

**FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

VIBRANT **NEW WRITING** | UNIQUE **REDISCOVERIES**  
May-August 2019 Season

The world premiere

**LUNATIC 19'S**

**A Deportational Road Trip**

by Tegan McLeod.

Directed by Jonathan Martin.

Set and Costume Design by Carla Goodman. Lighting by Kevin Treacy. Sound by Juan Ernesto Diaz.

Presented by Gangway in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre.

Cast: Devon Anderson. Gabriela Garcia.

“Discover, detain, deport. It’s all legal. It’s...I put them in the van, bats in a cage, and I just drive. ”

A world premiere from a new American playwright, **Lunatic 19's – A Deportational Road Trip** opens at the Finborough Theatre for a four week limited season on Tuesday, 9 July 2019 (**Press Nights: Thursday, 11 July 2019 and Friday, 12 July 2019 at 7.30pm**).

Recovering from a serious car crash, Gracie, an undocumented Latina migrant worker from Kentucky, is tracked down to her hospital bed by immigration enforcement officer Alec. Dragged from hospital, she is chained and forced into a van to begin the long journey to deportation...

With coruscating humour and caustic observation, **Lunatic 19's** captures the human stories at the heart of the current debate about migration and refugees, and the brutal surrealism of jailer and prisoner bound together on a road trip to exile and new beginnings.

Playwright **Tegan McLeod** was born in Iowa City, Iowa. She later moved to the UK where she went on to study English at Oxford University. She began acting with the National Youth Theatre and her first play *Never Such Rain*, written at age 18, was a runner-up in the Oxford New Writer's Festival. Upon graduating, Tegan became one of only two playwrights, internationally, to be awarded a full scholarship to the University of Texas at Austin as a Michener Fellow in Playwriting and Screenwriting. Whilst there, she had numerous productions including the world premiere of her first opera, *Rose Made Man*, an opera about Trans identity. Her play *Girls in Cars Underwater* was developed at Center Stage in Baltimore, featured in the Ignition Festival at Victory Gardens, Chicago, and was selected for the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center: National Playwrights Conference. Last year, her play *Lover Think Lover* was included in The New Group's Spring Reading Festival. This is her first full length play to be seen in the UK.

Director **Jonathan Martin** was the Principal of Drama Centre, London at Central Saint Martins between 2011-2018. He trained as a theatre director at Drama Centre, London and the École Philippe Gaulier in Paris. He has directed over thirty professional theatre productions at theatres including Theatre Royal, Stratford East (*Ballroom* by Robert Pugh, *Pinocchio* by Vince Foxall, *Hansel and Gretel* by David Cregan); Liverpool Playhouse (*Insignificance* by Terry Johnson); Sheffield Crucible (*The Dispute* by Marivaux); Gate Theatre (*The False Servant* by Marivaux);, and the Half Moon Theatre (*Blood Wedding* by Lorca). His productions have ranged from classical work to new writing and devised work including directing several plays by American authors including Sam Shepard, Terrence McNally, Stephen Adly Guirgis, Lanford Wilson, Israel Horowitz and Naomi Wallace. He was Associate Director at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, and at the Centro de Investigación Teatral in Lima, where he directed *Macbeth* by Shakespeare, *Top Girls* by Caryl Churchill, *Happy Days* by Beckett, and an adaptation of *Playland* by Athol Fugard. Most recently, he has directed *Enron* by Lucy Prebble at The Curve, Leicester.

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[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

The cast is:

**Devon Anderson** | Alec

Theatre includes #Hashtag Lightie (Arcola Theatre, Gate Theatre and Theatre Royal Stratford East), Scrape Off The Black (National Theatre) and Concrete Jungle (Riverside Studios).

Television includes Casualty, Night Bus, Sinbad, EastEnders, Who Killed Summer?, Doctors, Hollyoaks, and Kerching.

**Gabriela Garcia** | Gracie

Gabriela is originally from Mexico.

Trained at Arts Ed London.

Theatre includes West Side Story (Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester), In The Heights (King's Cross Theatre), Strictly Ballroom (Piccadilly Theatre), Ghost (UK Tour for David Ian), Sweet Charity (English Theatre, Frankfurt), Hot Stuff (Queen's Theatre Hornchurch), Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens (The Space) and Rent (Greenwich Theatre).

**The press on Jonathan Martin's production of Blood Wedding at the Half Moon Theatre**

"Convincing and moving...the details are brilliant." What's On

"Compelling and well worth seeing." The Independent

"Probably one of the most uplifting and colourful versions of this classic play yet to be staged." Caribbean Times

"A rich and colourful celebration of drama, music and dance. We've got World Music; now enter World Theatre." The Voice

"Marvellous stuff." The Stage

**PRESS NIGHTS: THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2019 AND FRIDAY, 12 JULY AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, 9 JULY 2019 AT 1.00PM–1.30PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

No booking fees on online, personal or postal bookings

Box Office 01223 357851. (Calls are free. There is a 5% booking fee.) Lines are open Monday-Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm.

**Tuesday, 9 July – Saturday, 3 August 2019**

Tuesday to Saturday evenings at 7.30pm. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3.00pm.

**Prices until 21 July 2019** – Tickets £18, £16 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £16 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £18 all seats. Previews (9 and 10 July) £14 all seats.

£10 tickets for Under 30s for performances from Tuesday to Sunday of the first week when booked online only.

£14 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on Saturday, 13 July 2019 when booked online only.

**Prices from 23 July 2019** – Tickets £20, £18 concessions, except Tuesday evenings £18 all seats, and Friday and Saturday evenings £20 all seats.

Performance Length: Approximately 90 minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Neil McPherson** on e-mail [press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07977 173135**

Download press releases and images at <http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>