

A SIXTH HOUSE PRODUCTION

# LIVES



## LIVES

Devised by the company

A mother stands in court. The trial of the ages is in session. The final judgment? That's up to you. An epic tale following humanity across time. LIVES is a dynamic multimedia drama about hope, greed, love and loss, navigating interconnected pasts, tethered presents and fractured futures. In this case, there are no easy verdicts.

Yet one truth is clear: the consequences will echo far beyond the chambers of this trial. As hope battles despair and humanity wrestles with its nature, LIVES asks us, can the decisions we make today shape a better verdict for tomorrow?

**Sixth House** is a newly formed multidisciplinary collective, founded at Lowry as part of the Hothouse artist development programme.

## Company

### **Chloe Wade - @yorkshirewade / @chloewadeprod**

Chloe is an actor, writer and producer, originally from Huddersfield. She has worked in film, TV & theatre for over 10 years. She trained at International School of Screen Acting and WoLab's Actor-Writer course. Chloe is also a supported writer at Sheffield Theatres, as part of the Bank Cohort 2022, a scheme to support the next generation of northern talent. Chloe is passionate about bold, northern, feminist narratives & creates work that encourages people to challenge societal norms, gives a voice to the voiceless & utilises humour to explore serious issues. In 2022 Chloe set up a theatre company dedicated to amplifying the unheard voices of women. Her first full length play, *As SHE Likes It*, inspired by the story of #MeToo pioneer Patricia Douglas, reached the top 9% of plays at the Women's Prize for Playwriting, and recently completed a successful ACE funded tour to 28 midscale venues in the UK ('Very funny and deeply disturbing' Kathy Burke).

### **Natassa Argyropoulou - @dancingsushiii**

Natassa is a freelance dance artist and yoga teacher born in Greece and currently based in the UK. She got her BA from Northern School of Contemporary Dance and soon after graduating, she performed for Akeim Toussaint's 'Beatmotion Mass' and travelled to India for her Vinyasa Yoga Teacher Training Course. She later had the privilege of joining The Grief Series for their project 'All That Lives' as a part of Leeds2023, as well as performing in the tour of 'Off Center', an outdoor piece of work by Ramped Dance Company. In 2023/2024, she joined RendezVus Dance Company as a company dancer, which she had also been an apprentice for during her third year at NSCD, for their tour of dance theatre piece 'The Monocle'. She is currently a performer for 'Diecast', 'Firehouse' and 'Albert Schloss'.

### **Gabriel Clark - @gabriel\_clark**

Gabriel is a Queer British-Sardinian actor, director, writer and producer. He is a graduate of the Royal Exchange Theatre Young Company, trained with David Johnson and graduated from the University of Manchester with a First Class BA (Hons) Degree in English Literature and Drama. Gabriel is known for playing Ollie Morgan on Channel 4's *Hollyoaks*, and is a co-founder of *Switch\_MCR*. Gabriel has recently completed filming on a new feature film, releasing later this year, and can be heard in the BBC/Big Finish's *Doctor Who: The Stuff of Legend*. Gabriel co-wrote and directed the OFFIE Award-winning horror play *The Other Side*, which will be returning for a tour later this year, and was recently shortlisted for the Alpine Fellowship Theatre Prize, Film4 Feature Lab, and the Pride Stages award.

### **Dan Willis - @willisthefirst**

Dan is a Salford based Actor-Musician and Composer. Most recently he was one of the cast of 6 Actor Musicians in Les Enfants Terribles' production of 'The House with Chicken Legs', nominated for The Olivier Awards 2024 'Best Family Show'. Other theatre work includes shows at The Royal Exchange, York Theatre Royal, Bolton Octagon, Birmingham Rep, Nottingham Playhouse, Derby Playhouse, Leeds Playhouse, The Watermill Theatre, West End and National and International Tours. As a composer Dan has created original music for over 20 productions in addition to scoring and arranging music for short film and recorded media. He was chosen as one of the composers for The European Theatre Convention's 'Young Europe' programme, creating an original production in an exchange residential with Det Norske Teatret, Oslo.

### **Pui-ka Cheng - @p.u.i.ka**

Pui-ka Cheng is an actor, dubbing artist, puppeteer, mother of two daughters, from Hong Kong. Currently Manchester based, she graduated from the Chinese University of HK and the HK Academy of Performing Arts. Theatre work includes: *A Bouffon Play About Hong Kong* (Manchester), *With Love*, *Medea Boys* (Hong Kong), *Kassandra or the World as the End of Representation* (Hong Kong) and more. She conducted workshops and school tours in over 250 primary and secondary schools, tertiary institutions, and organizations. She also collaborated with institutions such as HSBC and RTHK, serving as a director and drama coach. In 2023, she designed and produced puppets for the new play & "The Wing"; at Joyful Theatre. Since 2007, she has provided Cantonese voice-over work for companies such as Disney, Marvel, Animax, TVN, NGC and Netflix. From 2020 to 2022, she served as one of the judges for the Hong Kong Drama Awards.

### **Samuel Tracy - @sxmtrxcy**

Samuel is an Actor, Director, Theatre-maker, Playwright and Movement Practitioner based in Greater Manchester. His training includes RADA; The BRIT school for Performing Arts and Technology; Frantic Assembly Ignition Company and The National Youth Theatre. Samuel's work ranges from the Classical (*Romeo & Juliet*, The Southwark Playhouse, The Tempest, Salisbury Playhouse) to cutting edge contemporary New Writing (Paines Plough Roundabout Season, Spitfire Girls, Tilted Wig/The National Theatre). Samuel is currently developing his one man show "The Smoke of Palo Santo" that received R&D space from The Royal Exchange Theatre; A reimagining of John Marston's Jacobean classic "The Dutch

Courtesan” and is a part of The Headlong Origins 5.0 cohort, a year long development programme for emerging directors, with mentorship from Lotte Wakeham (Artistic Director of Bolton Octagon).

**Follow us on Instagram @6thhousetheatre**

## **Creative Team**

Written by Chloe Wade, Gabriel Clark and Samuel Tracy  
Movement Direction by Natassa Argyropoulou and Samuel Tracy  
Puppet Design and Construction by Pui-Ka Cheng  
Music, Lyrics and Sound Design by Dan Willis  
AV and Projection by Gabriel Clark and Chloe Wade  
Costume and Make-up Curation by Natassa Argyropoulou and Samuel Tracy

## **Creative Support**

Set Consultant: Sascha Gilmour  
Set Construction: Rosie Whiting  
Stage Manager: Isabel Chan  
Lighting Consultant: Nathan Bradley  
Video & Projection Consultant: Andrew Crofts  
Technicians: Nathan Bradley & Eilidh Mackenzie  
Lowry Senior Producer: Artist Development: Antonia Beck  
Lowry Artist Development and Access Producer: Grace Ng  
Creative Captioning: Emily Bold  
Hothouse Facilitator: Stan Hodgson  
Hothouse Facilitator: Meghan Doyle

With thanks to Lowry, Grace Ng and Antonia Beck, Matt Eames, Steve Cowton, New Adelphi Theatre, The GMCA inspire fund, Helen Goalen – Rash Dash, Bronya Deutsch - Complicite, Daniel Hay-Gordon and Eleanor Perry -Thick & Tight.

## **Lowry Artist Development**

Sixth House Theatre was founded as part of a new artist development programme from Lowry called Hothouse. In response to requests from independent theatre makers and performance-based artists across the region for more opportunities to connect, collaborate and make work with others, we decided to pilot a programme that supported the formation of a new theatre company at Lowry.

We wanted to provide a 'hothouse' environment for the genesis of this new company and over the past 6 months we have provided a supportive space for the artists to explore ideas, fail safely and discover what it means to work together as a company or collective, and create ambitious and bold work.

Huge thanks to our Associate Artists Meghan Doyle and Stan Hodgson for their work and support in shaping this programme and for running a brilliant first intensive week for the company to springboard from.

Lowry's Artist Development Programme is generously supported by Arts Council England and Salford City Council.

**Content Warnings: Depiction of sexual assault, domestic abuse and violence. Themes of death and abortion. Visual images of war, violence and natural disasters.**

**For more information on content warnings, please see a member of staff for a Beat Sheet.**

We would love to know what you thought of the show. Please complete our audience feedback survey using this QR code. Please share your comments on social media with the hashtag #LIVES and tag @6thhousetheatre

