (The Bridewell Theatre, London); *Sweeney Todd* (West Green House, Hook); *Borka: The Adventures of a Goose with no Feathers* (UK Tour); *Peter Pan* (The Towngate Theatre, Basildon); *Ballet Central* (UK Tour); *The Tide* (UK Tour); *Platinum Jubilee Pageant 2022* (London); *Beauty and the Beast* (The Towngate Theatre, Basildon); *David Copperfield* (The Barn Theatre, Cirencester); *Spring Awakening* (Stratford Circus, London); *Dick Whittington* (The Towngate Theatre, Basildon); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Birmingham Old Rep, Birmingham); *Paperboy* (The Lyric Theatre, Belfast).

# IN THE COMMUNITY: SISTERHOOD

**Sheffield Theatres** and Sheffield graffiti artist **Trik09** have been working with Burngreave-based charity **Reach Up Youth** to collaborate on creative sessions in response to **Dizzy**.

Their **Sisterhood** group of young women have been meeting, reading the play, talking about messages of hope they would share with the city, and learning graffiti techniques.

**Trik09** has designed the cityscape you will find in the **Tanya Moisewitsch Playhouse** foyer in response to the play. The Sisterhood group painted the sky and created their own tag names which you will find around the space.

You will also find stickers with messages written by the young people, which you can tag the graffiti city skyline with, and take home with you.

Huge thanks go to **Reach Up Youth, Trik09, Theatre Centre** and **Stanford Redhead** for bringing this to life.

**@Trik09**

**@ReachUpYouthCharity**

# THANKS

**Dizzy was created through conversations with hundred's of young people across the UK. We would particularly like to thank the following young people who made a significant contribution.**

Aliyah Chaumoo, Arthur Thorpe, Barnaby Mosley, Eireann Devlin, Elliot Goodhill, Francesca McBride, Georgie Dettmer, Grace Lambert, Gracie Oddie-James, Imogen Denham, Isabella Lawrence, Isabelle Searle, Jai Britto, James Leggot, James Malam, Jasmine Clarke, Liubov Manzarkhanova, Lucy Munday, Maryam Shahabuddin, Paige Newman, Pheobe Long-Soday, Rana Bada, Rhys Heal, Rojin Haddadzadegan, Sam Wolffe, Zihora Onwuka

**We would also like to thank the following partners:**

Addey and Stanhope School, Lewisham; Creative Crawley; Creative Village; Hazelwick School, Crawley; National Youth Theatre; Newfield School, Sheffield, Parkside Community School, Chesterfield.

Amanda and David Binks.

Rob Hastie.

Backstage Trust and John Thaw Foundation for their support of Future Makers and the Garrick Trust for their support of our Resident Writers, all of which were crucial in the development of *Dizzy*. Everyone who supported our The Big Give, Arts for Impact campaign.

Our Chair Rebecca Major and Trustees Aleksa Asme, James Cooney, Titilola Dawudu, Benjamin Eva-Griffiths, Romana Fello, Frazer Flintham, Joanne Leung, Kieran Lines, David Luff, Karl Singaporewala and Caroline Wilkes.



BackstageTrust





# ABOUT THEATRE CENTRE

Founded in 1953 by Brian Way and Margaret Faulks, Theatre Centre has been a vital catalyst for youth leadership and creativity for over 70 years.

In this time, they've commissioned 108 writers and produced 237 plays. They have played to audiences of over 1 million in schools and theatres and have worked with over 250,000 young people through a vast range of projects. Some of those young people are now working in the arts, running companies of their own, or in education teaching drama to the next generations.

They commission new writing from trailblazing writers, touring directly into schools and theatres UK-wide, as well as running our year-round Future Makers activities to bring young people, artists, and teachers together as creative collaborators. Future Makers makes space for young people to have agency as they nurture their talent and interests on their terms.

Theatre Centre see access, equality, and representation as foundations of a fair society and work to dismantle exclusion and systemic injustice. They prioritise areas that are systemically underserved and excluded, removing economic and social barriers, and working where young people can benefit most. They celebrate the true creative diversity only the widest access can bring.

**[www.theatre-centre.co.uk](http://www.theatre-centre.co.uk)**

# THEATRE CENTRE TEAM

Marketing Manager

**Rachel Bellman**

Programme and Admin  
Coordinator

**Grace Lambert**

Finance Manager

**David Lewis**

Producer

**Rowan Prescott**

Executive Director and CEO

**Emma Rees**

Artistic Director

**Rob Watt**



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