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## ***The Hired Man***

Thursday 20 June – Saturday 6 July

A Queen's Theatre Hornchurch and Hull Truck Theatre production in association with Oldham Coliseum Theatre

Book by Melvyn Bragg

Music and Lyrics by Howard Goodall

Directed by Douglas Rintoul

Designed by Jean Chan

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**Press Night: Thursday 20 June, 7.30pm**

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**\*\*Nominated for three Off West End Theatre Awards\*\***

Based on the novel by Melvyn Bragg, with a musical score by Howard Goodall (composer of West End hits *Bend it Like Beckham*, *Love Story*), British musical ***The Hired Man*** brings foot stomping rhythms and soaring choruses to Oldham this summer.

Set in Cumbria in 1898, young married couple John and Emily have just moved to a new town to start their lives together. Whilst struggling to carve a living from the land, their story is a heroic tale of love, betrayal, loyalty and community.

The cast features Coliseum favourite **Lauryn Redding** as Emily, who will be familiar to Oldham's audiences from previous roles in the Coliseum's hit musicals: *Bread & Roses*; *Oh What A Lovely War* and *Dreamers*.

Lauryn is joined by **Jon Bonner** (*The Commitments*, UK tour); **Lloyd Gorman** (*Sunny Afternoon*, Harold Pinter Theatre, London); **Oliver Hembrough** (*Insignificance*, Arcola Theatre, London); **TJ Holmes** (*Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Shakespeare's Globe/Liverpool Everyman); **Lucy Keirl** (*The Crucible*, UK tour); **Lara Lewis** (*Daisy Pulls It Off*, Charing Cross Theatre, London); **Sufia Many** (*Miss Littlewood*, Royal Shakespeare Company); **Samuel Martin** (*The Taming of the Shrew*, Shakespeare's Globe); **Tom Self** (*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, Queen's Theatre Hornchurch) and **James William-Pattison** (*Once*, Queen's Theatre Hornchurch / New Wolsey Theatre).

First published in 1969, ***The Hired Man*** was adapted into a musical in 1984. This landmark revival is produced by Queen's Theatre Hornchurch and Hull Truck Theatre in association with Oldham Coliseum Theatre. The production opened in Hornchurch in April to glowing reviews, receiving three Off West End Theatre Award (Offie) nominations: Musical Director (Ben Goddard & Tom Self), Female Performance in a Musical (Lauryn Redding) and Male Performance in a Supporting Role in a Musical (Samuel Martin).

**Howard Goodall commented:** "I am absolutely thrilled about this revival: three brilliant regional theatres, a wonderful creative team and a chance for a new generation of theatre-goers to see this piece that Melvyn Bragg and I first put in front of an audience 35 years ago."

- Ends -----

**Notes to Editor:**

***The Hired Man*** runs from Thursday 20 June – Saturday 6 July 2019 at Oldham Coliseum Theatre.

Tickets can be booked on 0161 624 2829 or at [www.coliseum.org.uk](http://www.coliseum.org.uk)  
Link to production page: <http://www.coliseum.org.uk/plays/the-hired-man/>

For further press information, please contact Shelly Ramsdale on 0161 785 7012 or [shellyramsdale@coliseum.org.uk](mailto:shellyramsdale@coliseum.org.uk)

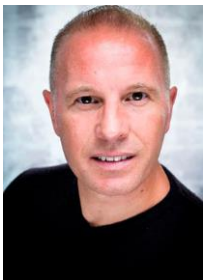
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**Images:**

A high-resolution JPEG of the image for *The Hired Man* is available to download from Dropbox via:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/bw87t5ywtndwreo/Lauryn%20Redding%20and%20Emily%20and%20Oliver%20Hembrough%20as%20John%20in%20The%20Hired%20Man.%20Credit%20Mark%20Sepple.jpg?dl=0>

Production photographs are available to download from Dropbox via:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lzxw0aklyidz7qc/AADbI0ZNv2J9qfP-TmfzZaNoa?dl=0>

**Cast:**



**Jon Bonner**  
Pennington/Ensemble



**Lloyd Gorman**  
Jackson



**Oliver Hembrough**  
John



**TJ Holmes**  
Seth/Ensemble



**Lucy Keirl**  
Sally/Ensemble



**Lara Lewis**  
May/Ensemble



**Sufia Many**  
Ensemble



**Samuel Martin**  
Isaac/Ensemble



**James William-Pattison**  
Harry/ Ensemble



**Lauryn Redding**  
Emily



**Tom Self**  
MD/Ensemble

Director **Douglas Rintoul**  
Designer **Jean Chan**  
Musical Director **Ben Goddard**  
Movement Director **Jane Gibson**  
Lighting Designer **Prema Mehta**  
Sound Designer **Chris Murray**  
Fight Director **Bethan Clark**  
Dialect Coach **Louise Jones**  
Assistant Director **Kara M Tyler**

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## **Oldham Coliseum Theatre**

Oldham Coliseum Theatre is a cultural and educational charity that works with over 150,000 individuals per year.

The Coliseum has a rich history in Greater Manchester dating back to 1885. It provides a wide variety of distinctive theatre performances and participatory activities for people from all communities in Oldham, Greater Manchester and beyond. It creates original productions each year which are presented at the Coliseum and on tour. Intrinsic to the town's on-going regeneration, the theatre works with its local communities and young people to develop creative programmes to facilitate learning, engagement and community cohesion.

[www.coliseum.org.uk](http://www.coliseum.org.uk)

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