



Welcome from UK Theatre



Welcome to the UK Theatre Awards 2019, held again at the historic Guildhall in the City of London.

Our congratulations to the many nominees, showing the vast range of theatre makers and practitioners throughout the country - an area where the UK proudly leads the world.

This year's ceremony sees the changes recommended by our independent review come to fruition. With a view to making the awards even more relevant and representative of our sector, our awards are now split into On Stage and Off Stage categories, and many have been refreshed to ensure we are celebrating a broader range of the industry's achievements. In order to increase transparency and input from our members, you have been able to share information about your productions with each other, as well as champion your peers' productions and have a clearer understanding of the panel and judging process.

UK's Most Welcoming Theatre Award returns in a revitalised format. It is no longer decided by a public vote but is application based and judged robustly by an independent panel. We thank them and all our judges for their work.

We hope you enjoy a splendid lunch with colleagues from around the country while we celebrate some extraordinary achievements.

Julian Bird Chief Executive

Guildhall



Situated in the heart of the City of London, Guildhall is a magnificent medieval Grade I listed landmark.

It has been a City powerhouse since the 15th century, in which the Lord Mayor of London and the ruling merchant class held court and fine-tuned the laws and trading regulations that helped create London's wealth.

Today, 600 years on, Guildhall is still home to the City of London Corporation and acts as a grand setting for glittering banquets in honour of visiting Heads of State and other dignitaries, royal occasions and receptions for major historical anniversaries. Guildhall is also the site of the largest medieval crypt in London dating back to the 14th century.

The Great Hall, where the UK Theatre Awards are taking place today, is Guildhall's largest and most impressive room. With its imposing Gothic stained glass windows and high-arched ceiling, it has entertained royalty and many of the historic greats throughout the centuries since it was originally built in 1411.

Judging the Awards

UK THEATRE AWARDS

For 2019 the awards categories have been refreshed to reflect the contemporary priorities of the UK's theatre industry. The categories were divided into On Stage and Off Stage awards.

The On Stage awards were decided through a nominations and panel judging process. Members were given the chance to champion the productions that they felt were outstanding from throughout the year for consideration by the judging panels.

The Off Stage categories were judged by the Off Stage panel, with the award for Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre given by invitation of the UK Theatre Board.

On Stage

Theatre:

Arifa Akbar Clare Brennan Dominic Cavendish Mark Fisher Sam Marlowe Grania McFadden Mark Shenton Natasha Tripney Chaired by Julian Bird

Opera:

Henrietta Bredin Rupert Christiansen George Hall Chaired by Julian Bird

Dance:

Andrew Hurst Donald Hutera Sanjoy Roy Anna Winter Chaired by Roger Spence

Off Stage

Fiona Allan Chris Glover Michèle Taylor Chaired by Julian Bird

UK's Most Welcoming Theatre

Julian Flitter Amanda Huxtable Andrew Miller Danielle Ward Chaired by Julian Bird



Host - Jodie Prenger



Jodie is currently starring in the National Theatre's touring production of A Taste Of Honey, which is transferring to the West End in December to play a 12 week season at the Trafalgar Studios. Her recent theatre work includes tours of Abigail's Party, Shirley Valentine, Annie, Fats Friends, Tell Me On A Sunday and Calamity Jane. In the West End she has starred in Oliver! at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane; One Man, Two Guvnors at Theatre Royal Haymarket; Spamalot at the Playhouse, and appeared in Les Misérables inaugural production at the Dubai Opera House. Jodie has starred in pantomime at the Liverpool Empire and Birmingham Hippodrome.

Jodie's television acting work includes Years And Years, Jamie Johnson, Citizen Khan, Casualty, Wizards Vs Aliens, Candy Cabs and Waterloo Road. Her television presenting work includes Let's Dance For Comic Relief, Top Dog, Over The Rainbow and Let It Shine.

UK THEATRE AWARDS

Guildhall, City of London

Sunday 27 October

Presented by UK Theatre

Kindly supported by Harbottle & Lewis, Integro Entertainment & Sport, John Good, Seatgeek, Theatre Tokens and White Light.

Executive Producer: Julian Bird

Interim Head of UK Theatre & Awards General Manager: Katie Kerry UK Theatre Team: Hannah Gagen, Helen Rynne, Miriam Nicholson-Butcher, Annie Waugh & Natalie Wood

Awards Administrator: Catherine Bowell

Awards Coordinator: Russell Morton

Press & Media: Emma De Souza & Eva Mason

Presenter Manager: Harriet Usher

VT Coordinator: Aemelia Taylor

Production Manager: Lee Batty
Production: Peter Bradbury for White Light

Design: Alex Tranda & Tess Pilgrim

Trophy Presenters: Nadia Violet Johnson & Tom Francis **Musical Director/Piano**: Ben Stock

Double Bass: Liz Falkner

Catering: Tim Cramp at Party Ingredients

With special thanks to Bryan Raven, Pirate Crew, the City of London for use of the Guildhall, and the many presenters, producers, managers, agents, panel members and theatrical talent for their help.





Sir Cameron Mackintosh

The New York Times has described this year's Gielgud laureate as "the most successful, influential, and powerful theatrical producer in the world." Knighted in 1996, Sir Cameron is globally renowned for such musical classics as Cats, Les Misérables, Mary Poppins, Miss Saigon, Oliverl, and The Phantom of the Opera. As Chairman of Delfont Mackintosh Theatres, he presides over eight of London's most storied venues, all of which he has tastefully refurbished as shrines to the UK's unique heritage in the dramatic arts. Meanwhile, through the Mackintosh Foundation, he and his fellow Trustees provide support not only for arts and culture but for health care and other worthy causes. This year's Award will be presented at the Gielgud Theatre on Monday the 28th, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the renaming of what would have been known as the Globe when Sir John performed there.



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Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre

Emma Rice

Emma Rice has been creating unique, innovative and socially relevant theatre all around the UK for over two decades. She has made an impact on the shape of UK theatre not only through her productions themselves but through her leadership and creative bravery.

Emma studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and began performing at Kneehigh in the 1990s. After performing, directing and eventually being appointed Joint Artistic Director at Kneehigh, Emma became Artistic Director of Shakespeare's Globe in 2016.

Significant and critically acclaimed productions directed by Emma Rice include: The Flying Lovers Of Vitebsk, Tristan And Yseult, The Wild Bride, The Red Shoes, Brief Encounter and A Matter Of Life And Death for Kneehigh; the West End production of The Umbrellas Of Cherbourg; the Shakespeare's Globe productions Romantics Anonymous and A Midsummer Night's Dream; the RSC production of The Empress.

Last year, she founded her own company based in Bristol – Wise Children – who also run a professional development programme that aims to train a new and more diverse generation of theatremakers.

Wise Children's productions to date include national tours of Angela

Carter's Wise Children and Enid Blyton's Malory Towers for Wise Children. The company recently announced that a new adaptation of Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights is currently in the works and due to tour across the UK from autumn 2020.

A fearless contributor to the landscape of UK theatre, Emma is a fierce champion of regional theatre. Grounding herself in community and passionate about building up a new generation of bold and alternative theatremakers; the mark that Emma's warm yet avant-garde presence has made on the landscape of UK theatre is far from over.

