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PRESS RELEASE

New online work by artists Javaad Alipoor, Anna Brownsted, Vici Wreford-Sinnott, Chad Taylor and Christian Asare

New works are part of HOME's Homemakers project and feature artists commissioned by organisations from across the country



For immediate release

Five new *Homemakers* works will be available from Thursday, May 21, via the HOME website – with artists commissioned by organisations from Manchester and beyond.

Commissioning partners working with HOME include Manchester's Black Gold Arts, Z-arts and STUN, Fermynwoods Contemporary Art, based in Kettering, Northamptonshire, and ARC Stockton. Encompassing theatre, dance, art and sound, this is the most eclectic set of *Homemakers* pieces yet.

The new works are by Javaad Alipoor, Chad Taylor, Anna Brownsted, Vici Wreford-Sinnott and Christian Asare.

HOME

Kevin Jamieson, Head of Programme at HOME, said: "When we first had the idea, just after the lockdown was announced, to commission artists to make work in quarantine for an audience who were also isolated, we knew that we wanted to make the project something bigger than just HOME – but the response has been incredible and it's been such a thrill to see so many partners from so many different artforms who want to get involved. The response has proven that in the arts – as in so many other parts of life – we really are better together."

Javaad Alipoor – creator of the award-winning *The Believers Are But Brothers* and last year's *Rich Kids: A History of Shopping Malls in Tehran* – has created a new piece, *A Series of Metaphors About A Plague*, which takes a nightmarish and playful journey into an online discussion of European theatre, politics and the plague. Created with Natalie Diddems the short film was commissioned by HOME.

For Z-arts and STUN, choreographer Chad Taylor has created *Lost Online*, inspired by family dance challenges on TikTok and Instagram. Allowing people who are physically apart to dance together, the piece plays with the idea that after years of limiting screen time for our children, devices have now become a portal to the outside world and a place for everyday creativity.

For Fermynwoods Contemporary Art, Anna Brownsted has worked with Will Heasman and a host of artists from across the UK, US and Estonia to create *Week Nine*, a cinematic soundtrack for headphones and an isolated room.

Featuring Mark Farr, JG Harding, Lilli Mathod, Rosanna Miles, Cary Parker and Teele Uustani, *Week Nine* is lockdown escapism for the audience and their headphones.

Also going live on Thursday will be the first part of Vici Wreford-Sinnott's work *Siege* for ARC Stockton – *The Wrong Woman Discussions*. A series of themed discussions between disabled women performance makers including Bea Webster, Melissa Johns, Julie McNamara and Tammy Reynolds, *The Wrong Woman Discussions* make space for disabled performance makers to talk about transgressive women – women who break boundaries, defy definitions and explode stereotypes in their work. The discussions will be free to watch on the HOME website, and will be followed in June by the release of a short film, *Siege*, featuring Tammy Reynolds.

Christian Asare, who received one of HOME's Open Call commissions, will be painting a huge portrait of the Manchester QTPOC group House of Noir, highlighting each member's creative contributions to the enrichment of the LGBTQ+ community in Manchester. Christian will also be hosting a series of art and choreography workshops in June looking at oil painting, vogue, contemporary dance and urban fusion. Tickets for the workshops go on sale on Thursday, and Christian will also be documenting his painting process on his social media channels.

The work is created in partnership with Black Gold Arts, the Manchester-based organisation who work predominantly with working-class people of colour, the LGBTQ+ community and their allies.



All *Homemakers* works are available via the HOME website on a pay-what-you-decide basis. These latest pieces join critically acclaimed works by Bryony Kimmings, Ad Infinitum and Chris Thorpe & Yusra Wasarma. A fourth commission, by Plaster Cast Theatre, has already sold out.

New *Homemakers* work will be released fortnightly during lockdown. For more information, or to book tickets, visit homemcr.org.

Notes to editors

For more information, images, interviews or review details, please contact Kat Harrison-Dibbits, Head of Communications at HOME, on 07833 523295 or email kat.harrison-dibbits@homemcr.org.

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 CBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. www.homemcr.org | @HOME_mcr | Facebook HOMEmcr

Fermynwoods Contemporary Art

Fermynwoods Contemporary Art supports life through art by commissioning artists to engage with audiences in public spaces across Northamptonshire and online.

Fermynwoods.org

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