

# THE NORTH WALL PRESENTS

## ArtsLab: Catalyst Showcase

Part of Alchymy Festival 2022

### About ArtsLab & Catalyst

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**ArtsLab** is The North Wall's professional development programme for early career artists. The North Wall offers residential programmes every Easter and Summer, and a series of non-residential short courses through the rest of the year, supporting writers, directors, performers, technicians, designers and producers to develop their practice, and to progress in their chosen field.

**Catalyst** is the cornerstone of our commitment to new writing for the theatre. This project offers in-depth professional development to early-career writers and directors. To those selected, we offer the chance to work with an ensemble of professional actors, and highly experienced writing and directing mentors in a safe and supportive space, to hone their craft, develop and showcase their new scripts.

The Easter and Summer residencies are totally unique across the UK due to the extra provision of accommodation and food offered to participants. This support is provided in-kind by St Edward's School as The North Wall's principal sponsor.

### About Alchymy Festival

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**Alchymy** is The North Wall's annual new work festival shining a light on the talents of early-career theatre-makers and presenting bold new work.

After postponement in 2020 and moving online in 2021, *Alchymy* returns to The North Wall in-person for 2022. The festival features fantastic work made by ArtsLab alumni.

Kickstarted by the ArtsLab: *Catalyst Showcase*, premiering work by nine hugely exciting early-career writers and directors, The North Wall explodes with inspiring performances, panel discussions and workshops.

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#### Catalyst Writers

Ben Grant  
Zia Holloway  
Hannah Khan  
Leila Nashef  
Laurie Ogden  
Nicky Watkinson

#### Catalyst Directors

Flo Dessau  
John Livesey  
Zara Ramtohol-Akbur

#### Catalyst Actors

Georgia Bruce  
Criselda Cabitac  
Misha Graham-Patel  
Luke Grant  
Yolanda Ovide  
Maya Pillay  
Alex Roberts  
Anjelica Serra  
Gary Shelford

#### Catalyst Team

Writing Mentors: Emma Dennis-Edwards and Sam Potter  
Directing Mentor: Ria Parry\*  
Programme Leads: John Hoggarth\*, Ria Parry\*,  
Amelia Thornber\*  
Technical Team: Clive Stevenson\* and James Bailey\*  
Company Manager: Alex Lonsdale

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## The Plays (in order of Performance)

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**Forecast by Laurie Ogden, directed by Flo Dessau, performed by Georgia Bruce, Criselda Cabitac, Misha Graham-Patel, Maya Pillay and Gary Shelford.**

*When a mother is haunted by the experiences of her younger self, her daughter ends up in the eye of a storm.*

**Fray by Zia Holloway, directed by Zara Ramtohul-Akbur, performed by Georgia Bruce, Yolanda Ovide, Alex Roberts and Anjelica Serra.**

*A troubled young woman tries a ritualistic flower that removes all fear.*

**Threads by Ben Grant, directed by John Livesey, performed by Luke Grant, Yolanda Ovide, Alex Roberts and Gary Shelford.**

*A young actor has his identity thrown into question after an unnerving conversation with his drama school professor.*

**The Eulogy by Nicky Watkinson, directed by Flo Dessau, performed by Yolanda Ovide and Maya Pillay.**

*After their father's death forces them back together, two sisters confront their past and begin to reckon with the secrets they've been burying since childhood.*

**The Stories by Leila Nashef, directed by John Livesey, performed by Georgia Bruce, Criselda Cabitac, Misha Graham-Patel and Gary Shelford.**

*A family wait for news in a hospital overnight, distracting each other with increasingly strange stories.*

**In My Country by Hannah Khan, directed by Zara Ramtohul-Akbur, performed by Georgia Bruce, Maya Pillay, Anjelica Serra and Gary Shelford.**

*A dramatic night out prompts three university friends to confront their relationships with race and each other.*

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## Testimonials

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“The Catalyst Residency at the North Wall Arts Centre has been such a joy to be part of. It’s inspiring to work with such a talented company, and to have time to explore a new project from so many different angles. We’ve had extensive support and guidance from the brilliant North Wall team and the mentors on site, who have really helped me to shape my practice as a writer and consider what I want that practice to be in the future. The whole experience is so thoughtfully put together- it’ll stay with me for a long time.”

**- Leila N, Catalyst Participant**

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“The past-two weeks of Catalyst have been such a gift. The North Wall is singular in the generosity of its programme: welcoming, mentoring and platforming a diverse group of young artists. I have felt so supported by the team here. They have offered us their full attention, fielding even our most wayward questions and skilfully guiding us through the process. It has been brilliant to meet such a talented range of artists and I have rarely felt more creatively stimulated.”

**- John L, Catalyst Participant**

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## The North Wall Team

Maria Baeva: FOH Team  
James Bailey: Theatre Technician  
Guendalina Degl’Innocenti: FOH Supervisor  
John Hoggarth: Co-Director  
Nicola Laird: Gallery Manager  
Ria Parry: Co-Director  
Ethan Powell: FOH Supervisor  
Clive Stevenson: Technical Manager  
Amelia Thornber: Associate Producer  
Amy Walters: Programme & Marketing Manager  
Abigail Walton: Participation Manager  
Wendy Weiss: General Manager  
Gabi Wilson: FOH Manager

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