

RADA

Autumn, 2025
GBS Theatre

Dance Nation

by Clare Barron

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Ashlee

Myka Defoe

Amina

Darcy Dixon

Connie

Agatha Enecio

Sofia

Kimberly Giselle

Luke

Mark Kilcawley

Vanessa / The Moms

Bibi MacDougall

Maeve

Emma Monnickendam

Dance Teacher Pat

Leith Shaban

Zuzu

Mia Thompson-Semackor

Creative Team

Director

Katie Bonna

Designer

ZhiYi Liu

Lighting Designers

Ana Lucía Emiliani

Lucía Sánchez Roldán

Sound Designer

Beth Duke

Associate Sound Designer

Callum Fincham

Choreographer

Darragh O'Leary

Movement Support and Intimacy

Angela Gaspareto

Voice and Dialect Support

Kay Welch

Fight Support

Bret Yount

Captioner

Jenny Skene

Content warnings:

Contains sexually explicit language,
representations of injury, simulated blood
and reference to suicidal thoughts.



Scan the QR code to visit the actors'
student profiles.

All enquiries regarding our current
BA (Hons) in Acting students should
be directed to actors@rada.ac.uk.

Dance Nation received its UK premiere at the Almeida Theatre, London, September 2018. Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the world premiere of *Dance Nation* in 2018 with support from an award by the National Endowment of the Arts, and a generous gift from Scott M. Delman. Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Trust for supporting new plays at Playwrights Horizons, and special thanks to the Time Warner Foundation for its leadership support of New Works Lab at Playwrights Horizons. *Dance Nation* was developed at the Perry-Mansfield New Works Festival, June 2015, with the Atlantic Theatre Company, and presented as part of the Contemporary American Voices Festival at Long Wharf Theatre, September 2016. *Dance Nation* was written, in part, in residence at SPACE on Ryder Farm, and received extensive workshop time and space as part of New Dramatists' Jerry A. Tishman Playwrights Creativity Fund.

This amateur production of *Dance Nation* is presented by arrangement with ConcordTheatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Production Team

The students working on this production are on the FdA in Technical Theatre and Stage Management, the BA (Hons) in Technical Theatre and Stage Management, the PgDip in Theatre Costume, MA Theatre Costume, MA Stage Management and MA Performance Lighting Design.

Assistant Director

Helen T. Miriam

Production Manager and Technical Manager

Tyler Dayani

Deputy Technical Manager

Darcy Bowler

Stage Manager

Eliana Levi

Deputy Stage Manager

Cas Cassidy

Assistant Stage Manager / Book Cover

Kerstyn Johnston

ASM2s

Rebekah Aiken

Millah Callender

Chief Electrician

Winnie Leung

Production Electrician

Freya Game

Lighting Programmer

Jamie Norman

Lighting Operator

Herbie Hudson

(Isaiah Cansdale - cover)

Lighting Crew

Isaiah Cansdale

Ava-Pearl Herbert

Herbie Hudson

Shunsuke Imai

Fen Lin Ng Kwet Shing

Beth Tibble

Department Chief Production Sound Engineer

Clara McDevitt

Deputy Chief Production Sound Engineer

Matthew Johns

Lead Production Sound Engineer

Dexter Williams

Sound Operators

Chloe Brazier

Cameron Harries

Millie Johnson

Jay Jones

Arjun Luther

Isla McLeod

Duty Sound

Callum Fincham

Lydia Hervey

Mahrukh Khan

Matthew Johns

Clara McDevitt

Trisha Mishra

Dexter Williams

Joshua Wilson

Sound Crew

Chloe Brazier

Cameron Harries

Millie Johnson

Jay Jones

Arjun Luther

Isla McLeod

Fly and Special Effects Crew

Tia Killen

Lucy Smith

Shannon Coll Wariebi

Costume Supervisor

Lina Kormann

Wardrobe Assistants

Rosie McNamara

Kim Walker

Dressers

Robert Mace

Kim Walker

Georgia Wheeler

Wigs, Hair and Make-Up Supervisor

Annie Little

Scenic Art

Head of Department

Caitlin Roan

Scenic Art Assistants

Rose Brown

Joseph Dingle

Robert Mace

Alexandra Shepherd

Frank Tuite

Georgia Wheeler

Construction Project Manager

Siena Godfrey

Draughtsperson

Astro Clack

Scenery Builders

Astro Clack

Cecily Hanson

Construction Crew

Dan Claydon

Tia Killen

Jay Shann

Lucy Smith

Shannon Coll Wariebi

Bertie Williamson

Props Makers

India Fisher

Ruth Kogelmann

Props Assistants

Rebekah Aiken

Millah Callender

Ziya Haji

Ben Hopper

Dylan McLay

Show Crew

Rebekah Aiken

Millah Callender

Ziya Haji

Ben Hopper

Dylan McLay



Scan the QR code to visit
the Technical Theatre Arts
student profiles.

Biographies

Clare Barron

Writer

Clare Barron is a playwright and actor from Wenatchee, Washington. Her play *Dance Nation* had its world premiere at Playwrights Horizons in 2018 and subsequently its UK premiere at the Almeida Theatre in London. It was a 2019 finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama and is the recipient of the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and The Relentless Award established in honor of Philip Seymour Hoffman.

Her other plays include: *You Got Older* (Page 73, Steppenwolf) which received two Obie Awards for Playwriting and Performance, a Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Play, and was a Susan Smith Blackburn finalist and the most-recommended play on the Kilroys' List; *I'll Never Love Again* (The Bushwick Starr); and *Baby Screams Miracle* (Clubbed Thumb; Woolly Mammoth).

She is the recipient of a Whiting Award for Drama, the Paula Vogel Playwriting Award at The Vineyard, and the Page 73 Fellowship; and is a member of New Dramatists.

Katie Bonna

Director

Katie Bonna is a multi-award winning writer and performer for stage, screen and radio. She directs and teaches regularly at a number of prestigious drama schools.

ZhiYi Liu

Set Designer

ZhiYi Liu is in her third year of RADA's BA (Hons) in Technical Theatre and Stage Management course, specialising in prop making and design. Whilst at RADA, she has worked as a prop maker for *Yerma* (Gielgud Theatre) and *Mirandolina* (Jerwood Vanbrugh Theatre). Design credits include *Paradise Now* (Gielgud Theatre) and *Brand* (project). Outside of RADA, ZhiYi has worked as a puppet maker for *BF Fest* (Nick Barnes Puppets) and *Potted Panto* (Wilton's Music Hall).

Lucía Sánchez Roldán

Lighting Designer

As Lighting Designer, theatre includes: *The Wonderful World of Dissocia* (Stratford East); *Girl in the machine* (Young Vic); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Mercury Theatre); *Sisters 360* (Polka Theatre); *Bedroom Farce* (Queen's theatre); *Kill Thy*

Neighbour (Theatre Clwyd, Torch theatre); *Grate* (National theatre of Kosovo); *Under Milk Wood* (Sherman Theatre); *The E.U. Killed My Dad* (Jermyn Street Theatre); *Papercut* (Park 90); *Radiant Boy*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *The Walworth Farce* (Southwark Playhouse); *Sillón K* (Teatro Abadía Madrid); *Suddenly, Last Summer* (as Co-Lighting Designer with Jamie Platt, English Theatre Frankfurt); *Orpheus Descending* (National Theatre of Albania); *We'll Be Who We Are* (Vault Festival); *Fefu and Her Friends*, *Not About Nightingales* (Tobacco Factory); *Bogeyman* (Pleasance/Camden's People Theatre); *Black, El Payaso* (Arcola Theatre, Cervantes Theatre); *Camp Albion* (Watermill Theatre); *Bad Lads*; *We Are the Best!* (Live Theatre); *Tapped* (Theatre 503); *The Forest Awakens*, *Code and Dagger*, *A New Beginning* (Kiln); *Cyrano* (Sainsbury Theatre LAMDA); *The Gift* (GBS RADA); *Barbarians* (Silk Street); *Invisibles*, *The First* (Vault Festival); *The Spirit* (BAC); *Ms Julie*, *Utopia Room* (The Place); *The Niceties* (Finborough); *How We Begin* (Kings Head).

As associate lighting designer, theatre includes: *Evita* (London Palladium); *Lehman Trilogy* (Gillian Lynne, West End); *Hello, Dolly!* (London Palladium); *Stranger Things: The First Shadow* (Phoenix Theatre, West End); *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* (Complicité); *two Palestinians go dogging* (Royal Court); *Cabaret* (Playhouse, West End); *Camp Siegfried* (Old Vic); *Taboo Anniversary Concert* (London Palladium); *Mirror and the Light* (Gielgud, West End); *Amélie* (Criterion, West End); *Les Misérables: The Staged Concert* (Sondheim, West End); *Moonlight and Magnolias* (Nottingham Playhouse); *The Fishermen* (West End and Marlowe).

Beth Duke

Sound Designer

Recent credits include: *Consumed* (Park Theatre); *The Soon Life* (Southwark Playhouse); *Inspector Morse: House of Ghosts* (UK Tour); *The Chrysalids* (Mountview); *Retrograde* (Apollo Theatre West End); *Derren Brown Only Human Live* (UK tour); *Silence* (Queen's Theatre Hornchurch/UK tour); *Coming to England* (Nicoll Entertainment; UK tour); *Bedroom Farce* (Queen's Theatre Hornchurch); *Hasbian* (Clapham Omnibus); *Party Games* (Yvonne Arnold Theatre/tour); *The Other Boleyn Girl* (Chichester Festival Theatre); *Sherlock Holmes and the Poison Wood*; *The Suspicions of Mr Whicher* (Watermill Theatre); *Richard; My Richard* (Shakespeare North Playhouse); *The Jolly Christmas Postman* (Royal Derngate); *The Frogs*

Biographies continued

(Royal Derngate/Kiln Theatre); *Wishmas: A Fantastical Christmas Adventure* (Secret Group); *Jack and the Beanstalk*; *Lovestuck* (Stratford East); *Syncopation* (Bridewell Theatre); *What It Means* (Wilton's Music Hall); *Strategic Love Play* (Belgrade Theatre/ Soho Theatre/UK tour); *The Trial of Josie K* (Unicorn Theatre); *Akedah* (Hampstead Theatre); *The Importance of Being Earnest*; *Beauty and the Beast*; *Alice in Wonderland* (Mercury Theatre); *Amma VR Experience* (Tara Theatre); *Death Drop: Back in the Habit* (Garrick Theatre/UK tour); *A Single Man* (Park Theatre); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (English Touring Theatre) and *Bridgerton* (Secret Cinema).

Callum Fincham

Associate Sound Designer

This production marks Callum's first role as Associate Sound Designer. Callum is in his second year of FdA in Technical Theatre and Stage Management at RADA, specialising in sound engineering and design. Alongside his studies, he works freelance in the theatre and immersive industry.

Previous sound design credits include: *Return to Pantoland* and *Shakespeare in Love* with Conservatoire EAST. Sound No. 1 credits include: *Down the Rabbit Hole*, *Through the Wardrobe and on to Neverland*, also with Conservatoire EAST.

Darragh O'Leary

Choreographer

I use dance and movement to tell stories with and about people. I love working with a mix of performers — professionals, community participants, young people — anyone willing to move, connect, and be part of something together.

I began my career as a performer in musical theatre, spending ten years on stages in the West End, across the UK, and internationally.

Now my work spans musicals, plays, large-scale ceremonies, music videos, and movement coaching. My projects often take place beyond traditional stages — in galleries, museums, streets, parks, stadiums, TV sets, and prisons.

I'm happiest in a room full of collaborators — figuring things out, playing, creating — sometimes with just a bench and two boxes, sometimes with Danny Boyle in an Olympic Stadium.

darragholeary.co.uk

RADA Supporters

Thank you to all those who donate in support of our training, our students, our creative and outreach programmes.

Major Supporters

Academy Circle

Charles Holloway OBE
Anne Peck
Anonymous

Presidents Circle

Richard Bernstein
Cecilia and Stuart Boyd
Sir Kenneth Branagh
Alan and Ros Haigh
Tania Seary and Chris Lynch
Satoko Yamaga Macdonald
Anonymous

RADA Ensemble

Empower Patrons

Juan Corbella and Howard Pfabe
Richard Lissack KC
Robert Lister

Collaborate Patrons

Zac and Lucy Barratt
Rosalind Clayton and Martin Higginson
Aidan Clegg
Peter Davies
Gemma Jones
Gerald Kidd
Maxine Peake
John and Antonia Romeo
Anonymous

Innovate Patrons

Desmond and Madeleine Cohen
Graham Downie
Jennifer Hirsch
Uche Mere
Marcus Ryder
Caroline Spicer
David Warren
Jill Whitehouse

We also thank our generous RADA Ensemble Amplify Patrons and Members, as well as those supporters who prefer to remain anonymous.

Corporate Donors

Warner Bros. Discovery
Crystal Amber

Industry Pathway Partners

Enable

Entedi
Onsight
Panasonic
Neg Earth
Warner Bros Discovery
Sotheby's London

Evolve

MDG
Akta Photography
Champagne Taittinger
Embrace
White Light Ltd
Pearl & Dean
Triple E Track systems

Create

Ambersphere

Inspire

Le Mark Group Ltd

In-Kind Partners

Anna Valley Ltd
Autograph Sound
Cadac
ETC
Factory
KV2 Audio
Notch
Panalux UK
Projected Image
Shure
Signify Lighting
TSL Lighting

Trusts and Foundations:

The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust
Cockayne - Grants for the Arts: a donor advised fund held at The London Community Foundation
The Behrens Foundation
Backstage Trust
The Black Heart Foundation
CHK Foundation
The Josephine Hart Poetry Foundation
The Kirby Laing Foundation
The Noël Coward Foundation
The Sidney E Frank Foundation
The Robert Gavron Charitable Trust

Laurence Isaacson Scholarship

Michael Blakemore Scholarship

Scholarship Fund

The Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation
The Carne Trust
The Clothworkers' Foundation
The John S Cohen Foundation
The David Cunliffe Scholarship
The Desmond Gill Memorial Award
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
The Gilbert and Eileen Edgar Foundation
ITV Tony Warren Bursary
The Josephine Hart Poetry Foundation
The Laurence Olivier Bursary

The Leverhulme Trust
The Lilian Baylis Award
The Lionel Bart Charitable Foundation
The Nick Lewis Memorial Trust
The Rigby Foundation
The Dame Rosemary Squire Bursary
The Sir John Gielgud Charitable Trust Bursary
Sophie's Silver Lining Fund
The South Square Trust
Trish Montemuro Bursary
The Wall Trust
The William and Frances Branagh Memorial Fund

In Memoriam

Gifts made in honour of the following people:
Michael Blakemore

Notified Legacies

Charles Barton
Marcus and Susie Bicknell
Caroline Burt
Philip Carne MBE
Kenneth Cohen
Sarah Cook
Mike Cooper
Craig Crosbie
Sheila Dickinson
Maureen Elton
Sarah Evans
Anthony Gardner
Don Gaskell
Guy Henry
Richard Hicks
Robin Houston
David Hunt
Nigel Pivaro
Fiona Shaw CBE
Joe Solomon
Duncan Sparkes
Felicity Trew
Bruce Wall
Camilla Whitworth-Jones
And all those who wish to remain anonymous.

Realised Legacies

Margaret Burkinshaw
Renée Cooper
Alastair Davidson
Fenella Fielding
Iris Evelyn Gillett
James Hamilton
Laurence Isaacson
Robert Kaliban
Sheila Manning
Guy Pursey
Ann Richardson
Alan Rickman
Griff Thomas

Awards in Perpetuity

Constance Roberts
Dame Irene Vanbrugh
Debbie Cronshaw
Eleanore Bryan

Elizabeth Sebok (Lead Voice Tutor)
Eunice Black
The Friends of RADA
Garth Wilton - dedicated to Ann Wilton
Gillian Wilson
John Thaw
Jess Sleath
Kate Dreyer Memorial
Keely Donovan
Keith Waterhouse
Lady Pilkington
Lionel Gamlin
Lord and Lady Attenborough
Marianne Pearce
Mary Higgins
Mary Morris
Max Reinhardt
Peter and Sheila Bennett
Peter Barkworth
RADA Associates
The Rayne Foundation
The Searle Scholarship
St Clair Bayfield
The Sylvia London Student Bursary
WCRS Student Bursary

We would like to also thank those generous supporters who wish to remain anonymous.

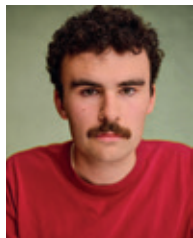


Join RADA Ensemble

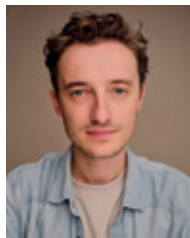
Enjoy exclusive opportunities to get closer to our work. Your support helps us continue to train and nurture the next generation of creative talent. Join us at rada.ac.uk/rada-ensemble or scan the QR code.

BA (Hons) in Acting

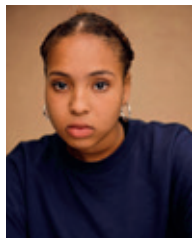
* has representation



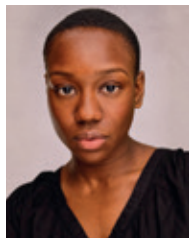
Henry
Chappell



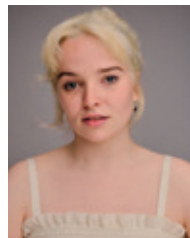
Paddy
Cunningham



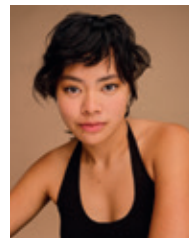
Myka
Defoe



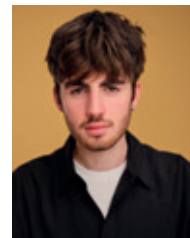
Darcy
Dixon



Ava
Dodsworth



Agatha
Enecio



Gruffydd Rhys
Evans



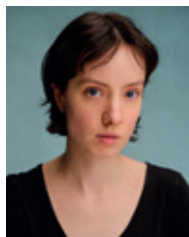
Katrina
Galloway



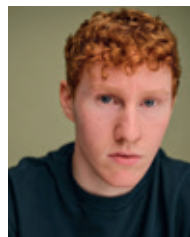
Kimberly
Giselle



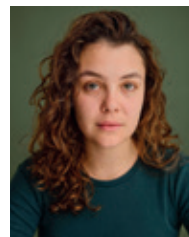
Abdul
Jalloh



Katie
Keet



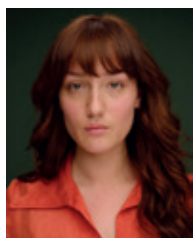
Mark
Kilcawley



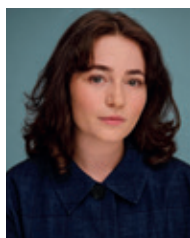
Yoanna
Kolusheva



Max
Longmuir



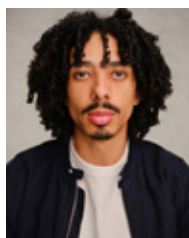
Bibi
MacDougall



Emma
Monnickendam



Nick
O'Kane



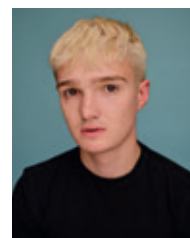
Isaac O'Connor-
Adekoya



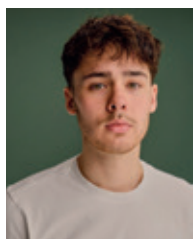
Afi
Okaidja



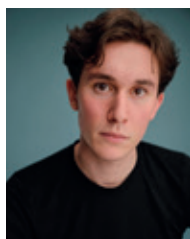
Marcus
Omoro*



Leo
Patrick*



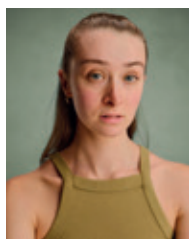
Kit
Redding



Leith
Shaban



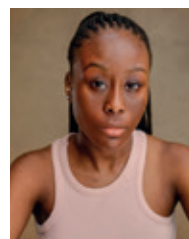
Josh
Singh Sian



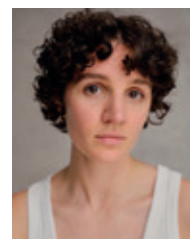
Ellen
Stone



Reefeh
Sumaili



Mia Thompson-
Semackor



Friedli
Walton

These are the 2026 graduates of our three-year BA (Hons) in Acting. Their profiles can be found at www.rada.ac.uk/profiles and you can see them in our student productions throughout this academic year. We are eager for our graduates to gain employment but failing to complete their final year of training may prevent them from gaining their degree and can hinder

their long-term development in the profession. Therefore, students are not permitted to sign with an agent or artists' management before Monday 16 March 2026. Any offers of employment or representation should be directed to Joan Oliver (Interim Director of BA Actor Training) via actors@rada.ac.uk or 020 7636 7076.

 RoyalAcademyOfDramaticArt

 royalacademyofdramaticart

rada.ac.uk

Patron: His Majesty King Charles III

Registered charity no. 312819

Headshots by Akta, aktaphotography.com



RADA Big Give Christmas Challenge

Support the next generation of creative talent and become a part of RADA's extraordinary legacy.

Donate between 2–9 December 2025, and your gift will go twice as far — every pound will be doubled.

Scan the QR code or email development@rada.ac.uk