

# The Misanthrope

24th – 28th March, 2026

Barons Court Theatre, London

Tickets £17 / £13.50 KDC members

## WRITER'S FOREWORD:

HAVING HAD AN GREAT TIME ADAPTING (AND DIRECTING) TARTUFFE, WITH CLIVE MOFFATT'S NOMADIC THEATRE, OVER A DECADE AGO, I ALWAYS WANTED TO FOLLOW UP BY WRITING A VERSION OF MOLIÈRE'S THE MISANTHROPE. EARLY STABS AT DOING THIS AS A SIXTY-MINUTE PLAY, FIRST FOCUSING ON THE PHONE HACKING SCANDAL, AND THEN THE SWINGING SIXTIES, DIDN'T FEEL QUITE RIGHT. HOWEVER, WHEN I DECIDED TO SHIFT THE TIME AND LOCATION TO THE ARAB SPRING OF 2011, AND EXPAND THE LENGTH SLIGHTLY, IT ALL CLICKED. AFTER WORKING WITH ANGELIKA ON A VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE PRODUCED BY TOWER DURING LOCKDOWN, IT HAS BEEN AMAZING TO HAVE IT PROPERLY STAGED, WITH HER AT THE HELM. BIG THANKS TO ANGELIKA, JENNIE AND CARMEN, AS WELL AS THE CAST AND THE CREW, AND ESPECIALLY KDC THEATRE FOR HAVING THE CONFIDENCE TO BELIEVE IN OUR VISION – YOUR SUPPORT HAS BEEN BRILLIANT.

MATTHEW PARTRIDGE

## THE DIRECTOR WRITES:

WHY DID I WANT TO DO THIS PLAY? WELL, WASN'T MOLIÈRE THE VERY BIGGEST GERMAN PLAYWRIGHT THAT EVER LIVED?! FOR ME, BORN IN MUNICH, THIS WAS A NO-BRAINER! AND MY FAVOURITE MOMENT? EVERY SINGLE REHEARSAL! NEVER HAS A CAST MADE ME LAUGH AS MUCH AS THIS ONE!

ANGELIKA MICHITSCH

# THE MISANTHROPE

BASED ON THE PLAY BY **MOLIÈRE**  
ADAPTED BY **MATTHEW PARTRIDGE**

## CAST:

KRISTEN: **NELENA PAPARISVA**  
ORONTE: **BEN ANADOLU**  
ALEX WEST: **JACK CURTIN**  
LAUREN: **ANYA SMITH-ROMAN**  
CELINE: **KATIE FRANCIS**  
GREGORY: **RANDY BROWN**  
BEN: **MARSHALL CAMDEN**  
JOAN: **HARLEEN BAHRA**

## CREATIVE TEAM:

DIRECTOR & SET DESIGN: **ANGELIKA MICHITSCH**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: **MATTHEW PARTRIDGE**  
SOUND/LIGHT: **JENNIE FOOT**  
COSTUME: **CARMEN OTERO LOIRA**  
FIGHT INSTRUCTORS: **LINDSAY ROYAN, RICHARD  
KIRBY**  
ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION SUPPORT: **WENDY  
PARRY, AZUL ALYSUM**

- WHAT IF HONESTY MAKES YOU THE ODD ONE OUT?
- WHAT IF POWER GOES TO ONE, AND NOT THE PEOPLE?
- AND WHAT IF REASON PLAYS NO PART...
- IN DECIDING MATTERS OF THE HEART?

CORRUPTION, INTRIGUE, DECEPTION AND HOPE.

FORGET LOVE TRIANGLES – THIS FRISKY PLAY RELATES AN OCTAGON OF TANGLED ROMANTIC INTERESTS, MINGLED WITH CORRUPTION AND MANGLED BY CHARACTERS WITH ONE AIM: TO GET WHAT THEY WANT, NO MATTER THE COST.

AMIDST ALL THIS, WILL ALEX WEST, A TRUTH-TELLING JOURNALIST, BE ABLE TO STICK TO HIS MORALISTIC VIEWS? WILL ORONTE, HIS RIVAL FOR CELINE'S AFFECTION AND PETTY POLITICIAN EXTRAORDINAIRE, BE ABLE TO CLIMB TO THE TOP?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PERSON WE DESIRE IS THE PERSON WE MOST DISLIKE?

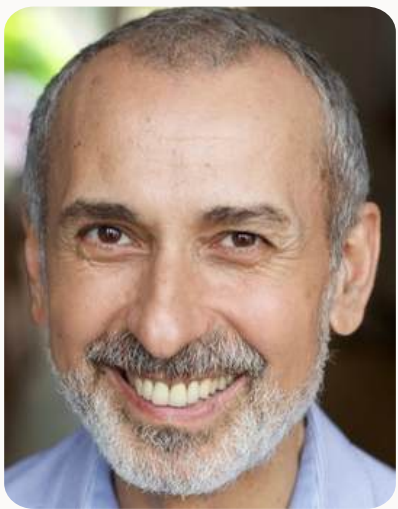
SET IN A SEEDY COCKTAIL BAR IN POLITICALLY RAVAGED 'MAGHREBIA', THIS MODERN ADAPTATION OF MOLIÈRE'S CLASSIC IS A COMEDY AS DARK AS ORONTE'S SHADES.

## CAST:



**Nelena  
Papisva**

NELENA IS A GREEK CYPRIOT SINGER AND ACTRESS WHO BEGUN PERFORMING IN CYPRUS AT THE AGE OF 12. CAREER HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE REACHING THE EUROVISION FINALS, AS WELL AS WRITING TWO PLAYS PRODUCED BY CYPRUS' NATIONAL THEATRE. SHE CURRENTLY SINGS AT A NUMBER OF LONDON'S MUSIC VENUES AND MOST RECENTLY APPEARED IN KDC'S PRODUCTION OF "GOATS" AT BARON'S THEATRE IN 2024. OUTSIDE OF THE ARTS, NELENA IS MUM TO 2 FLUFFY CATS, AND IS A FORMER POLICE OFFICER!



**Ben  
Anadolu**

BEN ANADOLU IS A LONG-STANDING MEMBER OF KDC (SINCE 1996). HE'S DELIGHTED TO BE BACK IN THE FOLD AND VERY EXCITED TO BE WORKING WITH THIS CAST & CREW; A DREAM COME TRUE.

WHILE KEEPING A PART TIME DAY-JOB, HE'S VERY MUCH INTO WRITING, DIRECTING AND ACTING IN PLAYS.

HE LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH KDC IN THE YEARS TO COME.



**Jack  
Curtin**

THIS IS JACK'S FOURTH SHOW WITH KDC - PREVIOUSLY SEEN IN 'X' BY ALISTAIR MCDOWELL, 'W; T' BY MARGARET EDSON, AND 'SPEAKING IN TONGUES' BY ANDREW BOVELL.

HE IS DELIGHTED TO BE PART OF THIS PRODUCTION, STAGING A BRAND-NEW ADAPTATION OF A TRULY CLASSIC PIECE OF THEATRE. HE WAS PRESIDENT OF UCL'S DRAMA SOCIETY. HE ALSO DIRECTED A PRODUCTION OF SIMON STEPHENS' "BIRDLAND". SUBSEQUENTLY, HE ATTENDED THE MIDDLEWEEK NEWTON ACTOR'S ACADEMY. HE CURRENTLY WORKS AS AN ASSISTANT EDITOR FOR BLOOMSBURY PUBLISHING.



**Anya  
Smith-Roman**

ANYA IS DELIGHTED TO BE PART OF HER FIRST PRODUCTION WITH KDC THEATRE. PREVIOUS CREDITS INCLUDE "TREASURE ISLAND" (IMPERIAL DRAMA SOCIETY), "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" (DRAMATECH), "THE 39 STEPS" (MV ALLSTARS), AND "CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF" (OGLETHORPE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY). ANYA RECENTLY RELOCATED TO LONDON FROM ATLANTA AND IS CURRENTLY PURSUING AN MEd IN CREATIVE EDUCATION AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART. SHE THANKS HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT.



**Katie  
Francis**

KATIE FRANCIS IS EXCITED TO BE TAKING PART IN HER FIRST PRODUCTION WITH KDC THEATRE, PLAYING CÉLINE. SHE REDISCOVERED HER LOVE OF THEATRE AFTER LAST DABBING AT UNIVERSITY, WHERE SHE STUDIED HISTORY. ALONGSIDE WORKING AS A JOURNALIST, KATIE ALSO HAS EXPERIENCE IN FILM AND TV — AND HOPES THAT THIS WILL BE THE FIRST OF MANY KDC STAGE PERFORMANCES.



**Randy  
Brown**

RANDY STARTED HIS ACTING CAREER IN LA, WHERE HE APPEARED IN PRODUCTIONS OF “BYE-BYE BIRDIE”, “LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS”, “PICNIC”, “GOD OF CARNAGE”, “DEATHTRAP” AND MANY MORE. SINCE ARRIVING IN LONDON, HE HAS BEEN SEEN RECENTLY IN “COPENHAGEN”, “THE LIAR”, “THESE SHINING LIVES”, AND “THE CRUCIBLE” (AT SOUTH LONDON THEATRE) AND “CLUE”, “AUTOBAHN”, AND “THE CRUCIBLE” (WITH SEDOS). HE ALSO CO-RUNS SEDOS’ IMPROV COMEDY GROUP, SIMPROV, AND HOSTS MONTHLY IMPROV JAMS AT SHOREDITCH BALLS.



**Marshall  
Camden**

THIS IS MARSHALL’S FIRST SHOW WITH KDC THEATRE. PREVIOUS LONDON CREDITS INCLUDE “METAMORPHOSES”, “RICHARD III”, AND “SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE” WITH CARLTON THEATRE GROUP, AND “HOW TO DATE A FEMINIST” WITH CELLAR DOOR THEATRE.



**Harleen  
Bahra**

“THE MISANTHROPE” MARKS HARLEEN’S FIRST PERFORMANCE SINCE SHE OFFICIALLY BEGUN HER ACTING JOURNEY LAST YEAR, BUT HER LOVE FOR ACTING STEMS FROM HER CHILDHOOD OBSESSION WITH MOVIE MUSICALS. A SITCOM LOVER AT HEART, SHE IS EXCITED TO MAKE EVERYONE LAUGH TONIGHT! HARLEEN IS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATING IN AN ACTING COURSE IN SOUTH LONDON.

## CREATIVE TEAM:



**Angelika  
Michitsch**

ANGELIKA MICHITSCH IS A SET DESIGNER, BUILDER AND DIRECTOR. SINCE 2018, SHE HAS WORKED ON OVER 40 THEATRE PRODUCTIONS AND A NUMBER OF SHORT FILMS. AS A DIRECTOR, SHE CO-DEvised/CHOREOGRAPHED AND DIRECTED HER FIRST PLAY IN 2022, “PASSING THE SPOON”, FOLLOWED BY “A DREAM PLAY” (AUGUST STRINDBERG/CAROL CHURCHILL) IN 2024. OTHER DIRECTING CREDITS INCLUDE REHEARSED READINGS OF “THE LETTER” (2025) AND “THE RAILWAY KING IN 2023” – THE LATTER ALSO WRITTEN BY MATTHEW PARTRIDGE (ALL AT THE TOWER THEATRE, LONDON).

THIS IS HER FIRST PRODUCTION WITH KDC – AN IMMENSELY ENJOYABLE COLLABORATION THAT HAS BROUGHT TOGETHER A TRULY INSPIRED AND TALENTED TEAM OF CREATIVES AND ACTORS, DEDICATED TO ENGAGING WITH THE ABSURD AND BREAKING THE MOULD IN ORDER TO SHOEHORN THIS WONDERFUL PLAY INTO THE QUIRKY SPACE OF BARONS COURT THEATRE.



**Matthew  
Partridge**

MATTHEW IS A FINANCIAL JOURNALIST WITH MONEYWEEK AND AUTHOR OF TWO BOOKS ON INVESTING. HIS PLAYS INCLUDE “THE PLAYER PLAYED”, “TARTUFFE”, “THE WASHINGTON LADIES”, “THE GAME OF LOVE AND CHANCE”, “MIRANDA” AND “THE RAILWAY KING”.

HE HAS ALSO APPEARED TWICE AT THE EDINBURGH FRINGE, PERFORMING “HORRIBLE HISTORIES FOR ADULTS” SHOWS ABOUT FINANCIAL FRAUD, AS WELL AS ENJOYING PHOTOGRAPHY.

THANKS TO THE KDC THEATRE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR SUPPORT, AND TO LEO AND THE WHOLE TEAM AT BARONS COURT THEATRE.