

National Theatre

Tuesday 31 March 2026

PRODUCTION IMAGES RELEASED FOR WINSOME PINNOCK'S NEW PLAY *THE AUTHENTICATOR* AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE



For images by Marc Brenner, click [here](#).

Production imagery released today for award-winning playwright **Winsome Pinnock's** (*Leave Taking*) new play [The Authenticator](#), marking the first time one of her plays has premiered at the National Theatre. The gripping gothic psychological thriller reunites Winsome with National Theatre Artistic Associate and Director **Miranda Cromwell** (*Death of a Salesman*) following their collaboration on *Rockets and Blue Lights*.

As previously announced, casting includes **Rakie Ayola** as Abi, **Sylvestra Le Touzel** as Fen and **Cherelle Skeete** as Marva.

This house is full of secrets

Soon after inheriting her family's stately home, eccentric artist Fenella Harford discovers a stash of hidden diaries and enlists a young academic, Marva, to confirm their authenticity.

Joined by Marva's brilliant but overlooked mentor, Abi, the three women come together to seek the truth, soon realising that secrets at the heart of Harford Hall were darker than they could have imagined.

Joining director Miranda Cromwell in the artistic team is set designer **Jon Bausor**, costume designer **Kinnetia Isidore**, lighting designer **Aideen Malone**, sound designer **Tingying Dong**, composer **Benjamin Kwasi Burrell**, movement director **Shelley Maxwell**, casting director **Alastair Coomer CDG**, voice coach **Hazel Holder** and staff director **Dubheasa Lanipekun**.

Playing in the Dorfman theatre from 26 March to 9 May 2026, press performance on Thursday 2 April 2026.

Tickets are on sale now, nationaltheatre.org.uk

ENDS

For images, click [here](#).

Production	Theatre	Dates	Press Night	Publicist
<i>The Authenticator</i>	Dorfman theatre	26 March to 9 May 2026	Thursday 2 April 2026	Anoushka Chakrapani

Assisted performances of *The Authenticator* at the National Theatre:

Captioned Performances: Monday 27 April 2026 – 7.30pm, Thursday 7 May 2026 7.30pm

Audio Described (with touch tours taking place 90 minutes before the show): Saturday 18 April 2026 – 2.30pm

Integrated BSL : Thursday 23 April 2026 – 7.30pm, Monday 4 May 2026 – 7.30pm

Relaxed performance: Wednesday 6 May 2026 – 7.30pm

With thanks

This is an Edgerton New Plays Commission. The commissioning of this work was also supported by the Sir Peter Shaffer Charitable Foundation.

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre offers the widest access to high-quality theatre in the world. This year, we are producing 14 plays across our three South Bank auditoriums, having staged more than a thousand shows that have shaped British theatre since 1963.

Our shows transfer to the West End and travel to Broadway and beyond, winning awards on both sides of the Atlantic. We champion bold storytelling that inspires, challenges and entertains, bringing the world to the National and taking the best of British theatre to the world. Through NT at Home and NT Live, we reach people digitally in almost every country worldwide: 184 out of 195 and counting.

We are a registered charity with a deep social purpose and a nationwide footprint. We partner with regional theatres to tour our work; more than 90% of state secondaries are signed up to our schools' platform, NT Collection; and our Skills Centre trains 5,000 individuals each year.

Our dedicated New Work Studio champions new writing, and we are central London's 'biggest factory' with workshops that power every aspect of our productions. We host the world's most extensive theatre archive, and our Green Store houses more than 150,000 reusable props and costumes as part of our sustainability commitments.

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