



The Guildford School of Acting has teamed up with Industry partners to create a unique project that aims to get the lights back on in theatre this autumn and we are inviting you to come and see our finished shows.

The project will harness the talent of our next generation of GSA production students currently in their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years (specialising in Stage & Production Management, Lighting, Sound, and Construction and Scenic Arts). We have paired them with professional creative teams to work and produce Covid compliant pieces of live theatre. Our aim was to produce cost effective achievable live theatre that was devised with Covid guidance in mind, in the hope that venues could consider deciding to stage them in theatres.

Here at GSA by facilitating the production process, we wanted to take some of the financial risk out of producing live theatre for venues. We strongly feel that as a university that trains the next generation of Theatre Production Technicians that we wanted to do our part in helping the industry to reopen its doors after this unprecedented time of closure.

**AN INNOVATIVE PROJECT LINKING  
INDUSTRY AND EDUCATION TO CREATE  
COVID COMPLIANT DEvised LIVE  
THEATRE SHOWS**

## PROJECT AIMS & OBJECTIVES

**Innovation & Research** – We are committed to working with industry to explore the possibilities devising and producing live theatre in a restricted Covid climate.

**Being Ambitious in our live theatre creations**– We are committed to using all the mediums of technical theatre arts and performance to retain the “magic” of experiencing a live theatre show.

**Cost Affective & Reducing financial risk** –We will use the universities facilities and student production skill set to minimize financial exposure and encourage venues to risk showing Covid Compliant work.

**Getting the lights back on in Theatres**– We are committed by working on this project to present venues with new, innovative and viable shows that can work with current guidance.

“I strongly feel that as a Theatre Production Programme Leader I have a moral responsibility to help and support my students but also the industry I love. Here at GSA we are committed to using the passion and skills of our production and performance students, as well as our resources and facilities to work on our innovative research project to help develop Covid compliant live theatre. We want to do our part to help get the lights back on in theatres across the country in any way we can, and very much hope that theatres will consider taking these live shows to their venues. As trainers of the next generation of performers and Production staff we owe it to our students and graduates to proactively work to help the industry we are sending our young professionals to work in.”

**Mig Burgess GSA Theatre Production Programme Leader**

**The Guildford School of Acting’s Theatre  
Production course proudly present 4 Covid  
Compliant new devised shows....**

## 1. Show 1: Cenotaph

Promenade show 30 mins long



# Cenotaph

“A triumphant monument to the fallen dead (of theatre)”

“It is the year 2045. The Theatres are closed, what’s life like without Live Theatre? Watch the magic of theatre fight back....”

A unique Covid compliant and immersive installation that mourns the loss of theatre but at the same time celebrates its unquenchable flame”

**Creative Director**

**Simon Anderson**

**Producing Production Manager**

**Kat Mercer**

## 2. Show 2: Blue Christmas

End on Play. – 1hr long



# Blue Christmas

“Following on from Fuse's acclaimed 'Blackout' mental health project last year, this new Covid compliant play uses theatrical technology to take the audience on a personal journey through mental health and isolation. What happens when Christmas and mental health collide? Lauren manages not only her mind, but work, Christmas and the Elf on a shelf!”

**Creative Director**

**Simon Anderson**

**Producing Production Manager**

**Kat Mercer**

### 3. Show 3: Refuge

A live-theatre/digital hybrid show for the Covid-secure era.

1 hr play



## Refuge

Syria was one of the cradles of civilisation. The birthplace of the old Gods. A show featuring the Syrian Goddess Atargatis, and Amira a Syrian caught up in the modern day destruction. When did we stop seeing Syria as a country rich in culture and tradition? Shouldn't we be doing more to save its people and its history? This story explores these questions and many more.

**Creative Director**

**Selena Kelly**

**Producing Production Manager**

**Imo Clarke**

#### 4. Show 4: Home

A sound, video and art installation that explores the concept of home.

Installation project – groups of 6 allowed in to explore the objects, sound and video.



## Home

“Home is where we should feel safe and secure. For many people Home conjures up images of pain, tragedy and worlds crumbling. For the many homeless people on the streets today, home is a complex place. But could the word ‘home’ be reclaimed for these people? What would represent the essence of it? If ‘home’ was an object, what would it be?”

A sound, video and art installation that explores the concept of home.

**Creative Director**

**Selena Kelly**

**Producing Production Manager**

**Imo Clarke**



# THE TEAM

Creative Producer / Lighting design consultant:	Mig Burgess (GSA / Fuse Arts)
Director Life Support shows:	Simon Anderson (Fuse Arts)
Production Manager Life Support shows:	Kat Mercer (Fuse Arts)
Production Manager Refuge / Home:	Imo Clarke (Fuse Arts)
Director Refuge / Home:	Selena Kelly (Fuse Arts)
Video design consultant:	Finn Ross (Fray Studios)
Sound design consultant:	Zoe Milton (Fuse Arts)
Digital theatre consultant:	Lucy Askew (Creation Theatre)

**SHOW DATES:**

**CENOTAPH & BLUE CHRISTMAS - 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**  
**HOME & REFUGE - 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

INVITE ONLY LIMITED SPACES IN OUR PATTS STUDIO GSA  
(GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE PERMITTING) & LIVE STREAMED ONLINE

We warmly invite venues to come and see our season of Covid compliant shows. It was our aim to work to produce affordable, viable and achievable live performances. Here at GSA we are passionate about helping our industry to re-open, and so we were committed to using our dedicated and talented students and facilities to produce this collection of shows. We would very much like for you to consider showing these at your venue and have tech packs and further information available about all the shows.

GSA have waived any royalty fee, we simply ask you to consider our outside professional creatives in the box office split.

Please save the dates, and RSVP if you would like to attend either in person or online. We have further information about all 4 of our shows should you wish to know more.

[info@fusearts.org](mailto:info@fusearts.org)

[m.burgess@gsa.surrey.ac.uk](mailto:m.burgess@gsa.surrey.ac.uk)