



The Offies 2018 – WINNERS!

Ceremony held at The Albany on Sunday 4 March 2018

The Offies Awards 2018 winners were announced on Sunday 4 March at a glitzy ceremony at the Albany, including a red carpet reception broadcast live on Freeview Channel 8, with London Live.

Off West End exists to celebrate the full spectrum of Off West End theatres and to draw increasing numbers of the general public into the excitement of these little powerhouses. The Off West End Theatre Awards (The Offies) celebrate the best of each year's productions, performances and creatives.

There is a full list of winners at the end of this Press Release – it includes acting awards for plays for **Mimi Ndiweni** (in *The Convert* at the Gate Theatre), **Ken Nwosu** (in *An Octoroon* at the Orange Tree Theatre), **Ben Aldridge** (in *Run the Beast Down* at the Finborough) and for musicals for **T'Shan Williams**, **Sharon D Clarke** and **Cornell S John** (all in *The Life*, at the Southwark Playhouse, which received 4 awards overall), Best Production for **Contractions** (New Diorama), Best Musical Director for **Gareth Bretherton** (*Hair* at the Vaults), Best Costume Design for **Jonathan Lipman** (*Death Takes a Holiday* at the Charing Cross Theatre), Best Lighting Design for **Ben Jacobs** (*The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* at the Jack Studio, Brockley), **Katie Bonna** as Most Promising New Playwright, Best Ensemble for **Bucket List** (Battersea Arts Centre), and Best Production For Young People Aged 8+ to **Laika** at the Unicorn Theatre. In addition, there were 3 special awards – to **All Star Productions** as Producers, to **Kerry Michael** (ex Theatre Royal Stratford East) as Artistic Director, and Special Achievement Award to **Amber Massie-Blomfield** (ex Camden Peoples Theatre).

This year, The Offies celebrated our 8th year of awards, and brought back the live ceremony!

Presenters at the ceremony were from a range of theatre backgrounds and included **Sheila Hancock**, **Katie Brayben**, **Jamie Kenna**, **Linda Marlowe**, **Robin Soans**, **John Ramm** (actors), **Michael Blakemore OBE** (director), **Isobel Waller Bridge** (composer) and **David Howe** (lighting designer). **Amy Lamé**, London's Night Czar opened the event and **Julie Ward MEP** who sits on the European Parliament's Culture & Education Committee, gave the closing speech.

Other presenters include representatives of our generous sponsors – **Theatre.London**, **White Light Ltd**, **Oberon Books**, **Equity**, **AKA** (entertainment marketing), and **made** (travel & tourism).

In 2017, Offies Assessors saw over 190 shows at around 60 venues across London, and put forward over 350 nominations. The Offies Panel have whittled these nominations down to the best three or four across 29 categories.

Also in attendance were some of our industry experts who have lined up again this year to be 'Patron Saints' to the winners in many of the categories so that the awards mean more the morning after than

just a head full of bubbly. These awards really make a difference by offering the winners an introduction to an industry expert who takes them under their wing for a year to offer specialist advice, useful introductions and guidance in their career.

Maintaining our ethos of “all-inclusive, non-exclusive” we also made several tickets available to the general public this year, and as ever the action was announced via our social media channels.

For more information please contact Geoffrey Brown on 07793113233 or geoffrey@euclid.info

LIST OF WINNERS

PLAYS

Female in a Play

Mimi Ndiweni / *The Convert* / Gate Theatre

Male in a Play

(note there are joint winners in this category)

Ben Aldridge / *Run The Beast Down* / Finborough Theatre

Ken Nwosu / *An Octoroon* / Orange Tree Theatre

Supporting Female in a Play

Jo Martin / *Doubt: A Parable* / Southwark Playhouse

Supporting Male in a Play

Tom Rhys Harries / *The Pitchfork Disney* / Shoreditch Town Hall

New Play

Neil Anthony Docking / *The Revlon Girl* / Park Theatre

Most Promising New Playwright

Katie Bonna / *All The Things I Lied About* / Soho Theatre

Ensemble

Bucket List / Battersea Arts Centre

Production

Contractions / New Diorama

MUSICALS & OPERA

Female in a Musical

T'Shan Williams / *The Life* / Southwark Playhouse

Supporting Female in a Musical

Sharon D. Clarke / *The Life* / Southwark Playhouse

Male in a Musical

Michael Rouse / *Superhero* / Southwark Playhouse

Peter Polycarpou / *Working* / Southwark Playhouse

Supporting Male in a Musical

Cornell S. John / *The Life* / Southwark Playhouse

Musical Director

Gareth Bretherton / *Hair* / Vaults

Musical Production

The Life / Southwark Playhouse

New Musical

Superhero / Southwark Playhouse

Opera Production

Tosca / King's Head Theatre

PLAYS & MUSICALS

Costume Design

Jonathan Lipman / *Death Takes A Holiday* / Charing Cross Theatre

Lighting Design

Ben Jacobs / *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* / Jack Studio Theatre

Set Design

Rosanna Vize / *Low Level Panic* / Orange Tree Theatre

Sound Design

Max & Ben Ringham and George Dennis / Killer / Shoreditch Town Hall

Choreographer

Chris Whittaker / Top Hat / Upstairs at the Gatehouse

Director

Ned Bennett / An Octoroon / Orange Tree Theatre

TBC & YOUNG PEOPLE

TBC Award

(for shows that defy categorisation)

Joan / Milk Presents: Lucy J Skilbeck / Ovalhouse

Production for Young People under 7

Zeraffa Giraffa / Omnibus Theatre / Little Angel Theatre

Production for Young People 8+

Laika / Unicorn Theatre

Production for Young People 13+

What Once Was Ours / Half Moon Theatre / Zest Theatre

SPECIAL AWARDS

Producer

All Star Productions

Including for their work at Ye Olde Rose & Crown

Artistic Director

Kerry Michael

for work at Theatre Royal Stratford East

Special Achievement

Amber Massie-Blomfield

for work at Camden People's Theatre

LIST OF FINALISTS & WINNERS (in bold & highlight)

PLAYS

Female in a Play

Charlotte Gray / The Revlon Girl / Park Theatre
Katherine Pearce / Low Level Panic / Orange Tree Theatre

Lucy Robinson / Late Company / Finborough Theatre

Mimi Ndiweni / The Convert / Gate Theatre

Male in a Play

Ben Aldridge / Run The Beast Down / Finborough Theatre

Ian McDiarmid / What Shadows / Park Theatre

Ken Nwosu / An Octoroon / Orange Tree Theatre

Patrick Sandford / Groomed / Soho Theatre

Supporting Female in a Play

Jo Martin / Doubt: A Parable / Southwark Playhouse

Molly Hanson / Posh / Pleasance Theatre

Sinead Matthews / Loot / Park Theatre

Vivian Oparah / An Octoroon / Orange Tree Theatre

Supporting Male in a Play

Danny-Boy Hatchard / Eyes Closed, Ears Covered / The Bunker

Jonathan Blaydon / Lord Dismiss Us / Above The Stag

Tom Rhys Harries / The Pitchfork Disney / Shoreditch Town Hall

Will Pinchin / Frankenstein / Jack Studio

New Play

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins / An Octoroon / Orange Tree Theatre

David Ireland / The End Of Hope / Soho Theatre

Neil Anthony Docking / The Revlon Girl / Park Theatre

Roland Schimmelpfenning (translated by David Tushingham) / Winter Solstice / Orange Tree Theatre

Most Promising New Playwright

Alex Gwyther / Eyes Closed, Ears Covered / The Bunker

Katie Bonna / All The Things I Lied About / Soho Theatre

Natasha Marshall / Half Breed / Soho Theatre

Stephen Unwin / All Our Children / Jermyn Street Theatre

Ensemble

Bucket List / Battersea Arts Centre

Home Truths / The Bunker

The Gap In The Light / New Diorama

Production

An Octoroon / Orange Tree Theatre

Contractions / New Diorama

The Revlon Girl / Park Theatre

Trouble In Mind / Print Room

MUSICALS & OPERA

Female in a Musical

Daisy Maywood / Promises, Promises / Southwark Playhouse

Sophia Mackay / The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin / Theatre Royal Stratford East

T'Shan Williams / The Life / Southwark Playhouse

Supporting Female in a Musical

Alex Young / Promises, Promises / Southwark Playhouse

Sarah-Louise Young / Yank! / Charing Cross Theatre

Sharon D. Clarke / The Life / Southwark Playhouse

Male in a Musical

Gabriel Vick / Promises, Promises / Southwark Playhouse

Joshua Lay / Top Hat / Upstairs at the Gatehouse

Michael Rouse / Superhero / Southwark Playhouse

Peter Polycarpou / Working / Southwark Playhouse

Supporting Male in a Musical

Cornell S. John / The Life / Southwark Playhouse

Greg Castiglioni / The Woman in White / Charing Cross Theatre

Jordan Shaw / Tick, Tick... Boom! / Park Theatre

Musical Director

Dean Austin / Death Takes A Holiday / Charing Cross Theatre

Gareth Bretherton / Hair / Vaults

Simon Holt / The Woman in White / Charing Cross Theatre

Musical Production

Hair / Vaults

The Life / Southwark Playhouse

Working / Southwark Playhouse

New Musical

Death Takes A Holiday / Charing Cross Theatre

My Land's Shore / Ye Olde Rose & Crown Theatre

Superhero / Southwark Playhouse

The Life / Southwark Playhouse

Opera Production

Cosi Fan Tutte / Baseless Fabric Theatre / Morden Civic Centre

L'Incoronazione Di Poppea / Hampstead Garden Opera / Jackson's Lane

Tosca / King's Head Theatre

PLAYS & MUSICALS

Costume Design

Adrin Erra Puenta / White Fang / Park Theatre

Jonathan Lipman / Death Takes A Holiday / Charing Cross Theatre

Mike Lees / The Tailor Made Man / White Bear Theatre

Lighting Design

Ben Jacobs / The Wolves of Willoughby Chase / Jack Studio Theatre

David Plater (lighting) & Andzej Goulding (video) / Room / Theatre Royal Stratford East

Norvydals Genys / Eyes Closed, Ears Covered / Bunker Zoe Spurr / Phoenix Rising / Car Park, Smithfield Meat Market

Set Design

Lily Arnold / Room / Theatre Royal Stratford East

Max Dorey / Talk Radio / Old Red Lion Theatre

Rosanna Vize / Low Level Panic / Orange Tree Theatre

Sound Design

George Dennis / Guards at the Taj / Bush Theatre

Juan Coolio / White Fang / Park Theatre

Max & Ben Ringham and George Dennis / Killer / Shoreditch Town Hall

Choreographer

Charlotte Tooth / The Hired Man / Union Theatre

Chris Whittaker / Top Hat / Upstairs at the Gatehouse

Joanne McShane / Salad Days / Union Theatre

William Whelton / Hair / Vaults

Director

Audrey Sheffield / The Dark Room / Theatre503

Josette Bushell-Mingo / The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin / Theatre Royal Stratford East

Ned Bennett / An Octoroon / Orange Tree Theatre

Ramin Gray / Winter Solstice / Orange Tree Theatre

TBC & YOUNG PEOPLE

TBC Award

(for shows that defy categorisation)

Joan / Milk Presents: Lucy J Skilbeck / Ovalhouse

The Last Straw / People Show / Ovalhouse
Prurience / Christopher Green / Southbank Centre
Triple Threat / Lucy McCormick / Soho Theatre

Production for Young People under 7

My Brother, My Sister & Me / Polka Theatre
Snow White & Rose Red / Battersea Arts Centre

Zeraffa Giraffa / Omnibus Theatre / Little Angel Theatre

Production for Young People 8+

Boys Don't / Papertale / Half Moon Theatre
Hansel & Gretel / Iris Theatre / St Paul's Church

Laika / Unicorn Theatre

The Little Prince / The Playground Theatre

Production for Young People 13+

A Midsummer Night's Dream / Creation Theatre /
Omnibus Theatre

What Once Was Ours / Half Moon Theatre / Zest Theatre

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