

## ***Trojan Horse***

Thursday 6 & Friday 7 February

A LUNG Production

By Helen Monks and Matt Woodhead

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Winner of the Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award and the Fringe First Award 2018, ***Trojan Horse*** is the story of a community torn apart by racial division, 'British values' and the culture of Prevent.

Adapted from the real-life testimonies of those at the heart of the 2014 Government inquiry, *Trojan Horse* was a local story that hit the national press, accusing 'hardline' Muslim teachers and governors of plotting extremism in Birmingham schools.

Written following over 200 hours of interviews with teachers, students, parents and governors, LUNG's verbatim play aims to show what really happened, with a focus on the local Muslim community who were left 'broken' and 'demonised'.

The cast features **Komal Amin** (*Bombay Noir* for Theatre Royal Stratford & Brolly Productions; *Silent Sisters* for Makul and The Ghetto Tigers and *Aviatrix* for Ivo Theatre and Palestinian National Theatre); **Mustafa Chaudhry**; **Gurkiran Kaur** (*Dishoom!* national tour for Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Rifco Theatre and Watford Palace Theatre; *Pink Sari Revolution* for Leicester Curve and West Yorkshire Playhouse and *The Crossing* for Tamasha); **Qasim Mahmood** (*Imaam Imraan*; *Reluctant Fundamentalist* and *Homegrown* all for National Youth Theatre); and **Keshini Misha** (*The Ladykillers of Humber Doucy Lane* for Eastern Angles, *The Country Girls* at Chichester Festival Theatre and *1001 Nights* for Transport Theatre).

LUNG are a national touring theatre company dedicated to developing innovative work that broadens horizons and investigates modern Britain. Working with specific communities across the UK to use their own words to tell their stories, LUNG produce new verbatim theatre with communities, by communities and for communities. Their previous productions include *The 56*, *Chilcot* and *E15*.

***Trojan Horse*** was originally developed with Leeds Playhouse in 2018. It comes to Oldham as part of a national tour.

- Ends -

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### Notes to Editor:

***Trojan Horse*** runs on Thursday 6 & Friday 7 February 2020 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/trojan-horse/>

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

**Cast:**



**Komal Amin -  
Jess**



**Mustafa  
Chaudhry -  
Rashid**



**Gurkiran Kaur -  
Farah**



**Qasim Mahmood  
- Tahir**



**Keshini Misha -  
Elaine**

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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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