



## CAST, CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

### **JULIET STEVENSON**

Voice of the Storyteller/Doctor's wife

Juliet Stevenson is one of Britain's leading actors. Her most recent theatre credits include *The Doctor* - for which she won the Critics' Circle Award for Best Actress and is currently nominated for the Olivier Award for Best Actress, *Mary Stuart*, *Hamlet* (Almeida/West End); *Wings*, *Happy Days* (Young Vic). Juliet won the 1991 Olivier Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Death and the Maiden*, and has been nominated a further five times.

Juliet has received five BAFTA nominations for her work on screen. Her films include *Truly, Madly, Deeply* - Evening Standard Film Award for Best Actress; *Bend it like Beckham*; *When did you last see your Father?*; *Being Julia*.

Juliet's latest television work includes *Riviera* and *Out of her Mind*, a comedy series with Sara Pascoe which will air from September. Her other credits include *One of Us* and *The Enfield Haunting*, and she appeared as a series regular in *Atlantis* and *The Village*. She was awarded the CBE in 1999.

### **SIMON STEPHENS**

Writer

Simon Stephens is an Olivier and Tony award-winning playwright. His theatre credits include *Fortune* (Metropolitan, Tokyo); *Maria, Rage* (Thalia, Hamburg); *The Threepenny Opera* (NT); *Fatherland* (MIF 2017/Lyric Hammersmith/LIFT Festival 2018); *Heisenberg* (West End); *Obsession* (Barbican/Toneelgroep, Amsterdam); *The Seagull*, *Hérons*, *Morning*, *Three Kingdoms*, *A Thousand Stars that Explode in the Sky*, *Punk Rock* (Lyric Hammersmith); *Carmen Disruption* (Deutsches Schauspielhaus/Almeida); *Nuclear War*, *Birdland*, *Country Music*, *Bluebird* (Royal Court); *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time* - Olivier and Tony Awards for Best New Play (NT/West End/Broadway); *A Doll's House* (Young Vic/West End); *Sea Wall* (Bush); *Harper Regan*, *Port* (Royal Exchange, Manchester/NT); *On the Shore of the Wide World* (Royal Exchange, Manchester). He has also written for film, television and radio.

Simon is a professor at the Manchester Writing School at Manchester Metropolitan University and Artistic Associate at the Lyric Hammersmith.

### **WALTER MEIERJOHANN**

Director

Walter Meierjohann was Artistic Director of HOME from 2013 to 2018 and International Associate Director at the Young Vic in London. At the Young Vic, his productions included the European premiere of *In the Red and Brown Water* by Tarell McCraney and *Kafka's Monkey*, which toured to Sydney, Melbourne, Athens, Paris, Tokyo, Istanbul, Taipei and New York. The production, which starred Kathryn Hunter, also showed in HOME's 2015 opening season, with Hunter reprising her lead role.

Walter has worked extensively in Germany and the UK at theatres including: the Barbican; Liverpool Playhouse; Nottingham Playhouse; The Curve, Leicester; Residenztheater, Munich; Staatsschauspiel, Dresden; Schauspiel, Graz; and Arena, Berlin, for Peter Stein's Faust Ensemble and Impulse Theatre Festival. Prior to joining the Young Vic, Walter was Artistic Director of Neubau at the State Theatre of Dresden. In opera, he has assisted the late Klaus-Michael Grueber in his productions of *Aida* (Nederlands Opera, Amsterdam) and *Don Giovanni* (Ruhrfestspiele).

### **BEN AND MAX RINGHAM**

Sound Designers

In 2019 Ben and Max, together with writer Ella Hickson, created *ANNA* - a headphone based show at the National Theatre. They are co-creators of the immersive theatre company Wiretapper and associate artists with the Shunt Collective. Four time Olivier Award nominees, last year they were awarded the H-100 2019 Award for Innovation in Theatre and Performance. Recent credits for the Donmar include *Teenage Dick*, *Berberian Sound Studio* and *Belleville* and their other recent theatre credits include *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Pinter at the Pinter* (West End); *Betrayal* (West End/Broadway); *The Seven Ages of Patience*, *Pass Over* (Kiln); *Ugly Lies the Bone*, *Tartuffe* (NT); *Pygmalion* (UK Tour); *Party Skills* (Shoreditch Town Hall); *The Meeting* (Chichester); *Machinal* (Almeida); *Love and Information* (Sheffield Theatres); *Gloria* (Hampstead). Other composition and sound design work includes *Frida Kahlo - Making Herself Up* at The V&A, *Mirror Maze* and *Room 2022* with Es Devlin, *Rembrandt - The Late Works* at The National Gallery, *The Inspection Chamber* for Alexa, BBC Research and Development.

### **LIZZIE CLACHAN**

Designer

Lizzie Clachan is a renowned theatre and opera designer and was one of the co-founders of the Shunt collective in 1998. Her previous work at the Donmar includes *Far Away* and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. Other recent theatre includes *A Number* (Bridge); *The Son* (Kiln/West End); *The Nico Project* (MIFI/Melbourne Festival); *Rutherford & Son*, *Absolute Hell*, *As You Like It*, *A Woman Killed with Kindness*, *Treasure Island*, *Edward II* (NT); *Cyprus Avenue* (Royal Court/Abbey, Dublin/Public, NY); *Yerma* (Young Vic/Armory, NY); *Life of Galileo*, *Macbeth*, *A Season in the Congo* (Young Vic); *Tipping the Velvet* (Lyric Hammersmith); *The Skriker* (Royal Exchange, Manchester); *Carmen Disruption* (Almeida);

*The Forbidden Zone* (Perner Insul, Salzburg); *All My Sons* (Regent's Park Open Air); *Ibsen Huis* (Toneelgroep Amsterdam/Avignon Festival).

Lizzie's opera credits include *Mask of Orpheus*, *Orphée*, *Orpheus in the Underworld*, *Orpheus and Euridice* (ENO), *Nixon in China* (Staatsoper Hannover); *Jenůfa* (Amsterdam National Opera); *La Traviata* (Theater Basel/ENO); *Pelléas et Mélisande* (Teatr Wielki, Poland/Festival d'Aix en Provence); *Le Vin Herbé* (Staatsoper Berlin); *Bliss* (Staatsoper Hamburg).

## **JESSICA HUNG HAN YUN**

Lighting Designer

Jessica Hung Han Yun is a multi award-winning lighting designer specialising in installations, theatre, dance and festivals.

Jessica's recent theatre credits include *The Last of the Pelican Daughters* (Complicité/Edinburgh/Royal & Derngate); *Fairview* (Young Vic); *Snowflake* (Kiln); *Mephisto [A Rhapsody]*, *Dear Elizabeth*, *The Human Voice* (Gate); *Equus* - Knight of Illumination Award 2019 and Off West End Award for Best Lighting Design (Theatre Royal Stratford East/West End); *Seven Methods of Killing Kylie Jenner*, *Pah-La* (Royal Court); *Forgotten* (Theatre Royal Plymouth/Arcola); *Hive City Legacy* (Roundhouse with Hot Brown Honey); *Cuckoo* (Soho); *Nine Foot Nine* (Bunker); *Becoming Shades* (Vaults Festival 2018).

## **ARTFACTORY**

Technical Production Direction

ARTFACTORY is a conduit for working with artists, curators and designers to fuse technology with art. It explores and develops new methodologies and strategies to produce, design and construct progressive artworks. Consisting of technical specialists, designers and managers who recognise the importance of an artist's work, and who are dedicated to artistic rigour, technical craftsmanship and digital mediation, ARTFACTORY champions the process of collaboration and research, and is a translator for artists to create technically challenging art. @artfactorysg

## **ABOUT DONMAR WAREHOUSE**

The Donmar Warehouse is a 251-seat, not-for-profit theatre in Covent Garden, London, led by Artistic Director Michael Longhurst and Executive Director Henny Finch. Their mission is to bring together a wide variety of people in their intimate warehouse space and elsewhere to create, witness and participate in thrilling, world-class theatre.

The Donmar has won more than 100 awards in its 29-year history, with highlights of the programme including founder artistic director Sam Mendes' productions of *Cabaret* (with Alan Cumming) and *The Blue Room* (with Nicole Kidman). Michael Grandage (Artistic Director 2002–2012) brought notable productions of *Othello* with Chiwetel Ejiofor and Ewan McGregor, along with *Red* with Alfred Molina and Eddie Redmayne. Josie Rourke (Artistic Director 2012–2019) brought Tom Hiddleston in *Coriolanus*, and a trilogy of all-female Shakespeare plays directed by Phyllida Lloyd. Current Artistic Director Michael Longhurst's inaugural 2019–20 season focused on important stories, thrillingly told, and included new plays by leading writers including Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Alice Birch and Mike Lew.

## [Podcast] Reclaiming *Blindness*

Created in August 2020 to accompany the staging adaptation of *Blindness*, this edition of the Donmar Warehouse podcast features writer Simon Stephens as he interviews Production Consultant Professor Hannah Thompson. Together, they unpack the representations of blindness in *Blindness*—both José Saramago’s dystopian novel and its theatrical adaptation—and take the long view across centuries of literature whilst discussing the exciting possibilities for creatively centring the non-visual in theatre today.



Donmar Warehouse  
Reclaiming Blindness  
2 years ago

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<https://soundcloud.com/donmarwarehouse/reclaiming-blindness>

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## [Article] Creating *Blindness*

In this interview article with Donmar Resident Assistant Director Sara Aniqah Malik, Director Walter Meierjohann shared the process behind the installation from conception to realisation of *Blindness*. Here are his reflections on bringing *Blindness* to the Donmar in these unusual times.

### Donmar Warehouse

<https://donmarwarehouse.medium.com/creating-blindness-44c4b34cad7e>

