

The world premiere

FOAL

by Titas Halder.

Directed by Annie Kershaw.

Designed by Cara Evans. Sound Design and Composition by Pierre Flasse. Lighting Design by Rajiv Pattani.

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

*'Corner an animal, make him feel scared, that's when he's dangerous.
Tell a creature he's a beast, one day he'll bite back.'*

A.K. wants to escape the Island. Live a good life. But the sea draws you back.

When a dreadful secret comes to light, A.K. returns to his home town to confront the shadows of his childhood and put right a terrible wrong. The thing is, he's worried about the other version of himself, the one who lives inside his ribcage.

An exhilarating fever dream, *Foal* is a revenge thriller set in the era of the Sony Walkman; a lyrical, urgent new play about masculinity, compassion, and retribution.

Winner of the Genesis Future Director's Award **Annie Kershaw** directs the world premiere of a stunning new play by Associate Artistic Director of the Donmar Warehouse **Titas Halder**, returning to the Finborough Theatre after his acclaimed playwriting debut with *Run the Beast Down* in 2017.

Playwright **Titas Halder** returns to the Finborough Theatre which saw his playwriting debut with *Run the Beast Down* in 2017 (Finborough Theatre, Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, and Strawdog Theatre, Chicago). As a writer he trained on the Royal Court Theatre Young Writers' Programme. Halder's first two plays saw him nominated for Best Writer at the inaugural *The Stage Debut Awards*; his next play *The Basement* was a finalist for the Verity Bargate Award. Plays include *Replica* (National Theatre Connections and Länk Festival Riksteatern, Stockholm) and *Escape the Scaffold* (Theatre503 and The Other Room, Cardiff). He was part of BBC Voices 2024 and is currently writing his first feature film for Storyteller. As a director, his work includes *The Lemon Table* - co-directed with Michael Grandage (Salisbury Playhouse, and UK tour), *A Boy and His Soul* (Kiln Theatre) and *The Dance of Death* (Donmar Trafalgar). Halder also performs and records as musical artist Titas and the Fox.

Director **Annie Kershaw** was the 2024 winner of the Genesis Future Director's Award for which she directed *Girl In the Machine* by Stef Smith (The Young Vic). Direction includes *The Maids* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *Educating Rita* and *Hedda Gabler* (Reading Rep Theatre), *Private View* (Soho Theatre) and *Light* (The Young Vic). Associate and Assistant Direction includes *Kuniper Blood* (Donmar Warehouse), *Best of Enemies* (Noël Coward Theatre and The Young Vic), *Jekyll & Hyde* and *Dorian* (Reading Rep Theatre) and *Henry II* (Rabble Theatre). Annie was previously the Carne Deputy Director at Jermyn Street Theatre, assisting on *Infamous*, *Odyssey*, *The Lonely Londoners* and *Laughing Boy*, and led Jermyn Street's Creatives Associates Programme. In 2025, she was shortlisted for the Arts Foundation Futures Award.

HFH Productions

HFH Productions is an independent producer of award-winning work, run by Hannah Farley-Hills. The company develops, mounts and tours theatrical productions that showcase underrepresented perspectives and untested ideas. Hannah believes a good play leaves you with more questions than it answers, things you should still be questioning in a week, a month, a year.

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone 020 7244 7439
e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk Artistic Director Neil McPherson

Registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee, no. 03448268.
Registered Charity no. 1071304. Registered address: 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED. A member of the Independent Theatre Council.

PRESS INFORMATION

Hannah's recent productions include *A Ghost In Your Ear* by Jamie Armitage, created in collaboration with Ben and Max Ringham (A twice extended run at Hampstead Theatre), the multi award-winning *Bacon* by Sophie Swithinbank (YES24 Theatre in Seoul, Soho Playhouse in New York, Bristol Old Vic, and Summerhall as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and Riverside Studios); *Dear Annie, I Hate You* by Sam Ipema (Riverside Studios and Pleasance Edinburgh), and the award-winning *Surrender* by Sophie Swithinbank (Arcola Theatre and Summerhall, Edinburgh).

Other notable HFH shows include *Flicker* by Gabriella Foley (Pleasance Edinburgh), *C Is For Clown* and *Better Together* by ACA Theatre (UK tour and international pilot, Chile), *...If We've Never Been to the Moon?* and *The Naughty Fox* by James Baldwin (UK tour).

Hannah was previously Associate Producer to international production company, Glynis Henderson Productions, working on Fix + Foxy's critically acclaimed international production, *Dark Noon*, Associate Producer to London new writing company, Arch 468, and a Projects Producer at The Marlowe, Canterbury. Hannah is a recipient of the Stage One Producer bursary, an MGCfutures bursary and is a member of the League of Independent Producers. Hannah is also Executive Director of early years and disability specialist theatre company, Toucan Theatre.

The cast is:

Amar Chadha-Patel | A.K.

Amar Chadha-Patel stars opposite Shailene Woodley in the feature film *Motor City* which premiered at last year's Venice International Film Festival, and can currently be seen in the historical epic *William Tell* opposite Claes Bang. On television, he stars in the Netflix Limited series *The Decameron* opposite Tanya Reynolds and Tony Hale, as well as in the Lucasfilm for Disney+ show *Willow*, based on the cult classic Ron Howard film.

Other credits include Gareth Edwards' *The Creator*, opposite Gemma Chan, John David Washington and Allison Janney, the Independent Spirit Award nominated *Slip*, the male lead in the feature *Dashcam*, and a recurring role in the limited series *The Third Day* for HBO and Sky.

The press on Titas Halder's *Run the Beast Down* at the Finborough Theatre

★★★★★ Five Stars, *The Reviews Hub*

★★★★ Four Stars, *The Independent*

★★★★ Four Stars, *Time Out London*

★★★★ Four Stars, *London Pub Theatres*

★★★★ Four Stars, *The Stage*

★★★★ Four Stars, *Paul in London*

★★★★ Four Stars, *Live Theatre*

'*Run the Beast Down*, the debut play from writer, director and musician Titas Halder, is a bewildering, kaleidoscopic tale of an impressionable young man gradually losing his sanity, realised with compelling intensity.' Fergus Morgan, *The Stage*

'Highly imaginative script...Halder's assured and eloquent debut.' Paul Taylor, *The Independent*

'Beautifully written, superbly acted and equally disturbing.' *Kent Online*

'A propulsive fairytale-like narrative – Grimm Brothers for the VICE age.' *Litro Magazine*

'It's a compelling meditation on class, masculinity and self-worth.' *Time Out London*

'Fascinatingly emotive.' *Live Theatre*

'Psychologically compelling...bold and atmospheric.' *View From the Cheap Seats*

'A riveting neon trance of emotions, confusion and blurred depiction of reality.' *Litro Magazine*

'Titas Halder has marked himself out as a major talent to watch.' *The Void*

'An extraordinary piece of writing...Halder's play is beautiful, provocative, visceral.' *Live Theatre*

'This has thrown Halder into the scene as someone with tremendous promise.' *Time Out London*

PRESS NIGHT: FRIDAY, 8 MAY 2026 AT 7.30PM

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Book online at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Box Office 020 7244 7439

No booking fees

Tuesday, 5 May – Saturday, 30 May 2026

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

Prices until 10 May 2026 – Tickets £27, £25 concessions.

Previews (5 and 6 May) £15 all seats.

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

£15 tickets for residents of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham on Saturday, 9 May 2026 at 7.30pm when booked online only.

Friends Evening on Wednesday, 13 May 2026 at 7.30pm

Prices from 12 May 2026 to 17 May 2026 – Tickets £29, £27 concessions

Prices from 19 May 2026 to 30 May 2026 – Tickets £33, £31 concessions. No concessions on Friday or Saturday evenings.

Group Bookings for all performances – 1 free ticket in every 10 purchased.

Performance Length: Approximately ninety minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

Finborough Theatre on e-mail press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk or **020 7244 7439**

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