



FULL CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR WORLD PREMIERE OF

RED VELVET

WRITTEN BY LOLITA CHAKRABARTI

INDHU RUBASINGHAM'S DEBUT PRODUCTION AS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF

THE TRICYCLE THEATRE

11 OCTOBER – 24 NOVEMBER

Simon Chandler (Bernard/Terence), **Rachel Finnegan** (Halina/Betty/Margaret), **Natasha Gordon** (Connie), **Ryan Kiggell** (Charles), **Ferdinand Kingsley** (Casmir/Henry), **Charlotte Lucas** (Ellen), and **Eugene O'Hare** (Pierre) join the previously announced **Adrian Lester** (Ira Aldridge) to complete the cast for *Red Velvet*. Written by **Lolita Chakrabarti**, and directed by the Tricycle's Artistic Director, **Indhu Rubasingham**, *Red Velvet* runs from 11 October – 24 November, with press night on 16 October.

Design is by **Tom Piper**, lighting by **Oliver Fenwick**, sound by **Paul Arditti**, with assistant direction from **Titas Halder**.

***"It's like being at a crossroads – a point of absolute, unequivocal change.
It makes the blood rush."***

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, 1833. Edmund Kean, the greatest actor of his generation, has collapsed on stage whilst playing Othello. A young black American actor has been asked to take over the role. But, as the public riot in the streets over the abolition of slavery, how will the cast, critics and audience react to the revolution taking place in the theatre?

Imagined experiences based on the true story of Ira Aldridge.

Simon Chandler has previously been on stage at the Tricycle Theatre in *The Letter of Last Resort*, part of the season, *The Bomb*, and in *The Panel*, *The Lioness* and *Bloody Wimmin* as part of the *Women, Power and Politics* season. Other theatre credits include *Cause Celebre* at the Old Vic, *All Mouth* at the Menier Chocolate Factory, *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* at the Garrick Theatre and *Democracy* at the Wyndham's Theatre. Simon's screen credits include *The Politician's Husband*, *Vera*, *Land Girls*, *Judge John Deed*, *Fast Girls*, *The Iron Lady* and *The King's Speech*.

Rachel Finnegan's previous stage credits include *Tartuffe* and *The Oresteia* at York Theatre Royal, *The Trial* at Southwark Playhouse, *Bensalem B&B* for Punchdrunk and *Volpone* at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Natasha Gordon's stage credits include *Mules* at the Young Vic Studio, *The Exception and the Rule* at the Young Vic, *As You Like It*, *The Tamer Tamed* and *Cymbeline* all for the Royal Shakespeare Company, *Inside Out* at the Arcola Theatre, *Clubland* at the Royal Court Theatre and *Arabian Nights* at the Young Vic/Tour. Natasha's screen credits include *Secrets and Words*, *Little Miss Jocelyn* and *The Bill*.

Ryan Kiggell's stage credits include *Kaspar* at Southwark Playhouse, *Voyage Around My Father* at Salisbury Playhouse, *Macbeth* for Cheek by Jowl, *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, *Troilus & Cressida* for Cheek by Jowl/Tour/Barbican, *Amy's View* and *You Can Never Tell* at Theatre Royal, Bath and the Garrick Theatre and *King Lear* at Stratford Upon Avon and the Young Vic. Ryan's screen credits include *Atonement*, *Glorious 39*, and *Trial & Retribution – Series XI, XIII and XV*.

Ferdinand Kingsley's theatre credits include *The York Mystery Plays* at York Theatre Royal, *King James Bible*, *Hamlet* and *Welcome To Thebes* all at the National Theatre, *The Winter's Tale* for Headlong and *Troilus and Cressida*, *Little Eyolf* and *Romeo and Juliet* all for the Royal Shakespeare Company. His screen work includes *Ripper St*, *Richard II* and *The Last Legion*.

Charlotte Lucas was previously at the Tricycle Theatre in *Called to Account*, *Darfur: How Long is Never?* and *Fabulation*. Her other theatre credits include *Posh* at the Duke of York's Theatre, *The Changeling* at the Young Vic, *Yes Prime Minister* and *World's End* at Trafalgar Studios, *Fast Labour* at West Yorkshire Playhouse and Hampstead Theatre and. Charlotte's screen credits include *Not Going Out*, *Down to Earth*, *Clean Skin*, *Harmony*, *These Foolish Things* and *Bad Girls*.

Eugene O'Hare's stage credits include *Our Private Life* at the Royal Court, *Translations* at the National Theatre, *Talent* at the Menier Chocolate Factory, *Observe The Sons of Ulster Marching Towards The Somme* at Abbey Theatre and Hampstead Theatre, *Riff Raff* at the Arcola Theatre and *A Moon For The Misbegotten* at the Old Vic and on Broadway. Eugene's screen credits include *The Fall*, *Black Mirror*, *Nothing Personal*, *Prometheus* and *Waking The Dead*.

Adrian Lester is best known for playing Michael Stone in hit BBC1 series *Hustle*. Other screen credits include *When Romeo Met Juliet*, BBC2; *Merlin*, BBC1; *Sleep with Me*, ITV; *Ghost Squad*, Channel 4; *Being Human*, BBC1; *Ballet Shoes*, BBC1; *Bonekickers*, BBC1; *Empire's Children*, Channel 4 and award-winning drama *Storm Damage* for BBC1. Adrian was last on stage in the award-winning *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* at the Novello Theatre. Other theatre credits include *Hamlet* for Peter Brook at the Bouffes du Nord/Young Vic; *Sweeney Todd* at the National Theatre (Olivier Award Nomination for Best Performance in a Supporting Role); *Company* at the Donmar Warehouse (Olivier Award for Best Actor); *Six Degrees of Separation* (Time Out Award) at the Royal Court/Comedy Theatre; *As You Like It* at the Lyric Hammersmith/Noel Coward Theatre/National Tour; and *Henry V* at the National Theatre. Adrian will be playing the title role in *Othello* at the National Theatre in 2013. His film credits include *Primary Colours*; *The Day After Tomorrow*; *Born Romantic*; *Love's Labour's Lost*; *Starting Out in the Evening*; *Dust*; *Final Curtain*; *Scenes of a Sexual Nature*; *As You Like It*; *Doomsday*; *Best*; and *Case 39. All is By My Side* will be released in 2013.

LISTINGS

Address The Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 7JR
Phone 020 7328 1000
In person 10am – 9pm Monday – Saturday, 2 – 9pm on Sundays
Online www.tricycle.co.uk

RED VELVET (11 OCTOBER – 24 NOVEMBER)

PERFORMANCES Monday – Saturday at 8pm
Saturday mats at 4pm*
* No Saturday matinees during previews
Press Night: Tuesday 16 October at 7pm

Weekday matinees at 2pm:

Wednesdays 24 October, 7, 14, 21 November

PRICES £14 Monday 8pm, Wednesday matinees (no concessions)
£20 Tuesday-Thursday, Saturday matinees (£18 concession)
£22 Friday & Saturday (£20 concession)
Concessions: Registered disabled, students, unemployed, over 60s and Brent residents.

OFFERS: Students: £10 Wednesday evenings
Seniors: £10 for all matinees
Standby Tuesdays: There are a limited number of tickets available on Tuesday evening performances from £5 (minimum contribution). These can only be purchased from 10am on the day by calling or visiting the Box Office. Limited to two tickets per customer.
Group bookings: buy 10 tickets and get the 11th free.

Season Ticket – Get 20% Off

Book tickets for *Red Velvet*, *The Arabian Nights*, *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show* and *Paper Dolls* in one transaction using the promotional code 'season' and receive a 20% discount on each ticket. This is a limited offer and subject to availability.

TRANSPORT

Tube: Kilburn (Jubilee Line)
Bus: 16, 31, 32, 98, 189, 206, 316, 328
Train: Brondesbury (London overground)

PRESS CONTACT: Emma Holland PR emma@emmahollandpr.com
0791 709 4203