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**For Immediate Release**

## **Theatre Royal Plymouth welcomes 12 new enthusiastic theatre-makers to join its training programme Lab Company**



**Video introductions:** <https://youtu.be/lsvJY9ToPoQ> & <https://youtu.be/tVmhlhSDRPE>

12 enthusiastic theatre-makers from the South West have joined Theatre Royal Plymouth's year-long training programme, Lab Company.

The scheme is aimed at those aged 18-30 from a range of backgrounds and experience, who are looking to work in the theatre industry professionally.

The Lab Company provides training, advice and mentoring, with weekly workshops held in The Lab, TRP's space for new and emerging talent. The group will learn all aspects of theatre-making from TRP staff, various visiting companies and freelancers.

Over the next year, the group will form a theatre production company and will work towards creating a brand new performance that will be staged in The Lab next summer.

Ben Lyon-Ross, Head of Artistic Development, Engagement and Learning at Theatre Royal Plymouth, said: *"I'm absolutely buzzing to welcome the new Lab Company into TRP. I'm already overwhelmed by the creativity and energy that they are bringing to the programme and I can't wait to see how they develop over this year."*

Liam Couch joined this year's Lab Company after graduating from university. He said: *"It seemed like a very exciting opportunity and something I could really put my all into and explore what I can do in theatre."*

*"I've really hit the ground running and I'm really excited to see what we can do in the months moving forward."*

Lab Company member Natasha Nwaegbe has recently finished drama school. She said: *"I'm loving it, I can't believe how quickly we've all gelled as a group, and I've loved how physical it's been."*

*"I'd like to be able to grow in confidence in myself as a performer and a theatre-maker and create new friendships too."*

Find out more about Lab Company: [theatreroyal.com/take-part](http://theatreroyal.com/take-part)

## ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on [public.relations@theatreroyal.com](mailto:public.relations@theatreroyal.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.

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.



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