

55th BUNKER

THE
UP
SETT
ERS.

TAKEOVER FESTIVAL 2020

NEW WRITING DOUBLE BILL

JIMIN SUH SIDNEY BELONY
ADRIAN TANG BRIGITTE ADELA

POETRY NIGHT

LEMN SISSAY ZIA AHMED
TYRONE LEWIS SARAH 'RAIN' KOLAWOLE

WORKSHOPS WITH SUPPORT FROM **THEATRE PECKHAM**

TOBI KYEREMATENG CHINONYEREM ODIMBA
AVA WONG DAVIES STEVEN KAVUMA TUYET VAN HUYNH

SHORT PLAYS DIRECTED BY

ANEESHA SRINIVASAN YASMIN HAFESJI REBEKAH MURRELL KWAMI ODOOM JASMINE TEO

SCRIPTS SELECTED VIA OPEN SUBMISSIONS

24 - 29 FEB 2020

 LONDON BRIDGE



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

TICKETS FROM £10
WWW.BUNKERTHEATRE.COM

TAKEOVER FESTIVAL Digital Programme

THE UPSETTERS are taking over the Bunker Theatre for one week to present a festival dedicated to celebrating artists of colour. Welcome to TAKEOVER FESTIVAL.

TAKEOVER FESTIVAL is an annual week-long touring festival which takes over a new theatre venue each year around the country with the aim of presenting new work by artists of colour while engaging with the next generation of young theatre-makers from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Too often, people of colour are told the talent isn't out there. **THE UPSETTERS here to prove that wrong.**

DIGITAL PROGRAMME DISCLAIMER

We are using a Digital Programme to help reduce waste during TAKEOVER FESTIVAL. If you have the privilege in terms of time, finances and freedom to help contribute to combat the imminent climate crisis, then we believe you should when you can. However, this is not the solution.

If we truly want to tackle the climate disaster, we must pressure governments and corporations to act. Individual actions are not the problem and individual actions are not the solution. The problem is capitalism which thrives on the exploitation of the Global South while people of colour suffer the most from environmental destruction.

We must demand more from those in power.

EVENT SCHEDULE

MONDAY	10:00 19:30	Writing Opening Scenes with Chinonyerem Odimba Poetry Night
TUESDAY	19:30	WAKES and UNBURIED Double Bill
WEDNESDAY	10:00 14:00 19:30	Introduction to Directing with Lakesha Arie-Angelo Producing with Tobi Kyeremateng WAKES and UNBURIED Double Bill
THURSDAY	10:00 19:30	Experimenting with Theatre Criticism with Ava Wong Davies WAKES and UNBURIED Double Bill
FRIDAY	10:00 19:30	Fundraising and Self Care with Tuyet Van Huynh WAKES and UNBURIED Double Bill
SATURDAY	16:00 19:30	Scratch Performance – Baby Friendly Scratch Performance

ABOUT THE UPSETTERS

THE UPSETTERS are an emerging theatre company which works predominantly with artists of colour to address the under-representation and misrepresentation of people of colour on and off the stage. They have produced sold out shows at the Bunker Theatre, VAULT Festival and Free Word Centre. THE UPSETTERS was named after the house band of legendary dub and reggae producer and singer Lee "Scratch" Perry.

WAKES

by Sidney Belony, directed by Brigitte Adela

Wakes is written by Sidney Belony. It explores grief and bereavement between two friends. The play follows them over decades as they keep returning to the same park bench that they used to spend their school years.



Sidney Belony (Writer)

Sidney Belony is a Luton-based writer and director. Sidney is interested in creating theatre which explores social and political themes. Her work has been staged in London, Luton, and Cambridge.

Sidney's theatrical credits include: Dramaturg, *The Butterfly Effect* (Hat Factory Arts Centre, December 2019); Assistant Director, *Riot Act* (Luton Town Hall, July 2019); Writer, *The Records* (Gerry's Studio, Theatre Royal Stratford East, March 2018).



Brigitte Adela (Director)

Brigitte Adela is a freelance theatre director, maker and facilitator. Her previous work includes: *Dutty Wine* (Southwark Playhouse), *Tamasha Scratch Night* (Soho Theatre), *The Talk* (Rich Mix), *Collegiate* (Attenborough Arts Centre/Bread and Roses/Arcola Theatre), *St George's Day* (Park Theatre) and *What Would Quentin Do* (Bush Theatre).

She has written and designed audio projects such as *Just Breathe* (Swiss Cottage Library) and worked as sound assistant on *Decolonising History* (Tamasha Theatre Company).



Antonia Layiwola (Performer)

Antonia trained at De Montfort University. Her recent acting credits include a UK tour of stage play *Ile La Wa*, a run at the Bunker Theatre premiering *Teleportation*, family musical *Love Thy Fro* at Theatre Peckham, and most recently *Fragments of a Complicated Mind* at Theatre 503.

Antonia will be playing Grace in Wakes.



Hayley Konadu (Performer)

Hayley is an actor and writer. Her recent theatre credits include *Scar* (Rose Theatre), *Girls* (Pappy Show, The Vaults, The North Wall and Nottingham Playhouse), *Route* (Hope Theatre and Tristan Bates Theatre), *Monologue Slam* (Stratford East), *The Kilburn Passion* (Kiln Theatre) *Pigeon English* (Bristol Old Vic and Edinburgh Fringe Festival).

Hayley will be playing Saff in Wakes.

UNBURIED

by Jimin Suh, directed by Adrian Tang

Unburied is written by Jimin Suh. It follows a Korean family undergoing forced transfer from Soviet Russia to Khazakhstan in 1937. Based on real events when over 170,000 Koreans were transported to the Far East.



Jimin Suh (Writer)

Jimin is a London-based South Korean actor and playwright. After finishing her training at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, she has worked primarily as an actor.

Her credits include Medusa (The Pleasance), One Day Maybe (dreamthinkspeak), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Lion & Unicorn) and The Handmaiden (Secret Cinema). She will be performing in Feel More at Lion & Unicorn Theatre in February and Medusa at the Cockpit Theatre in March. Jimin has recently completed a masters in Writing for Performance at Goldsmiths.



Adrian Tang (Director)

Adrian is a Berkshire and London-based theatre director and maker. As the Founder and Artistic Director of Exit Pursued By Panda, a company promoting the interests of East Asians in theatre, he directed and co-produced Tulips by Michael Beakhouse, a fringe show about male domestic abuse. Tulips received support from the Arts Council and The ManKind Initiative before going on tour.

As a standalone director, he has directed two 15-minute plays at the first Upsetters event at the Bunker Theatre in June 2019 and as part of PLAYSTART 2019, produced by The Mono Box, at Hampstead Theatre.



Nicole Miners (Performer)

Nicole graduated from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in 2018 and has since worked with Yellow Earth Theatre and Moli Films on stage and film productions. She recently wrapped filming web series Visions of a Vivid Life with Future First Productions, which will be released in the summer of 2020.

Nicole has played the Young Woman (Helen) in Machinal, Chorus in Electra, Lucile in Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, and recently worked with Contingency Theatre on their latest physical theatre piece Moonsweats at The Place.

Nicole will be playing Katya in Unburied.



Lucy Sheen (Performer)

Lucy Sheen trained at The Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama, one of the first if not the first British-Chinese actress to be accepted into a recognised UK adult drama school, she graduated with a BA in Theatre Arts.

Lucy's first professional job was the female lead in the ground-breaking British feature film PING PONG directed by fellow compatriot Po Chi'h Leong. This was the first feature film to try to explore the complex issues of the British-Chinese community.

Lucy's first theatre job in 1986 was at the Royal Exchange. Russell Hoban's Riddley Walker, and since then she has walked the boards in most major UK cities. Lucy's TV roles include being the first ever female British East Asian to appear in BBC EastEnders, the role of Jean in Julia Davis' black comedy Nighty Night and more recently Oilen Chen in ITV's Call The Midwife, Aunt Ling in BBC's Casualty and the highly anticipated Shadow and Bone TV series.

Recent stage work has included the RSC's acclaimed production of Snow in Midsummer and The Scar Test at Soho Theatre, A Pupil at Park Theatre and The Soldiers Tale, NW live.

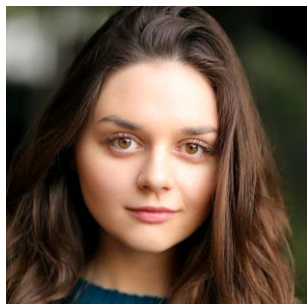
Lucy will be playing Malsoon in Unburied.



Dash You (Performer)

Dash is originally from South Korea, currently living and working as an actor / theatre maker in London. He trained at UCLA (MFA Acting) and RADA (MA Theatre Lab). Over the years of his career, he worked with various theatre companies such as Company of Angels (LA), Yohengza (Korea), Jukdal (Korea) and many others, appearing in such productions as Romeo & Juliet, Pericles, Equus, The Chorus; Oedipus.

Dash will be playing Andrei and Joon in Unburied.



Barbara Smith (Performer)

Barbara trained at the Sylvia Young Theatre School and The National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. This is Barbara's professional stage debut. She was recently seen in the critically acclaimed short film White Girl directed by Nadia Latif which was nominated for Best Short Film at the 2019 BFI London Film Festival. On television she has appeared in Call The Midwife, Casualty, Doctors and EastEnders, all for the BBC.

Barbara will be playing Nadia and Vlad in Unburied.

POETRY NIGHT



Lemn Sissay

Google the name “Lemn Sissay” and all the returning hits will be about him because there is only one Lemn Sissay in the world. Lemn Sissay is a BAFTA nominated award-winning writer, international poet, performer, playwright, artist and broadcaster. He has read on stage throughout the world from the Library of Congress in the United States to the University of Addis Ababa, from Singapore to Sri Lanka, Bangalore to Dubai, from Bali to Greenland AND Wigan Library.

He was awarded an MBE for services to literature by the Queen of England. Along with Chimamanda Ngoze Adichie and Margaret Atwood he won a Pen Pinter Prize in 2019. He is Chancellor of the University of Manchester and an Honorary Doctor from the Universities of Huddersfield, Manchester, Kent and Brunei. He is Dr. Dr. Dr. Lemn Sissay. He was the first poet commissioned to write for the London Olympics and poet of the FA Cup.



Tyrone Lewis

Tyrone Lewis the first ever Roundhouse Poet and a Roundhouse Poetry Slam Champion. He won the 2017 Axis Winter slam and was a finalist in the UK Farrago Slam Champions in 2017 and 2018 as well as being a finalist in the Hammer and Tongue Slam Championships 2018. He was also nominated as the editor’s choice for Best Spoken Word Performer for the 2018 Saboteur Awards.



Sarah ‘Rain’ Kolawole

Sarah ‘Rain’ Kolawole is a Spoken Word artist, Soho Theatre alumni playwright and Associate Artist of the Nottingham Playhouse theatre.

Sarah is originally from Nottingham and has written poetry for a variety of commissions and events regionally and nationally including the Derby Book festival, the anniversary of the Windrush, the Big Session Festival, Ken Saro Wiwa anniversary and The Primary Gallery at The Welbeck estate. Sarah’s first play; Notts Sweet Home was a part of a short regional tour as part of an attachment with New Perspectives Theatre company.

Sarah has recently finished a R&D and had a rehearsed reading for her first full length play Rootless Island Baby and Nottingham Playhouse theatre.



Zia Ahmed

Zia Ahmed is from North-West London. He is part of the London Laureates, having been shortlisted for London’s Young Poet Laureate 2015/16. He is a former Roundhouse Slam Champion and Writer in Residence at Paines Plough as part of Channel 4’s Playwright Scheme. He is one of the Bush Theatre’s Emerging Writers Group 2018/19

WORKSHOPS

THE UPSETTERS are trying something exciting and innovative with our workshops. We are hosting five workshops where we pay young people of colour to attend. **THE UPSETTERS will be providing a £31.65 payment for a three-hour workshop at the London Living Wage rate.**

We hope that this opportunity will cover any loss of income while providing young people of colour with a chance to work with highly experienced industry professionals and workshop facilitators.



Chinonyerem Odimba



Lakesha Arie-Angelo



Tobi Kyeremateng



Ava Wong Davies



Tuyet Van Huynh

Chinonyerem Odimba, Writing Opening Scenes

Chinonyerem Odimba is a Bristol based playwright, theatre director and poet. Her work for theatre includes Joanne and Amongst the Reeds for Clean Break, a modern retelling of Twist for Theatre Centre, and Medea at Bristol Old Vic. More recent commissions have seen her work at Hampstead Theatre, Kiln Theatre, Live Theatre, and Watermill Theatre. Chinonyerem is currently Associate Artist at Live Theatre.

Lakesha Arie-Angelo, Introduction to Directing

Lakesha is Soho Theatre's Associate Director. Work as a Director includes Shuck 'n' Jive (Soho Theatre) Summer Fest (The Bunker), soft animals (Soho Theatre), The Hoes (Hampstead Theatre), Alive Day (Bunker Theatre) for Pint Sized Plays, AS:NT (Theatre503, Rapid Write Response) and Prodigal (Bush Theatre for Artistic Directors of the Future Black Lives: Black Words).

Tobi Kyeremateng, Producing

Tobi Kyeremateng is a multi-award-winning Cultural Producer based in South London. She has worked for and collaborated with organisations such as AFROPUNK London, Bush Theatre, gal-dem, Nike, Ovalhouse, Roundhouse, Samsung, Tate Modern and more, and has produced short films that have been screened on NOWNESS and Prada Mode. She is the founder of Black Ticket Project.

Ava Wong Davies, Experimenting with Theatre Criticism

Ava Wong Davies is a playwright and theatre critic from London. She is the 2018 recipient of The Sunday Times Harold Hobson award, and is an alumnus of the Soho Theatre Writers Lab 2018/19. She is currently one of the Bush Theatre's Emerging Writers, and her debut play "i will still be whole (when you rip me in half)" was premiered as part of The Bunker's Autumn 2019 season.

Tuyet Van Huynh, Fundraising and Self Care

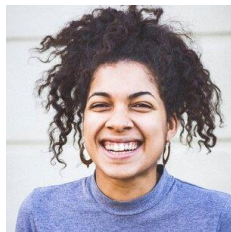
Tuyet Van Huynh is a theatre/film producer & MA film programmer and curator whose focus is to create artistic platforms for East Asian creatives and communities. Tuyet is also one of the co-founders and Director of VanThanh Productions; the first production was Summer Rolls by Tuyen Do at Park Theatre and Bristol Old Vic. She previously worked as a Digital Producer at the National Theatre's Immersive Storytelling Studio.

SCRATCH PERFORMANCES

TAKEOVER FESTIVAL wants to champion new and emerging artists. Scratch nights showcase short plays and extracts from longer plays but too often they're hidden away on dark days. We want to give emerging artists the opportunity to have the main event slot in our week to show their work to the world.

We will be presenting five pieces at various stages of development. Some are first drafts which have never been performed before while others are works from first time playwrights. **We want to use this as an opportunity to receive feedback to help these plays develop further.**

Let's meet our writers and performers below. Click on the actor's Spotlight pin to go straight to their Spotlight or Mandy page to find out more about them.



FREEFALL

by Safaa Benson-Effiom
directed by Rebekah Murrell

Performed by Chioma Nwalioba ([7012-3498-0047](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/chioma-nwalioba)) and Dani Moseley ([7811-0191-2153](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/dani-moseley)).



WHITE GIRL

by Sufiyaan Salam
directed by Jasmine Teo

Performed by Amin Ali ([3417-8948-3237](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/amin-ali)), Faraz M. Khan ([2218-6729-4096](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/faraz-m-khan)) and Romo Sikdar-Rahman ([9976-6725-1782](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/romo-sikdar-rahman)).

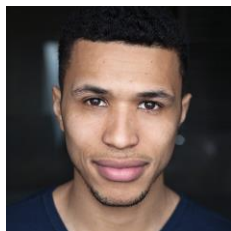
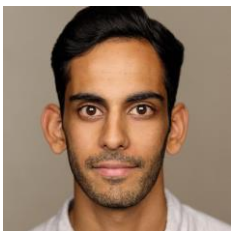


GRINDR SURVIVR

by Andrew L. Young
directed by Aneesha Srinivasan

Performed by Nicholas Marrast-Lewis ([Mandy](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/nicholas-marrast-lewis)), Curtis Grime ([Mandy](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/curtis-grime)), Kevin Mesiti ([3414-5612-9884](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/kevin-mesiti)) and Marc Zayat ([Spotlight](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/marc-zayat)).

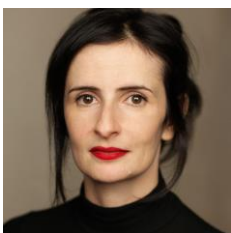
15 Minute Interval



BAKED BEANS

by Sid Sagar
directed by Kwami Odoom

Performed by Maanuv Thiara ([0939-5619-8711](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/maanuv-thiara)).



A LITTLE IRAQI

by Jasmine Naziha Jones
directed by Yasmin Hafesji

Performed by Sarah Lusack ([3416-7866-9101](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/sarah-lusack)), Iman Boujel ([1316-4534-6523](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/iman-boujel)) and Ella Dacres ([7257-5640-1886](https://www.bunkerarts.com/spotlight/ella-dacres)).

FREE TICKETS

We offer several ways for those without the means to access **free tickets** to TAKEOVER FESTIVAL.

We donate 10 tickets to every performance to Black Ticket Project founded by Tobi Kyeremateng and we offer Solidarity Tickets, double priced entry where the additional funds go towards providing a ticket to someone without the means to attend.

In addition to our free tickets, we also offer discounted tickets to Under 30s and concessions tickets.

ACCESS

THE UPSETTERS believe in making theatre as accessible as possible to as many people as possible. This includes both artists and audiences from socio-economic needs to physical needs. To us, accessibility has to be built into the plan from the very beginning. It cannot be an afterthought.

With that in mind, here's what we're doing towards accessibility:

- Paying all creatives involved.
- Captioning events using The Difference Engine.
- Relaxed performances.
- Content warning announcements.
- 10% of all tickets go to the Black Ticket Project.
- Wheelchair and mobility accessible venues.
- Gender inclusive venues.
- Baby friendly matinee performances.

We are currently exploring options to provide audio description for blind and visually impaired audiences as well as open captioning solutions. We recognise that we do not have this cracked but we are working with brilliant and generous companies and individuals to try to make our events as accessible as possible.

We hope to continue to grow in our access plans.

GET IN TOUCH

You can follow THE UPSETTERS on social media @TUpsetters on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook using **#BunkerTakeover** and **#TakeoverFestival** or you can find out more by visiting our website:

<https://www.theupsetters.co.uk/>

Thank you for supporting THE UPSETTERS. If you'd like to continue to support our journey, you can set up a monthly donation to help fund our work to champion under-represented artists of colour in theatre.

If you can spare it, our suggested donation is one hour of the London Living Wage a month:

<https://www.theupsetters.co.uk/support>

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY TAKEOVER FESTIVAL AND THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR WORK!