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AMPLIFY SEASONS: SUMMER



PROGRAMME

Friday 24 July 2026

NOTTINGHAM
PLAYHOUSE

WELCOME TO AMPLIFY SEASONS: SUMMER 2026

We hear a lot about audiences and theatres not taking risks on new work and unknown artists. By attending SEASONS, you are bucking the trend! THANK YOU! We're here to celebrate the talent and voices within the Midlands, to give artists the chance to try out new material and for some to get their first professional credit on the stage of their home theatre. And as an audience, you get the opportunity to feed into the creative process and see works grow over time.

If this is the first time you've come to our Neville Studio, welcome. We programme work here year-round. We also produce a Christmas show for 3-8 year olds and their families, made by Midlands artists – this year it's Cinderella.

The rest of the year we programme visiting work against three strands – family work, work of national significance and Midlands artists' work. So, SEASONS is not your only chance to support local. Do check out the upcoming programme for other exciting shows.

TONIGHT we've got a triple bill featuring two local companies sharing extracts of their shows about to head up to Edinburgh Fringe, plus a work-in-progress show. Our headline show is Made You Look, created by an entirely East Midlands based team. Programming for SEASONS is open all year round, enabling us to provide a platform for artists and their work when they need it.

SUMMER features artists in our triple bill who have all developed their craft through programmes at Nottingham Playhouse over the years – Grace and Noah came through our pre-professional development programme Homegrown, and Dan once upon a time did their work experience here. The work they are making is fresh, new and exciting and I'm thrilled to be hosting them tonight.

Big thanks to the artists and performers for making work, taking risks and being brave about sharing their work in its infancy; to our captioner Kathryn McAuley; to Eden Peppercorn, Leila Glen and the various teams at Nottingham Playhouse that make these events happen.

And finally thanks also to the Fenton Arts Trust and the Noel Coward Foundation, who have supported SEASONS financially in its first year.

At this stage in development feedback is crucial – it helps shape the work, it builds confidence, it's useful for making a case for funding, and supporting evaluation processes. Please do take five minutes, if you can spare it to jot down your responses, reactions, thoughts. And finally if you enjoy the shows, find them on social media, give them a follow, comment, share, or tell your mates – they're trying to build their audiences and you can be a part of that too. I hope you have a really good night.

Beccy
Artist Development Producer

WE COULD BE HEROES

A Work-In- Progress Triple Bill

Start Time
6.45pm

Age Guidance
14+



Captioned
Performance



Chilled
Performance



**A Foot Is Not An
Appropriate Prize
For The Tombola**
by Dan McVey



Brick
by Noah Xavier



**every God has its
day**
by Grace Carter

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A Foot Is Not An Appropriate Prize For The Tombola by Dan McVey



Written and performed by
Dan McVey

Trigger Warnings

Strong language and
references to mutilation
and murder

This show contains
audience interaction

After a severed foot is found in one of the tombola prizes, Lydia is determined not to let it ruin the village fete. But as the revelations get more bizarre, and Lydia attempts to work out “whodunnit”, it appears there might be a more horrific truth to the village than anyone realised.

A camp and comedic interactive murder mystery inspired by the worlds of cosy crime and cosmic horror, performed by vibrant storyteller Dan McVey. Prepare to be intrigued, entertained and leave questioning the wild world we live in.

About Writer Dan McVey

Dan (he/they) is a Nottingham UK based Writer, Director, Theatre-maker, and Stage Manager and was a 2024/25 New Associate for New Perspectives. Lots of the work they create revolves around disassembling the canon through adaptation and queering narratives. He works with existing and standard forms, and structures then explodes them from within and mashes them together. Quite often their work appears to be fairly traditional theatre or performance at the beginning before descending into something more movement-based, poetic, or expressional.

Dan has been playwrighting for eight years including an adaptation of Doctor Faustus which he originally directed in 2018 and was recently revived in 2024 for a new production. One of his latest plays, Gnaw, has had incredibly well received performances in 2024 at Nottingham Playhouse and University of Nottingham. Their script, Richard of York, was a top 10 finalist in the Carlo Annoni International Playwriting Award 2024.

Brick

by Noah Xavier



Written by Noah Xavier
Directed by Ren Flashner &
Maria Ramjee

Cast

James - Noah Xavier
The Man - Cai Grufford

Brick is supported in
development by BoonDog
Theatre and The Liverpool
Institute for Performing Arts.

Trigger Warnings

Foul language, homophobia,
references to violence and
femicide, suicide and suicidal
ideation, sex references

James is stuck. Literally. Adrenalised and alone with an unconscious cellmate in a police holding cell after throwing a brick during a queer rights protest, he unpacks the experiences that brought him here. Pulled into protest culture through a crush on an artist-activist, personal grief and political fury collide with dark humour and raw confession in this urgent and powerful new play examining how systemic neglect pushes vulnerable people toward dangerous obsessions and extreme acts.

About Left For Dead Theatre

Left For Dead Theatre are a Northwest and Midlands based company who specialise in creating intimate, queer and political theatre that focuses on systemic injustice and change. Their work aims to make audiences think about the morality of the societal institutions and power structures that surround them.

About BoonDog Theatre

BoonDog Theatre is a multi-award-winning collaborative theatre company based in the Midlands, creating exciting new character driven stories that start conversations that last long beyond the audience leaving the theatre. Their work is darkly comic, aims for the heart, and what they describe as “covertly political”. BoonDog Theatre are proud to be Associate Artists of the Royal and Derngate, Northampton, and are supporting Brick via their inaugural BoonDog Theatre Edinburgh Mentorship Scheme.

every God has its day

by Grace Carter



When failed hostage negotiator Kris Smoth accidentally saves a life during a bungled call, she's catapulted into global stardom overnight. But as fame, followers, and media frenzy close in, can Kris keep the real story buried in our hyper-connected world?

Written by Grace Carter

Performed by

Grace Carter
Stef White
Hannah Dunlop
Lydia Page

Trigger Warnings

Strong language, themes
of domestic abuse and
suicide

every God has its day
examines how easily we
create heroes - just to turn
them into villains.

Ngl it's literally a nightmare.
And a total vibe.

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About Writer Grace Carter

Grace Carter is a writer, dramaturg and actor from Nottingham. She was part of Nottingham Playhouse's Writers Group (2024) and a New Associate at New Perspectives Theatre (24/25). Her work includes Yeah, No, Fine. co-created with Emma Gray (Messy Unity Festival and Amplify Festival, Nottingham Playhouse, 2023/24), Pubtalk, shortlisted for the ATG Playwright's Prize (2023), and Paperweight (ACE-funded R&D, New Perspectives, 2026).

HEADLINE
SHOW

MAD
YOU
LOOK

Ty'rone Haughton's One-Man Poetry Show

26/27 TOUR



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Made You Look

by Ty'rone Haughton

Made You Look is a visceral and explosive one-man poetry show interrogating masculinity and what it means to be an immigrant in a Britain growing increasingly hostile towards minorities and women. This is more than just words on a stage, it's performance poetry at its most potent and vital.

Writer and performer Ty'rone Haughton delivers a fiercely honest and lyrically rich piece that dives deep into masculinity, identity, vulnerability, and survival. The show fuses poetry, physical theatre, visual art, and sound to create a deeply emotional, at times unbearable, but profoundly necessary experience.

Ty'rone's presence is both commanding and tender — the audience is captivated, challenged, and ultimately changed as Ty'rone flawlessly holds the audience in the palm of his hand, ensuring a safe if turbulent voyage.

Start Time

8.30pm

Triggers

Strong language, references to racial trauma, suicide and mental health struggles

Age Guidance

14+



Captioned
Performance



Chilled
Performance

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Cast and Creatives

Written and Performed by Ty'rone Haughton

Producer / Director
Finley-Rose Townsend

Sound Designer
Chawe Chewesday

Designer
Gemma Caseley-Kirk

Movement Director
Corey Campbell

Photographer / Videographer
Paul Stringer



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BECOME AN AMPLIFY MEMBER

We know that the Midlands – both East and West, is full of talented theatre-makers and we want Nottingham Playhouse to be a hub for artists.

Whether you're fresh out of education, early in your career, or someone who has been making professional work for several years, we want to be there for you. We are committed to developing a network where ideas can be shared, challenged and grown.

Become an Amplify Member for free and get access to opportunities including:

- Quarterly AMPLIFY:SEASONS events
- Scratch nights
- Networking events
- Masterclasses
- Co-working opportunities
- One to one mentoring & guidance sessions
- Access to our Amplify Forum

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