

# **FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

VIBRANT **NEW WRITING** | UNIQUE **REDISCOVERIES**

September–November Season 2018



The world premiere production

## **EXODUS**

Written and Directed by Rachael Boulton.

Music by David Grubb. Choreography by Emma Vickery. Lighting Design by Katy Morison.

Presented by Motherlode in co-production with RCT Theatres, and in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre.

Cast: Karim Bedda. Gwenllian Higginson. Berwyn Pierce. Liam Tobin. Mike Humphreys.

"Settlers wanted for alternative living community in South America, all welcome to apply, unless you're a prick."

The world premiere production, following a Welsh tour, of acclaimed new Welsh theatre company Motherlode in their London debut, **Exodus** by Rachael Boulton plays at the Finborough Theatre for nine Sunday and Monday evenings and Tuesday matinees from Sunday, 4 November 2018 (**Press Night: Monday, 5 November 2018 at 7.30pm**).

Set in South Wales on the eve that the last factory in the town closes, four neighbours hatch a plan that is literally pie in the sky...

Mary, Ray, Mike and Timmy gather in an allotment, decide to build a plane, and take off down the high street. Past the butchers, past the curry house and above the Chapel in search of a life free from politics and the grind.

Blisteringly funny, this heart-warming new drama is accompanied by a live original score by David Grubb with choreography from Emma Vickery culminating in a new adventure that makes anything seem possible.

Motherlode's last production, **The Good Earth**, created and directed by Rachael Boulton, told the story of a Valleys community torn apart by their council and big business and, following a successful tour of Wales, it transferred to the Flea Theatre in New York City for an acclaimed run.

Exodus will tour to twelve venues across Wales this October from Milford Haven in the west to Newport in the east and Mold in the North. Tickets are on sale now for performances at The Coliseum Aberdare (5 and 6 October), Theatr Clwyd (9 and 10 October), Llandinam Village Hall (11 October), Redhouse Cymru Merthyr Tydfil (12 October), Taliesin Swansea (13 October), Chapter Cardiff (17–20 October), Riverfront Newport (23 October), Gwynfe Village Hall (24 October), Torch Theatre Milford Haven (25 October), Blackwood Miners' Institute (26 October), Theatr Brycheiniog Brecon (27 October), Cwmavon Village Hall (30 October), prior to the Finborough Theatre run.

Writer and Director **Rachael Boulton** makes her London debut at the Finborough Theatre. From Newport, South Wales, Rachael is one of the youngest theatre makers to be shortlisted for Best Director and Best Company at the Wales Theatre Awards. Rachael founded Motherlode in 2014 to create relevant and accessible new theatre in underrepresented communities. Mainly working in the Rhondda Valley and City of Newport, Rachael's work has been staged in New York, National Theatre Dorfman Stage (Connections 500), Wales Millennium Centre and across Wales. She is a National Theatre Wales Emerging Director, has assisted on two National Theatre Wales productions, worked as community director

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admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk Artistic Director Neil McPherson

# Press Information

for National Theatre Wales and Associate Director at Out Of Joint. She is a Ferment Artist at Bristol Old Vic and is currently developing work for Theatr Clwyd. Rachael originally trained as an actor and theatre maker at Joan Littlewoods E15 Acting School, and has produced all of Motherlode's work to date.

Working in communities across Wales and the South West, **Motherlode** collaborates with an ensemble of actors, writers, musicians, creatives and choreographers to create vibrant, relevant new theatre that is inspired by real life stories. Run by artistic director Rachael Boulton with theatre maker Emma Vickery, Motherlode's first production The Good Earth successfully toured Wales and New York, between August and November 2016. Motherlode has also developed work with young companies, staging work at the National Theatre in 2016 and Wales Millennium Centre in 2017. Exodus will be the company's second production.

The cast is:

## **Karim Bedda** | Timmy

Trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Theatre includes The Four Men (The Conn Artists), Dead Hamlet (Sennsa Teatro), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Marvellous Pretenders) and The Tempest (Close Call Theatre).

Film includes The Dark Kingdom, Vespers and Doctor Strange.

## **Gwenllian Higginson** | Mary

Trained at Rose Bruford College.

Theatre includes Miss Julie (Coliseum Theatre, Aberdare), Macbeth and Dyled Eileen (Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru), Blink (Critical Ambition and Volcano Theatre), The Good Earth (Motherlode), Constellation Street (The Other Room at Porter's, Cardiff), Hwyaden Fach Hyll and Ugly Duckling (Sherman Cymru, Cardiff, and Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru), Moon and Genie (Half Moon Theatre), Forever Young (The Young Vic), Girl of Circumstance (Dumbwise Theatre), Last Orders (Solomon Theatre) and England's Dreaming (Unicorn Theatre).

Television includes Casualty and Pobol y Cwm.

## **Berwyn Pearce** | Gareth

Trained at The Central School of Speech and Drama.

Theatre includes Little Dogs (Frantic Assembl and National Theatre Wales), Tonypandemonium (National Theatre Wales), Deffro'r Gwanwyn and Pan Oedd y Byd Yn Fach (Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru), Sweeney Todd (Welsh National Opera and Llangollen international Eisteddfod), Skyhawk (Clwyd Theatr Cymru), Jack And The Dean Stalk (Cilfynydd RFC) and The Wanemaker Festival (Shakespeare's Globe).

Television includes Pobol y Cwm and Lan a Lawr.

## **Liam Tobin** | Ray

Theatre includes Benny (Gilded Balloon, Edinburgh), Paint Your Wagon, A Clockwork Orange, The Big I Am, Fiddler on the Roof, Conquest of the South Pole, The Sum and Romeo and Juliet (Everyman Theatre, Liverpool), The Hobbit (Duke's Playhouse, Lancaster), Hamlet (Clwyd Theatr Cymru), Clybourne Park and When the Rain Stops Falling (Unity Theatre, Liverpool), A View From The Bridge (Liverpool Playhouse), One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Brief Encounter, and Dead Funny (Torch Theatre, Milford Haven), A Midsummer Night's Dream and She Stoops To Conquer (Torch Theatre, Milford Haven, and Mappa Mundi), Cider With Rosie and The Merchant of Venice (Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds), Gods Official (West Yorkshire Playhouse), Pygmalion (European Tour) and Slappers and Slapheads (Manchester Opera House and Liverpool Empire).

Film includes Al's Lads.

Television includes Hollyoaks, Emmerdale, Coronation Street, The Royal, Heartbeat, The Cops, Seeing Red and The Second Coming.

## **Mike Humphreys** | Associate Actor

Trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama.

Theatre includes Alice's Adventures Underground (Les Enfants Terribles), The Good Earth (Motherlode), Fear of Drowning (Black Sheep Productions), Little Shop of Horrors (Clwyd Theatr Cymru), War Horse (National Theatre and National, Ireland and South Africa Tour), One Million (Greenwich Festival Finale), Llwyth (Sherman Theatre), Inflation (Tangled Feet Tour) and The Beach (National Theatre Wales).

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The press on Motherlode's The Good Earth

"Wonderfully acted by the Welsh troop Motherlode" The New York Times

"Lovely Welsh import" The New Yorker

"An exquisitely constructed piece of theatre" Buzz Magazine

"A hilarious and thought-provoking piece that is not to be missed" Wales Online

"Explosive" Western Mail

"An embodiment of Valleys strength" Arts Scene Wales

"Joyous and heart-breaking" Reviews Hub

"Gives a voice to the voiceless" The Stage

**PRESS NIGHT: MONDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: MONDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 5.00PM–5.30PM**

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 will be a 5% booking fee.) Lines are open Monday– Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm

**Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 November 2018**

Sunday and Monday evenings at 7.30pm. Tuesday matinees at 2.00pm.

Tickets £20, £18 concessions.

Performance Length: Approximately two hours including one interval of fifteen minutes.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

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