



HOME announces new season for 2020

- Featuring world and UK premieres and new HOME commissions
- Season features many returning favourites including Hofesh Shechter, Figs in Wigs, Jinkx Monsoon and Peaches Christ
- Three festivals will showcase the most exciting theatre being made

Images can be downloaded here: <http://bit.ly/372sHUE>

HOME have unveiled a stunning new season for 2020 - featuring glam aliens, zombies, fictitious artists and a show that puts the period in period adaptation.

There are world and UK premieres, new HOME commissions, famous names and artists making their breakthroughs. There are works that are thoughtful, immersive, harrowing and funny.

HOME

Tickets will go on general sale on Friday (Nov 15) with a friends and members pre-sale in advance.

The biggest, glitteriest and most glamorous show of the season is ***Insane Animals*** (28 Feb – 14 Mar), a modern mythical musical, proudly presented by HOME and Bourgeois & Maurice. This world premiere from the cult cabaret duo is a queer unravelling of past and present, fact and fiction, life and death.

There's thrilling new work from Hofesh Shechter Company with ***Double Murder*** (13 May – 16 May), presenting two distinctly contrasting pieces exploring societal schisms and human kinship. There'll be UK premieres of two touring shows, the strikingly original and audacious play ***Amsterdam*** (15 Apr – 18 Apr), Matthew Xia's first production as Artistic Director of Actors Touring Company, and David Hoyle's lacerating and riotous ***Ten Commandments*** (9 Apr). And HOME favourites Figs in Wigs return with ***Little Wimmin*** (5 Mar – 14 Mar), a live art feminist adaptation of Louise May Alcott's novel (spoiler alert: Beth dies)

We have an international first as Atresbandes and Bert & Nasi collaborate for the very first time with the tale of the fictitious artist Patrick Watson ***It Don't Worry Me*** (5 & 6 May), Mind the Gap and Gecko Theatre's intricately crafted ***A Little Space*** (12 Feb – 15 Feb), Ad Infinitum's powerful ***Extraordinary Wall of Silence*** (12 Feb – 22 Feb) and Cheryl Martin's immersive and moving ***One Woman*** (2 Jul – 4 Jul).

Three festivals will showcase the most exciting theatre around, from our annual celebration of the North West's creative talents, ***PUSH***, to a packed programme for ***Horizons Festival*** marking Refugee Week and the very best emerging theatre companies in the country in ***Incoming Festival***.

There's also a host of shows by touring companies, including many returning favourites. Jessie Cave returns to HOME after a sold-out run earlier this year with ***Cave Women*** (11 & 12 Jun) a work in progress with her sister Bebe, and the long-endured cabaret duo Jinkx Monsoon and Major Scales are ***Together Again, Again!*** (1 & 2 May).

Or take your pick from Poltergeist Theatre's existential comedy caper ***Art Heist***, the technicolour coming-of-age tale ***Poet in Da Corner*** (24 Mar – 28 Mar), the hilarious homage ***The Strange Tale of Stan Laurel and Charlie Chaplin*** (4 Feb – 8 Feb), or a love song to George A. Romero, ***Night of the Living Dead – Remix*** (18 Mar – 21 Mar).

The “magnetic” and “brilliant” Jess Thom, co-founder of Touretteshero, brings Samuel Beckett's ***Not I*** (31 Mar – 2 Apr) and following a hugely successful *Drag Becomes Her* last year, Peaches Christ tackles the Addams Family in ***Addams Apple Family Values*** (27 May – 30 May).



We've appearances from **Mark Thomas** (11 Apr), **Roddy Doyle** (8 Mar), **Alexei Sayle** (31 Jan & 1 Feb) and **Adam Buxton**, and the **Hope and Resistance** series (various dates) continues with editor, critic and broadcaster Ellah Wakatama Allfrey OBE in conversation with some incredible names, including Christina Lamb, Aminatta Forna and Lindsey Hilsum. And last but not least, **Manchester Camerata** orchestra will perform alongside award-winning group Kabantu (4 Apr), a group of musicians who are re-inventing global sounds from their multicultural home of Manchester.

To book tickets, visit homemcr.org. or call 0161 200 1500.

The season in depth:

Bourgeois & Maurice's Insane Animals

Presented by HOME

Making its world premiere at HOME, Insane Animals is an epic joyride from the dawn of civilisation to the sequinned near future. With the planet in chaos and humanity hurtling towards extinction, two hyper-glam aliens arrive on earth with a simple mission: to help the human species survive. But first they just have to figure out what makes humans human...how hard can it be?

This brand-new mind-bending, time-travelling musical comedy from "modern day music hall stars" (Guardian) Bourgeois & Maurice is packed with songs that are satirical, sharp, side-splitting and salty, with a hero's journey that is out of this world.

Written by George Heyworth and Liv Morris

Directed by Phillip McMahon

Fri 28 Feb 2020 – Sat 14 Mar 2020

Tickets £15 – £29 full / £13 – £27 concs

The Complete Works: Hope & Resistance

Focusing on leading international writers, each conversation will dive deep into their imaginations and motivations, drawing on their complete body of work. Our conversations will take a fresh look at their work and the impact it's had on how we understand the events of our time, the world we live in, our relationships and what it means to be human.



Presented by editor, critic & broadcaster Ellah Wakatama Allfrey OBE, writers appearing next year include:

- Christina Lamb (16 Dec 2019) - One of Britain's leading foreign correspondents and the author of eight books including *I Am Malala* and *The Girl from Aleppo: Nujeen's Escape from War to Freedom in a Wheelchair*.
- Aminatta Forna (20 Jan 2020) – Aminatta's novels including *Happiness* and *The Hired Man*, have been translated into twenty two languages. Her essays have appeared in *Freeman's*, *Granta*, *The Guardian*, *LitHub*, *The Nation*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Observer* and *Vogue*. She has written stories for BBC radio and written and presented television documentaries.
- Lindsey Hilsum (19 Feb 2020) - A trusted and familiar face as Channel 4 News International Editor, Lindsey Hilsum has reported on conflicts from around the world through her career – from Syria to Rwanda to Iraq. The author of two works of non-fiction, one on Libya and one the biography of fellow correspondent Marie Colvin, her work is carried out in times of crisis when the human condition is most laid bare.

16 Dec 2019 / 20 Jan 2020 / 19 Feb 2020

Tickets £15 full / £12 concs

Push Festival 2020

Push Festival is our annual celebration of the North West's creative talents. Over two weeks, our stages, screens and spaces will be dedicated to showcasing fantastic works from around the region, as well as offering opportunities for creatives to meet industry professionals, share ideas and inspiration and develop their skills.

Sat 18 Jan - Sat 1 Feb

Alexei Sayle: Live Tour

Alexei Sayle has been performing stand up for forty years since the day he invented modern comedy. He'd like to stay at home with his cat but he's still really funny, dangerously political and wildly energetic so he feels compelled to do a live tour. The least you can do is to come and see him.

Fri 31 Jan 2020 – Sat 1 Feb 2020



Tickets £22.50 full / £17.50 conc

The Strange Tale of Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel

Co commissioned by the London International Mime Festival.

In 1910 the unknown Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel set sail for New York as part of Fred Karno's famous music hall troupe. On this journey, Charlie and Stan shared a cabin and then spent two years together touring North America, with Stan as Charlie's understudy. Stan returned home, later finding success with his soulmate Oliver Hardy. Charlie developed his Little Tramp character and within five years became one of the most famous figures in the world.

In Charlie Chaplin's highly detailed autobiography Stan Laurel is never mentioned.

Stan talked about Charlie all his life.

Playing fast and loose with the facts and with an original piano score composed by Mercury Award Nominee Zoe Rahman – The Strange Tale of Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel is no nostalgic bio-drama, but a hilarious and deeply moving homage to two men who changed the world of comedy forever.

The events in this play are fictional. This play is certainly not endorsed by the estates of Charlie Chaplin, Stan Laurel or anyone else for that matter!

Told by an Idiot is accessible to d/Deaf audience and will feature creative captioning throughout.

Tue 4 Feb 2020 – Sat 8 Feb 2020

Tickets £10 – £24 / conc. from £5

A Little Space

Commissioned by HOME

A space where we can escape the world and be ourselves. Where we can say whatever we want, do whatever we feel and where no-one will ever bother us.

But it can be an unpredictable space too, where voices are funnelled away, fears leak through the floorboards, songs light up the room and you never know

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who's listening behind the door. A place where whispers come to life and one kind gesture could change everything.

This intricately crafted performance combines Gecko's unique blend of theatre, choreography and stunning imagery with incredible performers from Mind the Gap.

Wed 12 Feb 2020 – Sat 15 Feb 2020

Tickets £10 – £20 / conc. from £5

Extraordinary Wall of Silence

Presented by Ad Infinitum and HOME

Helen, Alan, and Graham are told they are impaired and need fixing. As they begin to question the world around them, three powerful coming-of-age stories unfold, uniting in a struggle against violence, ignorance and oppression.

Connecting through a shared past they are transported to one pivotal moment in 1880 when a dangerous ideology was born: one that would impair the way the world views Deaf people for over a century.

Ad Infinitum combine the company's signature style of physical storytelling with the beauty of British Sign Language in an unmissable feast for the senses.

Extraordinary Wall is a bilingual performance in English and BSL with integrated captioning

Wed 12 Feb 2020 – Sat 22 Feb 2020

Tickets £10.50 – £12.50 / conc. from £5

Little Wimmin

By Figs in Wigs, commissioned by HOME

Figs in Wigs are back and this time they've got their period (dresses).

After five years of creating avant-garde, boundary pushing, genre-bending contemporary performance, Figs in Wigs have decided the only way to go is backwards...



Come join for the world premiere of Figs in Wigs live art feminist adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's classic novel Little Women. Blurring the boundaries of live art, music, theatre, comedy and dance Little Wimmin will examine how we think about the past, what's wrong with the present, and what we're going to do about the future - if there even is one. Prepare to laugh at the traditions of theatre and poke fun at people's obsession with 'the classics' as we turn the novel on its head before dismantling it entirely and transforming it into an unrecognisable cosmic catastrophe that talks about climate change, astrology and the infinite nature of the universe.

p.s Beth Dies.

Thu 5 Mar 2020 – Sat 14 Mar 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / £5 – £10.50 concs

Conversations with Roddy Doyle

Celebrate the career of one of Ireland's best-loved writers, as he discusses his work in an intimate and entertaining evening of sprawling conversation, with various special guest interviewers.

With a chance to hear the man himself read from such books as *The Woman Who Walked Into Doors*, *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha* and *A Star Called Henry*, this is an evening not to be missed... unless there's something better on the telly.

Sun 8 Mar 2020

Tickets £25

Night of the Living Dead – Remix

An Imitating the Dog and Leeds Playhouse co-production

Seven strangers take refuge from flesh eating 'ghouls' in an isolated farmhouse. As the night draws in, their situation becomes desperate, hope turns to despair, and the picket-fence American dream is smashed apart.

Seven performers enter the stage armed with cameras, a box of props and a rail of costumes. Can they recreate the film, shot-for-shot before our eyes, using whatever they can lay their hands on?



50 years after the release of George A. Romero's politically charged zombie movie, imitating the dog and Leeds Playhouse create a love-song to the original 1960s film, retelling it as a searing story for now.

Wed 18 Mar 2020 – Sat 21 Mar 2020

Tickets £10 – £24 full / from £5 concs

Poet in Da Corner

In a strict Mormon household somewhere in the seam between East London and Essex, a girl is given Dizzee Rascal's ground-breaking grime album *Boy in da Corner* by her best friend SS Vyper.

Precisely 57 minutes and 21 seconds later, her life begins to change – from feeling muted by dyslexia to spitting the power of her words; from being conflicted about her sexuality to finding the freedom to explore; from feeling alone to being given the greatest gift by her closest friend.

In this semi-autobiographical piece, step into a technicolor world where music, dance and spoken word collide, and discover how grime allowed Debris Stevenson to redefine herself.

Tue 24 Mar 2020 – Sat 28 Mar 2020

Tickets £10 – £20 / conc. from £5

Not I

By Samuel Beckett

Jess Thom has Tourettes, a condition that means she makes movements and noises she can't control, called tics.

Following award-winning *Backstage In Biscuit Land*, she takes on Samuel Beckett's short play in a theatrical experience that explores neurodiversity and asks who is allowed to perform what and who gets the final say.

All performances are BSL integrated and are Relaxed. This means that if you tic, shout or move about, you're more than welcome. And the great thing is, everyone can benefit from a Relaxed performance.



Tue 31 Mar 2020 – Thu 2 Apr 2020

Tickets £10 – £13 full / from £5 concs

Manchester Camerata: Kabantu v Manchester Camerata

Manchester Camerata orchestra are delighted to perform alongside award winning group Kabantu. Kabantu are a group of musicians who are re-inventing global sounds from their multicultural home of Manchester. Expect an evening of reimagined classical music including one of Francesco Germiniani's Concerto Grossi 'La Folia' alongside Kabantu's thrilling original compositions. This intimate performance, and blend of cultures and musical styles is one not to be missed.

Sat 4 Apr

Tickets £15 full / £13.50 concs / £5 student

David Hoyle: Ten Commandments

Following smash-hits *Diamond* and *Yule Be Sorry*, David Hoyle returns to HOME with his *Ten Commandments*, combining captivating stage performance with lacerating social commentary.

Rioting the wrongs of contemporary Britain, *Ten Commandments* examines the meaning of ageing, human rights, queer politics, ethics, worship and spirituality as David searches for the Promised Land.

Coming together to follow the Divine word that society can be changed according to the commandment "Thou shall kill all in authority", we welcome the congregation to David's brave new world, a guide for precarious living in the 21st century.

Thu 9 Apr 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / £5 – £10.50 concs

Mark Thomas: 50 Things About Us

Mark Thomas is back with his trademark style of storytelling, stand-up, subversion and really, really, well researched material to try and find out how the hell we ended up in the middle of this shit show.



50 Things About Us is a show about songs, gongs, loot, tradition, wigs, nicking, statues, art and identity. A sort of funny national edition of Who Do You Think You Are?

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Tickets £12.50 – £17.50

Amsterdam

Directed by Matthew Xia

Written by Maya Arad Yasur

Actors Touring Company return to HOME following *The Events* (2014) and *Winter Solstice* (2018) with Matthew Xia's first production as Artistic Director.

A violinist. Living in her trendy canal-side Amsterdam apartment. Nine months pregnant.

One day a mysterious unpaid gas bill from 1944 arrives.

It awakens unsettling feelings of collective identity, foreignness and alienation. Stories of a devastating past are compellingly reconstructed to try and make sense of the present.

Amsterdam is the UK premiere of a strikingly original and audacious play.

Maya Arad Yasur is a prize-winning playwright, whose work has been produced worldwide.

Wed 15 Apr 2020 – Sat 18 Apr 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / from £5 concs

Together Again, Again!

It's been forty five years since Jinx Monsoon and Major Scales have set foot on stage together. The long endured cabaret duo have long since gone their separate ways; Jinx becoming a faded TV movie starlet, and Major fading into musical obscurity— each of them clinging onto what scraps of fame they still have.



Now, after decades of anticipation, the two of them have come together for one final reunion upon the stage. They're together again, again!

Fri 1 May 2020 – Sat 2 May 2020

Tickets £25 full / £23 concs

If Don't Worry Me

The first part of a series of work based on the life of the fictitious artist Patrick Watson, *If Don't Worry Me* is performed by the Catalan company *Atresbandes* and the duo *Bertrand Lesca & Nasi Voutsas*.

Together they interrogate the tension between art, political correctness and what we consider to be offensive. Each scene is a like a new room in the imaginary museum of P. C. Watson's work and another take on our politically 'incorrect' minds.

Atresbandes advocates for a laboratory theatre that emphasises the process of creation in order to question the world around us. They have presented *All In* (2017) & *Locus Amoenus* (2014) at HOME.

Bertrand Lesca and Nasi Voutsas's work is stripped back to say the least: the way they play with humour, brutality, and their ability to turn the mood of a room on a sixpence has resonated with audiences across the world. They previously presented *Eurohouse* (2016), *Palm yra* (2017) and *One* (2019) at HOME.

Tue 5 May 2020 – Wed 6 May 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / £5 – £10.50 concs

Double Murder

Presented by Hofesh Shechter Company

Internationally celebrated choreographer *Hofesh Shechter* presents a thrilling new double bill of contemporary dance for our times. *Double Murder* presents two distinctly contrasting pieces exploring societal schisms and human kinship.

Shechter's New Creation, sculptured as an antidote and partner piece to the murderous, poisonous anarchy of his 2016 success, *Clowns*, brings a tender, fragile energy to the stage. It offers a raw and compassionate moment to



balance the forces of aggression and violence that press on us daily. A shield to protect us from the noise of life outside, and a place that allows the performers to shine, be fragile, be seen for their utmost human qualities. Violence, tenderness and hope are all laid bare through Shechter's achingly beautiful, cinematic lens.

Performed by ten of his inimitable dancers and accompanied by the epic sounds of a Shechter-composed score, *Double Murder* exposes painful truths and delve into our deepest emotions.

Wed 13 May 2020 – Sat 16 May 2020

Tickets £10 – £21 full / from £5 concs

Art Heist

Three thieves break into the same gallery on the same night.

They're all intent on stealing the same Extremely Valuable Painting. They're bound to meet and it's bound to get messy.

Join our thieves as they discover what makes art Extremely Valuable and what Extremely Valuable really means. An existential comedy caper about the power of frames and the absurdity of labels. From the team behind multi award winning *Lights Over Tesco Car Park*.

Art Heist is produced by Poltergeist in association with the North Wall Arts Centre.

Tue 19 May 2020 – Fri 22 May 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / £5 – £10.50 concs

Peaches Christ's Addams Apple Family Values

A return to HOME for Peaches Christ and crew!

Following a hugely successful *Drag Becomes Her* last year the team now tackle the Addams Family!

Wed 27 May 2020 - Sat 30 May 2020

Tickets £32.50 full / £30.50 concs



Adam Buxton

To coincide with its publication, PBJ Live invite you to join comedian and podcast host Adam Buxton as he talks about and reads from his upcoming new book.

It incorporates rambles on topics including parenthood, formative cultural influences of the 80s, confrontations on trains, wet dreams, boarding school trauma, The Adam & Joe Show, dead Dads and David Bowie. The evening will include both funny and serious moments and some questions will be answered, maybe even some VERY big ones. To be honest that's unlikely, but it should be fun anyway.

Copies of the book will be available and there will be a signing session after the show.

Mon 8 & Tue 9 Jun

Tickets £18

Cave Women: Work in Progress

Jessie Cave return to HOME following a sell-out run in 2019.

Cave sisters. A dark place. Working out how to work together.

'There is absolutely nothing that can stop you from falling in love with this funny, fragile, hilarious and heart-breaking hour. The rawness and the newness of it simply add to its power, and the tiny unscripted asides to the laughter... I cannot imagine where the progress of this work might take it. It is already a beautiful, funny and frankly unforgettable thing.'

Thu 11 Jun 2020 – Fri 12 Jun 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / £10.50 concs

One Woman

By Cheryl Martin



In a heady mix of snatched music from punk to jazz, immersive projections from the banks of the Nile to the bottom of the sea, through a 360-degree soundscape that takes you deep into her mind, Cheryl Martin's new show *One Woman* asks what it means to survive childhood trauma. Some sixty-five percent of us have been there, just like her: how does that affect us? What are the consequences?

Thu 2 Jul 2020 – Sat 4 Jul 2020

Tickets £12.50 full / £10.50 concs

NOTES TO EDITORS

Images and video can be provided on request.

For more information, contact Kat Harrison-Dibbits, Head of Communications at HOME, on 0161 606 0176 or email kat.harrison-dibbits@homemcr.org.

About HOME

HOME is Manchester's centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in May 2015, HOME has welcomed over two million visitors to its two theatres, five cinemas, art gallery, book shop and restaurants. HOME works with international and UK artists to produce extraordinary theatrical experiences, producing an exciting mix of thought-provoking drama, dance and festivals, with a strong focus on international work, new commissions and talent development.

HOME's ambition is to push the boundaries of form and technology, to experiment, have fun, take risks and share great new art with the widest possible audience. The patrons of HOME are Danny Boyle, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay MBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. www.homemcr.org | @HOME_mcr | Facebook HOMEemcr

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