

# Tiger Country

By Nina Raine Directed by Josh Roche

> 14 May 7.30pm 15 May 2pm

a live-streamed and on-demand production, performed by our graduating three-year acting students

### CAST



George Boden James



**Finlay James** Mr Mercer, Mr Leffe, Husband, Anaesthetist

If you have any enquiries regarding representation or working with any of the graduates, please contact Ed Hicks, Principal, at e.hicks@oxforddrama.ac.uk



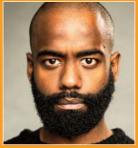
Maeve Baines Lakshmi, Nurse, Mrs Bracken



Douglas Dawson Mark



Kathryn Lincoln Emily



Adil Nougdalla Brian, Paramedic



Matilda Bedford Rebecca, Intercom



Kerena Jagpal Vashti, Dead Woman



Abigail Mahony Olga, Nurse, Mrs Mehta, Gillian, Reg



Samuel Ripley John, Injured Man

# **Creative Team**

Director Josh Roche Set and Costume Designer Natalie Johnson Production Manager Mishi Bekesi With thanks to: The Mill Arts Centre, Applecart Arts Lighting Designer Rachel Sampley Sound Designer Annie-May Fletcher Technical Manager Daniel Parry

## **Josh Roche Director**

Josh Roche is a director and dramaturg, who won the 20th JMK Award with his production of *My Name is Rachel Corrie* at the Young Vic in 2017. He is Artistic Director of Moonshine Theatre Company, who make work for people at risk of isolation and loneliness, and he is Co-Founder of the OpenHire campaign for fair hiring. He is currently Associate Director with Poleroid Theatre.

Previous credits include; *Radio* by Al Smith (Audible UK/ Arcola); *Orlando* by Lucy Rosyn (Vaults, Edinburgh); *Resurrecting Bobby Awl* by Brian Catling (Avalon/ BBC Arts); *Plastic* by Kenny Emson (Old Red Lion/ Poleroid); *My Name is Rachel Corrie* by Katherine Viner, Alan Rickman and Rachel Corrie (Young Vic); *Burns Night Celebrations* by Robbie Burns (Shakespeare's Globe); *Shakespeare World Congress* by William Shakespeare (Royal Shakespeare Company); *This must be the place* by Kenny Emson & Brad Birch (Poleroid/ Vaults); Magnificence by Howard Brenton (Finborough/Fat Git); *A Third* by Laura Jacqmin (Finborough Theatre/ Fat Git); *I feel fine* by Joe White (New Diorama/ Fat Git); *Winky* by George Saunders (Soho Theatre/ Fat Git).

He has assistant/associate directed for the RSC, English Touring Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe, Nabokov and Soho Theatre in London, on the West End and in New York. He was previously Writer's Centre Associate at the Soho Theatre and an Associate Reader for Sonia Friedman Productions and Shakespeare's Globe.

# **Nina Raine Writer**

Nina Raine's other plays include *Stories, Consent, Rabbit* and *Tribes* as well as an adaptation of *The Drunks* by the Durnenkov Brothers. She was shortlisted for the 2004 Verity Bargate Award and awarded the 2006 Evening Standard and Critics' Circle Awards for Most Promising Playwright for her debut play *Rabbit. Tribes* won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play, the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Foreign Play and the Off-Broadway Alliance Award for Best New Play and has been performed in eighteen different countries. Nina has been nominated for a Susan Blackburn Smith Award for *Consent*.

## **Director's Note**

*Tiger Country* is a play about the human face of medicine. In the past year we, the public, have been living through some 'strange times' (surely the most overused phrase in the English language by now). But where our times have only been strange, medical professionals in hospitals and in care homes have been living through horrific times.

Micro-doses of horror, experienced on a daily basis, will inevitably change a person. As Emily says in the play "you get into the job because you care, and in order to do the job you have to stop caring". It is this process of change that the play, and this acting company, are trying to capture.

Are doctors just engineers of the body, who can dispassionately re-connect our errant tubes, or are they something more impressive – people who can engage with moments of horror emotionally, day after day, and live to tell the tale? As a theatre director, I have absolutely no idea what the answer to that question is. However my dad is a GP who, when he retired recently, said this; "in medicine every failure is like a little burn mark on your soul. When there are too many burn marks, you have to stop".

If *Tiger Country* is good for one thing, it is to remind us, the patients, of the toll we take on our doctors, and how much we have to thank them for.

I've been lucky to bring this piece to life with an exceptional group of young actors who are destined for great things. They've had a raw deal in the last year or so, but it's clearly steeled them for the world to come. From my perspective their passion and attention to their craft is undimmed.

#### Josh Roche

Your next chance to see our students: Three Year Acting Course Showcase Live-Stream: 3rd June 2021, 3.30pm On-Demand: 4–10 June Tickets: Applecartarts.com

#### **Don't Forget**

*Tiger Country* will be available on-demand from 18 May–24 May on Applecartarts.com

# **Recent graduate work**

#### Ritu Arya, actor

• Lila Pitts in Netflix's The Umbrella Academy

#### Ella Bruccoleri, actor

• Sister Frances in BBC's Call the Midwife

#### Freddy Carter, actor

• Kax in Netflix's Shadow and Bone

#### **Faye Castelow**

• Gretl in Leopoldstadt, Wyndham's Theatre

#### Babou Ceesay, actor

- Manny in BBC's Dark Money
- Jackson in Alibi's We Hunt Together

#### Claire Foy, actor

• W in The Old Vic's Lungs

#### Richard Gadd, actor, writer & comedian

- Liam in Sky's Code404
- Wrote and starred in Edinburgh & Bush Theatre sell-out *Baby Reindeer*

#### Andrew Gower, actor

• Ezra Spurnrose in Amazon's Carnival Row

#### Nell Hudson, actor

• Princess Louise in Netflix's The Irregulars

#### Emily Lloyd-Saini, actor & comedian

• DI Ryle in Sky's Code 404

#### Dipo Ola, actor

- Baba in Alibi's We Hunt Together
- Kellerman in Channel 4's Baghdad Central

#### Caitlin O'Ryan, actor

• Lizzie Wemyss in Starz' Outlander

#### Jemma Powell, actor

- Claire Stuart in Sky's Devils
- Grace Craven in The Secret Garden

#### Tanya Reynolds, actor

- Lily in Netflix's Sex Education
- Mrs Elton in Emma
- Tosh in The Royal Court's Scenes with girls

#### Annabel Scholey, actor

- Sarah Bailey in BBC 1's The Salisbury Poisonings
- Nina in BBC 1's The Split

#### Kiran Sonia Sawar, actor

- Harriet Kaur in HBO's The Nevers
- Deena in BBC's Danny Boy

#### Charity Wakefield, actor & producer

- Georgina in Hulu's The Great
- William Shakespeare in The Globe's Emilia

# **The Oxford School of Drama**

Oxford School of Drama is a world-leading conservatoire providing professional actor training in the form of a Three Year and One Year Course in addition to a Foundation Course. Graded 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, our courses are accredited by Trinity College, London who identified us as an 'Exemplary Provider' in 2013. We are recognised by industry around the world and boast successful alumni including writers, directors, filmmakers and actors. With our training, the hope is that all students with talent and commitment, no matter what their background, are given important skills to take forward for life and that they can not only be part of the industry but perhaps help shape it.

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