

26 January 2022

TRP Press Contact: Chris Baker, [chris.baker@theatroyal.com](mailto:chris.baker@theatroyal.com)

For Immediate Release

## Theatre Royal Plymouth and Paines Plough announce full cast for Samuel Bailey's *SORRY, YOU'RE NOT A WINNER* – a new play about male friendship, class and leaving home

Theatre Royal Plymouth and Paines Plough have announced the full cast for new play *SORRY, YOU'RE NOT A WINNER* written by **Samuel Bailey** and directed by **Jesse Jones**.

The cast will see **Eddie-Joe Robinson** (*Coriolanus* at Sheffield Crucible) as Liam and co-founder of JAM (Just Add Milk) **Kyle Rowe** (*Beast Of Blue Yonder*) as best friend Fletch, with West End star **Alice Stokoe** (*American Idiot, Mamma Mia!*) as Shannon and Peter O'Toole Prizewinner **Katja Quist** (*C-O-N-T-A-C-T*) as Georgia.

A coming-of-age tale navigating class, male friendship and new surroundings, *SORRY, YOU'RE NOT A WINNER* will debut at Theatre Royal Plymouth from **24 February** for a limited two week run before touring around the UK, including Bristol and Newcastle with further dates to be announced.

*Liam and Fletch grew up together. Born on the same street. Best mates since primary. Inseparable. The only difference was while Fletch was getting suspended from school, Liam was studying. And now he's going to Oxford. But with Liam gone, who's going to keep Fletch out of trouble?*

*SORRY, YOU'RE NOT A WINNER* is a play about aspiration, social mobility and getting caught between classes. It asks; if 'making it' means leaving everything you know and everyone you love behind – what's the point?

Alongside the show, Theatre Royal Plymouth and Paines Plough are working on extensive outreach programmes. These include two paid placement opportunities to University of Plymouth students - Cultural Ambassador and Trainee Assistant Director; a two week writer's residency to two University of Plymouth students, exploring Paines Plough's processes creating new work; and a new writing project in collaboration with the university. The new writing project will see Paines Plough work with over 50 students to create short plays from the page to the stage.

**Samuel Bailey** is a writer born in London and raised in the West Midlands. His play *SHOOK* won the Papatango Prize in 2019. After a sold-out run at the Southwark Playhouse, Papatango created a digital version of the play in collaboration with James Bobin. The film was a NY Times Critic's Pick and won Samuel the Times Breakthrough Award at the South Bank Show Sky Arts Awards. Previously, Samuel has been part of Old Vic 12, the Orange Tree Writer's Collective and a recipient of an MGC Futures bursary.

**Jesse Jones** is a Theatre Director from Bristol. He is a founding member of award-winning company The Wardrobe Ensemble who are associates of Complicité and Shoreditch Town Hall, they have toured nationally and internationally. Jesse was Resident Director at Royal and Derngate, Northampton having won the Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme award. He is also an alumni of the Old Vic 12, NT directors program and Bristol Old Vic's 'Made in Bristol' scheme. In 2011 Jesse founded the Wardrobe Theatre where he was Artistic Director until 2015 and before leaving he helped establish the theatre as the leading fringe theatre in the city. He is now also a trustee of Shoreditch Town Hall.

## ENDS

Images can be downloaded here:

[drive.google.com/drive/folders/185MJJKMDIqBMx4iJVn719HcfrjrDDcP5](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/185MJJKMDIqBMx4iJVn719HcfrjrDDcP5)

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on

[public.relations@theatroyal.com](mailto:public.relations@theatroyal.com) / 01752 230439

**Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP)** is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**Plymouth**  
Britain's Ocean City



Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**Plymouth**  
Britain's Ocean City

The Theatre Royal Plymouth is a registered arts and education charity.  
Registered charity number 284545.