## **MOLLY MCGEACHIN, PATRICK BONE & THE PLEASANCE PRESENTS**



<u>CAST</u>

GISELLE Jack Sears

## DANCE TROUPE

Harri Eiffert Elle Fierce Spike King Marie Astrid Mence

## **GUEST STAR PERFORMERS**

Kit Green Jonny Woo Lavinia Co-op

### CREATIVE TEAM

**Created by** Jack Sears & Hannah Grennell **Choreography by** Hannah Grennell in collaboration with Jack Sears & the Dance Troupe

Producer Molly McGeachin at The Project People Executive Producer Patrick Bone Co-Producer (The Pleasance) Nic Connaughton Technical Stage Manager Lauren Lambert-Moore Production Manager Helen Duda Marketing Consultant Holly Adomah PR Kevin Wilson

Lighting Designer Lucy Adams Costume Designer Laura Rose Moran-Morris Consultant Set Designer Blythe Brett Sound Designer Rhys Cook AKA Oberon White Costume Maker Rosie Whiting Set Design Assistant Dan Graphic Designer Alice Gorman Photographer Ali Wright Main Image photographer James Frederick Barrett

GISELLE LATE Producer Patrick Bone

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## JACK SEARS (he/him) GISELLE| Co-Creator | Writer

Jack is a multi-disciplinary, working-class, gender-bending homosexual and theatremaker whose work focuses on queerness, sexuality, romance, desire and notions of identity.

He has created two full-length shows, Parris is Dreaming - performed at both the Roundhouse and Pleasance Theatre - and Giselle: Remix, which was part of a soldout, curated evening of performances (which Jack produced) at the Royal Opera House.

Jack was an Associate Artist with The Pleasance, 2021-23 and a Roundhouse Resident Artist 2018-19. He has worked regularly with Jonny Woo as part of his acclaimed Liza Minnelli tribute troupe, trained under the legendary Bourgeois & Maurice on the Soho Theatre Cabaret & Drag Lab and has also created, developed and performed with companies such as Guttersnipe, Relish Theatre and thisEgg.

Taking inspiration from a plethora of artists and art forms – dance, cabaret, stand-up, clown, lipsync, drag and even pop concerts as well as previous work in story-lining for a major British soap, Jack's work is bold and fantastical but always rooted in struggles and experiences of the everyday. Jack's work mixes these disparate influences together to create something wholly new, distinctive and unique. Watching a Jack Sears creation is like nothing you've ever experienced before.

#### **HANNAH** GRENNELL (she/her) Co-Creator | Choreographer

Essex-born Hannah trained with Bronwen Patching at Adagio School of Dance before joining the Royal Ballet Lower School in 2003 and graduating from the Royal Ballet Upper School in 2011. Upon graduation Hannah joined Het Nationale Ballet in Amsterdam for three years before coming back to London to join The Royal Ballet Company in 2014, where she has remained to this day where she is currently a Solist.

She is a highly acclaimed dancer and choreographer whose credits include Woolf Works, The Dante Project, The Nutcracker and Carabosse in Sleeping Beauty - all at the Royal Opera House. She has worked closely with, and contributed to works by, a vast number of legendary choreographers from Wayne McGregor and Crystal Pite to Christopher Wheeldon and Pam Tanowitz.

She is also the Co-Founder of Flux Projects, an interdisciplinary artist collective that supports emerging artists from a range of creative disciplines (including dance, visual art, photography and music), with the aim of providing artists with a platform to

showcase their work, collaborate with each other and connect with communities through events, exhibitions and artist-led workshops.

#### **KIT GREEN** (she/they) Guest Star Performer | Performing 10-13 April

Kit is an Olivier Award winning performer, writer, musician and broadcaster; making accessible entertainments about difficult subjects. With a background as an entertainer in comedy (including Tina C. and Ida Barr) and academic research, their writing, personas and innovative approach to performance has made her a go-to artist for many of the biggest cultural institutions worldwide, with two and a half decades of expertise.

In 2023 Kit was cast in 'The F\*\*gots and Their Friend between Revolutions' which opened at Manchester International Festival, the show came to The Queen Elizabeth Hall at The Southbank Centre in January of this year and will tour internationally closing in New York at the end of 2025.

(Kit was performally known as Christopher Green)

## JONNY WOO (he/him)

Guest Star Performer | Performing 17, 24 & 25 April

Jonny Woo has been performing as a cabaret / drag artist since 2000 and is coowner of East London queer venue, The Divine (formerly The Glory). He cut his teeth in NYC before returning to London where he honed his own version of alternative performance art and drag and cabaret in theclubs of Shoreditch. Jonny has been working with Soho Theatre since 2006, making solo, group and variety shows and will be re-launching his 'Un-Royal Variety' at their new 1000 seater venue in Walthamstow in 2025. He has presented shows at The Edinburgh Fringe, tours Australia and now spearheads his own venue The Divine, which is a leading venue for emerging queer artists.

Jonny has (amongst many other things) opened for Peaches at The Royal Festival Hall, hosted the 500 Year Anniversary of the city of Le Havre, curated a drag ball for The Royal Opera House, hosted MTV parties across Europe, impersonated Mary Portas, cameoed on 'I Hate Suzie' and has lead Glastonbury's notorious gay club The Downlow since 2007 and is currently writing a play 'Silvertown' set in a 1967 Dockland's gay pub. He'll be re-reprising the role of Cleopatra at The Divine this autumn in Shakespeare's, 'Antony and Cleopatra'

### LAVINIA CO-OP (she/her)

Guest Star Performer | Performing 18-20, 26 & 27 April

Lavinia was a founding member of 'The Bloolips' a legendary Gay Musical Comedy Theater Troupe. Touring shows like "Lust In Space" or "GET HUR" across Europe and North America in the late 70's-90's - all six queens in a VW van (the real life Priscilla!). Her solo shows included "Installations in Stilettos" in New York and "Up Yours" in London at the Purcell Room. Most recently Lavinia had appeared in "Escape from Planet Trash" and "How to Catch a Krampus" at the Pleasance Theatre, and "Groove" at Shoreditch Town Hall. She also featured in Bat for Lashes's music video for "Laura". Plus many more night-club method go-go, model, performance art appearances.

#### HARRI EIFFERT (he/they) Dance Troupe

Harri began his training on the DanceEast Centre For Advanced Training Programme (CAT), and during his time there worked with choreographers such as Didy Veldman, Jasmin Vardimon and Richard Alston among others. It was at this time that Harri found his love for the Classical Ballet Form. After his time on the CAT scheme Harri went on to further his training at the prestigious Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance and it was here that Harri discovered and began developing his own movement identity and choreographic voice both independently and with peers whilst working on works for the schools student choreography platform.

He went on to work with Fabula Collective under the choreographic direction of Christopher Marney on a new production EVE which was performed as part of the MOMENTUM festival at Sadlers Wells. Harri has been featured in many Music videos for Internationally renowned Musicians such as Ellie Goulding, Royal Blood and Kamal.

#### ELLE FIERCE (she/they) Dance Troupe

Elle is a performance/visual artist, & DJ based in Berlin & London. Her work speaks to the complexities and nuances of contemporary society, focusing on themes of Transness\*, Queerness\* and Blackness, FIERCE seeks to amplify these underrepresented voices within mainstream discourse and artistic spheres through performance, installation, video and the creation of events/spaces.

# **SPIKE KING** (he/him) Dance Troupe

Spike's training includes Rambert School, The BRIT School and the CAT Scheme at LCDS. He's been in NYDC and ENB youth companies and worked with choreographers Russell Maliphant, Akram Khan and Matthew Bourne's New Adventures. Since graduating Rambert School in 2023 he's performed at the Southbank Centre as part of Christine and the Queens Meltdown Festival, the Royal Opera House for Autumn Draftworks, and a private event with Eartheater, Matieres Fecales and Patrick Mason. He has also worked on dance films produced by Nowness and Somerset House.

## MARIE ASTRID MENCE (she/her)

Dance Troupe

Marie-Astrid Mence was a former student of the Higher National Conservatory of Music and Dance in Paris and a scholarship student at Alvin Ailey School. She joined Ballet Black in 2014 up to 2021 and Phoenix Dance Company in 2015 touring

in the UK and Europe. In 2016 she was promoted "dancer of the month" in February by the Magazine Dancing Times UK.

From 2018 to 2022, Marie-Astrid featured in Disney's series 'Find Me In Paris', OCS production series 'L'Opera' and in Hulu's series "Spellbound" as a body double for lead actress and also featured in Netflix's Queen Charlotte as a dancer. At the end of that year 2020, Marie-Astrid performed, wrote and shared her story in the Nowness short film 'The Truth of Being a Black Ballerina' by Rebecca Murray.

In the same year, she performed a 15-minute solo in 'Oklahoma!' as the lead dancer at the Young Vic then made her West End debut in 2023 at the Wyndhams Theatre. Recently, Marie-Astrid performed as a TEDX speaker in Paris where she talked about the notion of success and the courage to find our voice in an unfair and discriminatory environment.

#### LUCY ADAMS (she/her) Lighting Designer

Lucy is an Essex-born but London-based lighting designer, assistant and technician. She has toured around the UK and Europe and worked extensively at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, as well as assisting on shows such as Crazy for You and Peter Pan in the West End.

In 2019 Lucy became the inaugural winner of the SLX Golden Gobo Award. She is an associate artist with ThisEgg, who she have toured with as a stage manager and technician as well as designing a number of their shows. She has previously been the Technical Manager at Camden People's Theatre, was a Lighting Technician at the National Theatre for two years and Deputy Head of Lighting for the Pleasance in Edinburgh in 2022.

## PATRICK BONE (he/him)

Executive Producer & GISELLE: LATE Producer

Patrick is a Creative Development Executive for TV and Film, currently working across a varied and diverse slate of projects for Netflix. Theatre and live/performance is his first love and he previously worked for Sonia Friedman Productions across development and production. He now works on a freelance basis as a creative and nightlife producer for bold, genre-defying and often queer-led work.

## RHYS COOK - AKA OBERON WHITE (they/she/he)

Rhys Cook is a performance maker, music producer and sound designer, as well as a cabaret performer & host. Under the name Oberon White, they show work in venues for performance & music in the UK and abroad. As a cabaret and drag performer they are a fixture of London's queer performance scene.

Their solo show winegod was developed with the support of Arts Council England and Roundhouse and was presented to audiences across the UK. Their composition and sound design work includes projects for the Royal Ballet, Duckie, SPILL Festival, and The Pleasance. Recent acting credits include creating the role 'And' in the play 'On Railton Road.' Rhys Cook is a graduate of Trinity Laban Conservatoire, former Roundhouse Resident Artist and recent recipient of the Help Musicians Transmission Fund.

## LAUREN LAMBERT-MOORE (she/her)

Technical Stage Manager

Lauren is a director, stage manager and theatre maker. She is a graduate of Central Saint Martins. Lauren trained as an actor with East 15 Acting school and the National Youth Theatre. Lauren is passionate about working on female and queer led work.

Recent credits include 'Gwyneth Goes Skiing' - Associate Director & Stage Manager (Pleasance London), 'The Land Of Lost Content' - Director (UK Tour), 'Far Out' -Director and Co-Producer (VAULT Festival '23 & Omnibus transfer) nominated for VAULT Origins Award. 'Tempest' - Assistant Director & Stage Manager - Wildcard Theatre (Pleasance London), 'Inside Everyone' - Company Stage Manager (Soho Theatre ) 'All Roads' - Stage Manager - Attic Theatre (London Tour) 'Identities' -Company Stage Manager - Close To Home Prod. (UK tours '22 & '23)

## MOLLY MCGEACHIN (she/her)

Producer

Molly is a Creative Producer with 10 years experience producing live performance across theatre, dance, comedy, clown and cabaret. Molly's recent producing credits include: Fool's Moon cabaret (SOHO & UK tour 2024), The Mother Sh\*t - Stumble Trip Theatre (Pleasance Theatre); SHUGA FIXX vs The Illuminati - Guttersnipe Theatre (Pleasance Theatre, Brighton Fringe, CPT & UK Tour); Cell Outs - Glasshouse Theatre (CPT, King's Head Theatre & UK Tour).

Molly is one half of The Project People with Millie Wood-Downie, who are a current Roundhouse Accelerator Company 2024. Molly is also the Co-Artistic Director of Guttersnipe Theatre.

## LAURA ROSE MORAN-MORRIS (she/her)

**Costume Designer** 

Laura Rose Moran-Morris balances work as a costume designer and maker for performance, tutor, technician, workshop facilitator and artist. She has experience in costume for screen (Outlander, Netflix Productions) and stage (Royal Opera House, Trinity Laban), with a particular interest in costume for dance. Laura Rose teaches across UAL on the costume courses and runs a variety of life drawing and character illustration classes. Alongside this, she has own art practice which focuses on creating colourful abstract otherworldly imaginations.

## Enjoyed GISELLE: REMIX?

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