



# DARE TO KNOW

## THEATRE

## INVITES

## 2022

### Programme

Kenneth Alan Taylor

Blue Balloon Theatre - Nick Maynard

Libby Hall - In Parallel

Urussa Malik - Paris Rogers & Grace Mair

&

Introducing our next community play  
'Leap of Faith'.

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## THEATRE

### INVITES

First of all, thank you for choosing to spend your Thursday evening with us, at the theatre. This years invites night is our third, and we're really proud to be part of Oldham Coliseum Theatre's Cultivate Festival on the Main Stage!

If you don't know who we are, we're Dare to Know Theatre, a theatre company from Oldham, dedicated to making work with and for our local community. Today you will be the first people to see a section from our next community play 'Leap of Faith', which is coming to The Coliseum Main Stage for one night only! 4th of October 2022, so bookmark your diary, and if you enjoy what you see, we would love for you to join us then as well!

We have a wonderful evening lined up for you, so sit back, grab a drink, and enjoy the show.

Jake and Miranda DTK x

# Leap of Faith

by Jake Talbot  
Directed by Miranda Parker

A play created with and for  
The Oldham Community



DARE TO KNOW  
THEATRE

Thursday 4th October

Tickets: £7

Oldham Coliseum Theatre



[www.daretoknowtheatre.com/shows-and-tickets](http://www.daretoknowtheatre.com/shows-and-tickets)



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Last year, our previous community play 'One for Sorrow, Two for Joy' was one our favourite projects so far, it's exactly what we always intended to do from the beginning with Dare to Know Theatre. That's why this year, with our Associate Artist slot at Oldham Coliseum Theatre we knew we wanted to do the same again, bring a group of people from Oldham, of all different ages, backgrounds and abilities together to create a brand new play that tells our story. Bringing Oldham stories to Oldham stages.

'Leap of Faith' follows Dan, a young lad from Oldham who feels his life is at a standstill, a lack of opportunity and clashes with family cause him to decide to move away, and you bet that every man and his dog has an opinion on it.

We were interested in hearing why people stay in Oldham and why people feel the need to leave to succeed, this leads to obvious questions about what success means to you?

Leap of Faith is on sale now, a community cast of 30, and a lot of fun, if you enjoy the sections tonight, we hope that you will make it along on the 4th of October.

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INVITES

413 Liverpool Street

Written & Performed by

Libby Hall

Directed by

Joseph Walsh



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### INVITES

- **Libby Hall** - Libby is a writer/actress born and bred in Salford. She began her writing career aged 16 when she wrote 'Things we tell the hours after midnight' which won best newcomer and best ensemble at the Greater Manchester Fringe. Since then, she has been writer in residence at Salford Arts Theatre and is currently developing her fourth play for them. In June, she had her short story 'Nana's magic medicine' published in 'Tales of the bold, the brave and the beautiful' by Stories of Care and Manchester Metropolitan University.
- **Joseph Walsh** - Joseph is a Manchester based creative. He wrote and directed Frozen Peas In An Old Tin Can which won most innovative use of space award and was nominated for best newcomer at the 2019 Greater Manchester Fringe Awards. Other writing credits include Like Dad, Like Duck (Oldham Coliseums Off Out competition winner). Acting credits include New Dawn Fades (UK Tour), Hobson's Choice (Salford Arts Theatre), It's a Wonderful Life (The Way Theatre). He is currently working as an assistant director on Blood Harmony by Thickskin Theatre which premiered at the Lowry Theatre and is now touring.

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### The Train

Written by

**Paris Rogers & Grace Mair**

Directed by Miranda Parker

Starring

Jessica Baskind, Bronte Appleby,  
Rosa Brooks & Lucie Jowett



- **Grace Mair** - Grace left Xaverian College in 2019 and now works as a teaching assistant in Manchester. This is the first piece of writing she had the courage to show anyone.
- **Paris Rogers** - Paris Rogers trained at The Arden School of theatre, since grating she has had her writing produced at The Lowry, Salford arts, The Viaduct, Kings Arms, 53TWO, Leicester square.
- **Jess Baskind** - Jess is a northern actor, who graduated from the Arden in 2019. Since then, she has worked with Up 'Ere Productions, Leo+Hyde, and most recently, Dare to Know Theatre.
- **Bronte Appleby** - Bronte Appleby is an actor, writer and producer from Manchester. Her acting work includes:
  - The Regulars (Santana Productions) Aladdin (Outside The Box Productions) Body of Knowledge (Sick! Festival) Cock of the Walk (Waterside Arts) and The Suppliant Women (Royal Exchange Theatre, ATC.) She is Creative Associate at Switch\_MCR and has just finished research and development period on her full-length debut play. She's buzzing to be back at Dare to Know Theatre Invites!
- **Rosa Brooks** - Rosa is currently training at Arden school of Theatre, going into her second year. Rosa recently appeared in Emmerdale, it reminds her that it is the start of big things.
- **Lucie Brooks** - Lucie trained at The Arden School of Theatre and The National Youth Theatre. Lucie's credits include: Miss Shag A Lot (Sam) - Something Good Theatre, Ships In The Night (Kara)- National Youth Theatre, The Tiger Who Came To Tea (Narrator)- @ Z-Arts, A Spiralling Mind (Sian) - Odd Arts, Just One Favour (Jax) - Odd Arts.

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## THEATRE

### Making a Myth

written by

Urussa Malik

Directed by Leni Murphy

Starring

Imogen Woodward, Nadia Watson &  
Madison Freeman



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- **Urussa Malik** - A writer from Manchester, Pakistan and West Yorkshire! Working in Bradford Producing Hub and in an art gallery in Manchester but above all, finding the will to edit my first drafts.
- **Leni Murphy** - Leni Murphy is an actor, director and dramaturg based in Manchester. Leni is the founder and artistic director of theatre company Asphalt Roses and has a podcast called 'Audio Allegories' which is bedtime stories for adults with insomnia.
- Leni's next project will be directing a brand new play in collaboration with Bluestocking Theatre Company from the pen of Victoria Tunnah called 'They Came for my Mother'.
- **Imogen Woodward** - Imogen is an Actor from Oldham. She trained at UCLA and graduated in 2021 with a First Class honours degree. She has recently filmed her first professional TV job on Coronation Street.
- Having worked at the Coliseum this year, she is looking forward to performing on the stage with Dare to Know Theatre.
- **Nadia Watson** - Nadia Watson is a Oldham based actress who was born in London and raised in Essex. She graduated with a First Class BA Hons in Acting from University Campus Oldham. Most recently she featured in an online advert for National Crime Agency.
- **Imogen Woodward** - Madison Freeman is an actor, writer and theatre company director. Studied Theatre and Performance at University, Madison has put on her own work at The Royal Exchange, EXCEL Festival and NSDF. She has also worked with organisations such as; Manchester International Festival and Rochdale Literature and Ideas Festival. Her goals are to finish writing her very own musical, as well as be an independent co-owner/actor to her theatre company LITBM.

# DARE TO KNOW

## THEATRE

INVITES

**See it, Say it, Sorted?**

written and performed by

**Jas Nisic**

Directed by Jessica Bowker

With

**Blue Balloon Theatre**



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- **Blue Balloon Theatre** - Blue Balloon Theatre is a female led, Manchester based and non-profit theatre company. The company acts as a platform for actors & creatives to develop and showcase their own, original work and were nominated for Best Regular Open Mic 2022 as part of the Sabatuer Awards.
- The company is co-run by two working class creatives from North Manchester; Rebecca Phythian, an actor, singer and poet, who founded the company in 2016 and her best friend, Jas Nisic, actor, singer, songwriter, who joined in 2017.
- See it, Say it, Sorted? Is an autobiographical theatre piece written by Jas Nisic that explores the themes of sexual assault; dating as a teenager and online dating. The piece is driven by storytelling through music, spoken word, comedy and original songs. Jas is excited to be partnered with Rape Crisis UK to work together to end sexual violence.
- **Jas Nisic** - Jas Nisic is a working-class Actor-Singer-Songwriter, unapologetically Mancunian and part of the LGBTQ+ community. She graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in Musical Theatre and has worked with Frantic Assembly and Showstopper! An improvised musical. She is also the Creative Executive of Blue Balloon Theatre, a female led platform for creatives to showcase their own work.
- **Jessica Anderson** - Jessica was born and bred in Oldham and is an all round creative, actress and director. Her most recent directional work includes 'Young Love' by Jake Talbot (Oldham Coliseum), assistant director for 'Second Summer of Love' (Queen Elizabeth Hall), assistant director of 'Chaos' by Laura Lomas (HOME MCR) and 'Boogie to the Bass' devised by Jess herself (Grange Arts Centre). Jess also runs her own theatre company and children's Drama school 'ReAction Performing Arts' and has loved collaborating with Blue Balloon Theatre and Dare to Know Theatre once again

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Passing Time

written by

Nick Maynard

Directed by Jeff Longmore

Starring

Daniel Brennan



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- **Nick Maynard** - Nick is a working-class writer and artist based in Manchester. He has had his work performed at The Arcola, Chicken & Hen, The Bunker [Southwark], The White Bear [Kennington] and The Southwark Playhouse [as part of Director's Cut]. In 2017 he was showcased at the first LGBTQ Festival in Sligo [Northern Ireland] and had work performed at The Royal Exchange as part of Mother's Bloomers. He has also been placed on the Bruntwood 100 List, The Verity Bargate 100 List, The Old Vic 12's 200 List - as well as long and short listed for the Kudos/BBC Northern Writers Award 2018, the Alfred Bradley Bursary Award 2019, the 2019 BBC Comedy Writing Award and Papatango's New Writing Award in 2019 and 2020. Last year his play *Quaranteen* won the V International Young Theatre Playwriting Contest and will be translated and published in Spanish later on this year.
- **Jeff Longmore** - Jeff has directed many plays and Musicals including Les Misérables, Bugsy Malone, Oliver, Wizard of Oz for Charter Theatre Preston. 2 National tours of Rita, Sue and Bob, giving Suranne Jones her first acting job. Carousel at Oldham Coliseum, September in the Rain at Lyceum Theatre. Numerous shows for Oldham Theatre Workshop and writing and directing Aladdin, Mother Goose, Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk, Dick Whittington, at Derby Playhouse, Forum Theatre Wythenshawe, Grange Theatre Oldham, and in his home town of Stoke -on-Trent at the Theatre Royal.
- **Daniel Brennan** - Theatre: Mr Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*; Ford in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*; Landlord in *Two*; Mr Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer*. Film: MacMillian in *Seat 25* and Mr Broadbent in the upcoming *Remembering the Future*. Audio: *Doctor Who* and *Blake's 7* for Big Finish. TV: a very attentive paramedic in various episodes of *Coronation Street*; Mr Elms in the new ITV drama *The Long Shadow*.

# DARE TO KNOW

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INVITES

Make-Up

written and directed by

Dan Costello

Starring

Stacey Coleman & Sue Fulton

With

In Parallel

In P \ R \ V L L E L



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- **In Parallel** - Founded by Stacey Coleman and Sue Fulton, was inspired by other female led groups in the Northwest, In Parallel Productions was formed to create work giving Northern Women a voice and to show that there is a place for over thirties, working class women, who are not what would be deemed as 'high profile', at the table. Our ethos is Northern creatives working side by side, helping each other on our own separate creative journeys, not against each other.
- **Dan Costello** - Dan is a creative, Writer and Director with a passion to inspire. His writing achievements include; Finalist in New Writing North & Lime Pictures Writing for Television Award, Top 14% of entries in the BBC Comedy Writers room, Runner-Up in Film Daily's Screenwriting Competition and his Short Drama Film 'Occupied' won an official selection award at numerous Film Festival's. Dan is a proud member of Script Writing North and is currently in development with Reel One Productions. In recent years Dan has been a Director for northern based Theatre Company Altru Drama working on a variety of performances and is now excited to be returning to the theatre with In Parallel Productions.

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## One Day I'll Be Famous

Written and directed by

**Kenneth Alan Taylor**

Starring

George Miller, Kerry Willison Parry,  
Leslie Davidoff, Ollie Booth, Sam Courtney  
& Linda McLoughlin



# A London Pub

1959

## The meeting place for actors

- **Kenneth Alan Taylor** - Kenneth has had a long career in theatre as an actor, writer and Artistic Director at Nottingham Playhouse and Oldham Coliseum Theatre. He is the recipient of Manchester Theatre Award for Best Actor in Leading role for "The Father" and best supporting actor for "The Price" best production for "A different Way Home" and the Horniman award for "Outstanding contribution to theatre" Kenneth also received an Honorary Doctor of Letters from Nottingham University. This year Kenneth received the British Empire Medal for services to theatre. Kenneth has written and directed 36 pantomimes for Nottingham Playhouse He also has a bus named after him by Nottingham City Transport!
- **George Miller** - George is a Manchester based Actor. He trained at The Arden School of Theatre. George is thrilled to be working with Dare to Know for the first time.
- **Kerry Willison Parry**- Kerry graduated from The Bridge Theatre Training Company, London in 2013 and she has played roles from Shakespeare to musical theatre, working in the UK and USA. Prior to her professional acting career Kerry taught Drama to 11-18-year-olds and performed in South Cumbria. In 2019 Kerry played Joan Crawford in BETTE AND JOAN at Hope Mill Theatre in Manchester. In 2020 she played Ann Simms in WINGS and Jude in SECOND LIFE both for Theatre by the Lake and most recently, Kerry played the role of Steph in a new play KIN at The Dukes, Lancaster.
- Television: CORONATION STREET, EMMERDALE.
- **Leslie Davidoff** - Leslie Davidoff, originally from London, now based in West Yorkshire, is an experienced and versatile actor in theatre and tv, including Fagin in Oliver Twist and roles in Peaky Blinders and Coronation Street. Most recently the comedic element in a Maltesers commercial and as the doomed forecourt attendant Lester in The Baby for HBO/Sky.



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- **Ollie Booth** - Ollie is an actor originally from Preston who graduated with a Masters in Professional Acting from ALRA North in 2019. He is returning to the Coliseum having performed last year in the Micro Commissions festival in the short play 'A Brew, a Terrace and the 184'
- **Sam Courtney** - Sam Courtney is a Manchester based Actor. He graduated from Arden in 2007. His last job was a crown paint advert..very skilled painter!! He has experience in short films and theatre and he is also a writer. He's written scenes for my showreel and he is currently writing a play that he hopes to put on in Manchester in the new year. He's very proud to be taking part in the Dare to Know Invites evening at the Oldham Coliseum.
- **Linda Mcoughlin** - Since retirement Linda, has confined herself to Professional Role Play work. Therefore, she is absolutely delighted to be a part of this play. She has long admired the work of the writer Kenneth Allen Taylor which for her is the icing on the cake.

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We want to give a huge moment of congratulations to our community cast, who we have literally thrown in the deep end tonight, with 3 rehearsals to put today's performance together.

Leap of Faith Community Cast: Kyle Barnett, Richard Parker, Eleanor Prestwich, Liam Pennington, Stacey Thompson, Abi Connolly, Flynn Eade, Ioana Papa, Jade Rothera, Jean Denbigh, Jenni Crighton, Julie Wolfenden, Katherine Wyers, Nathan Hill, Nilton de Sousa, Shakeel Jones, Ryan Roberts, Sam Wolfbane, Sue Radcliffe, Sue Wakefield, Taylor Bowden, Kieron Moore, Josh Wilkinson, Sophie Heffron

Dare to Know Theatre Invites 2022 would not have been possible without the amazing support of the local community and businesses.

We want to give a huge thanks to 1853 Studios, Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Shaw Playhouse and Interclubbers Bar. Please do check them out if you get the chance.

