

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

## JUNKYARD CAST ANNOUNCEMENT

*Headlong, Bristol Old Vic, Rose Theatre Kingston, Theatr Clwyd present*

### JUNKYARD

Book and Lyrics by Jack Thorne

Music by Stephen Warbeck

Directed by Jeremy Herrin

Designed by Chiara Stephenson

Lighting by Jack Knowles and Sound Ian Dickinson for Autograph

Musical Director Akintayo Akinbode and Movement by Polly Bennett

*Wed 19 Apr to Sun 30 Apr at Rose Theatre Kingston*

**GUEST NIGHT: THURSDAY 20 APRIL AT 7.30PM**

*"Who'd want to join in building a f\*\*\*ing playground? We're 13 years old"*

Jeremy Herrin directs Jack Thorne's sublime ***Junkyard***, a wildly funny and vivid new musical with original score from Academy Award-winning composer Stephen Warbeck, about a miscreant group of misfit teenagers who come together to build an adventure playground.

The full cast is **Scarlett Brookes** (Debbie), **Calum Callaghan** (Rick), **Josef Davies** (Ginger), **Erin Doherty** (Fiz), **Kevin McMonagle** (Malcolm), **Enyi Okoronkwo** (Talc), **Seyi Omooba** (Tilly), **Lisa Palfrey** (Mum), **Jack Riddiford** (Higgy) and **Ciaran Alexander Stewart** (Loppy).

The musicians are Musical Director Akintayo Akinbode on bass with Nadine Lee on drums and Dario Rossetti-Bonell on guitar.

***Junkyard*** is a co-production with Headlong, Bristol Old Vic, Rose Theatre Kingston and Theatr Clwyd. It will be coming to Kingston (Wed 19 – Sun 30 Apr) after opening to the press at Bristol Old Vic (Fri 24 Feb – Sat 18 Mar) and travelling to North Wales (29 Mar to 15 Apr).

*It's 1979, and a motley crew of teenagers grudgingly agree to create a junk playground in Bristol under the guidance of the well-meaning Rick. As the playground starts to come to life – it turns from something that means nothing to something that means a lot. And kids that care about nothing, start to care a lot. But darkness has a way of coming back and biting you when you least expect it.*

Inspired by the true story behind the Lockleaze playground known as 'The Vench', established over 30 years ago and still operating today, *Junkyard* is a story about Bristol, from BAFTA and Evening Standard award-winning writer (and Bristolian) Jack Thorne.

Jack Thorne is one of the country's leading writers with his work spanning theatre, film, television and radio. His theatre credits include *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (which won Best Play in the Evening Standard Theatre Awards), *Hope* and *Let The Right One In* directed by John Tiffany, *The Solid Life of Sugarwater* for the Graeae Theatre Company, *Bunny* for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, *Stacy* for the Trafalgar Studios, *2nd May 1997* and *When You Cure Me* for the Bush. His adaptations include *The Physicists* for the Donmar Warehouse and *Stuart: A Life Backwards* for Hightide. On film his credits include *War Book*, *A Long Way Down* and *The Scouting Book for Boys*. For television his credits include *National Treasure*, *The Last Panthers*, *Don't Take My Baby*, *This Is England*, *The Fades*, *Glue* and *Cast-Offs*. In 2012 he won BAFTAs for best series (*The Fades*) and best serial (*This Is England '88*). Upcoming work includes an adaptation for the BBC of Philip Pullman's acclaimed trilogy *His Dark Materials*.

**Stephen Warbeck** is one of the most successful British composers working across film, television and theatre today. His many credits include, for film; *Shakespeare in Love* for which he won an Oscar for Best Original Score, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, *Mrs Brown* and *Billy Elliot*. His work on TV includes *The Dresser* starring Ian McKellen and Anthony Hopkins and the prestigious drama *Indian Summers*. His work on stage includes *This House* (National Theatre and Garrick) and *The Plough and the Stars* and *Wolf Hall/Bring Up the Bodies* (RSC), all directed by Jeremy Herrin.

**Jeremy Herrin** is the Artistic Director of Headlong. His production of Duncan Macmillan's *People Places and Things* enjoyed a sell-out run at the National Theatre and Wyndham's Theatre. Other Headlong credits include *This House* (Garrick) *Observe The Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* (UK and Ireland Tour), *The Nether* (Duke of Yorks/ Royal Court) and *The Absence of War* (Sheffield/Tour). For the RSC, the hugely successfully and award-winning world premiere of Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall/Bring Up the Bodies* (West End/Broadway), for which he won the Evening Standard Award for Best Director and was nominated for Best Director at the 2015 Tony Awards. Other credits include *This House* (National Theatre) for which he was nominated for an Olivier Award for Best Director and which has recently opened at the Garrick Theatre. Jeremy was Deputy Artistic Director of the Royal Court from 2009 until 2012 where his work included *No Quarter*, *Hero*, *Haunted Child*, *The Heretic*, *Kin*, *Spur of the Moment*, *Off the Endz*, *The Priory*, *Tusk Tusk*, and *That Face* which transferred to the West End.

-ENDS-



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- Box Office: 020 8174 0090 (bkg fee)  
Monday - Saturday: 10am - 8pm (6pm non-performance days)  
Sun: one hour before the performance  
No fees are payable when booking in person at the Box Office  
An additional £1 per ticket booking fee and £2.50 per booking transaction fee are payable when booking online and by phone
- Concessions: Only one discount per ticket, subject to availability  
Terms and conditions apply - no discounts on Pit Cushion prices.  
Over 60, unwaged, entertainment union, children under 16 and Students: £5 off.
- Access: Patrons with disabilities enjoy half price tickets.  
The Rose is a fully accessible organisation and we welcome everyone.  
There is Blue Badge parking in High Street and Rose car park.
- Sensory Access: A digital hearing system is available for patrons with a hearing aid, and Sennheiser headsets for patrons without a hearing aid. Guide and hearing dogs are welcome. Please let us know in advance so we can provide a dog-sitter and water bowl.
- Learning Disabilities: Please contact us in advance to discuss how we can help make your visit as comfortable as possible, on 0208 174 0090 or email [access@rosetheatrekingston.org](mailto:access@rosetheatrekingston.org).