

# Cast

Nick Gill - Lear  
Genevieve Cunnell - Goneril  
Becca Jones - Regan  
Rachel Connolly - Cordelia  
Sam Peake - Gloucester  
Shannon Smith - Edmund  
James Roscow - Edgar  
Ollie Shortt - Kent  
Ben Hollands - The Fool  
Jake McGrath - Albany  
Dave Porter - Cornwall  
Niamh Caines - Oswald  
Omid Faramarzi - Ensemble  
Karl Rawsthorne - Ensemble  
Emilie Brittain - Ensemble  
Bethany Ames - Ensemble

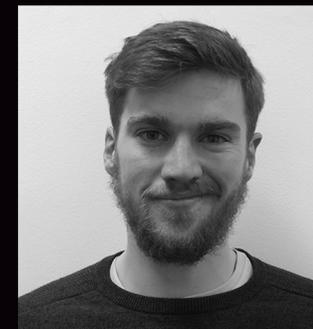
# Crew

Director - Gus Herbert  
Producer - Malt Standen  
Assistant Director - Ruby Hawley  
Technical Director - Nathan Penney  
Technical Operators - Harry Bridge, Joseph Heil,  
Joanne Blunt & Hazel O'Donohoe  
Stage Managers - Joanna Manning, Darcey Graham,  
Ben Maries & Tom Tolond  
Publicity Designer - Ben Hollands  
Lighting Designer - Joanne Blunt  
Set Designer - Tyler-Antonia Gordon  
Artwork - Alexander Jamieson  
Costumes, Props and Make-up Designer - Maddie Hardy  
Sound Designer - Ben Hollands  
Special Thanks - Nikki Hill, PhotoSoc, Mikey Nissebaum



Malt Standen - Producer  
BA English & Philosophy (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - Room 30, Letting Go  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



## Producer's Note:

Often, being part of a play at the New Theatre is the highlight of anyone's semester. Producing King Lear has BEEN my semester. But seeing the play develop, from being asked to produce for Gus to the final product, has been remarkable; Gus and I no doubt share the sentiment that we've witnessed something truly special.

In truth, working with an enormous cast is never easy, regardless of the talent ours is blessed with, and my working knowledge of Microsoft Excel, ability to create wordsearches and competence in finding bargains in charity shops have developed immensely during this process. Fortunately, I can honestly say every rehearsal has more than made up for the effort put into organising them and I have no doubt the shows will be fantastic.

What to say of Mr Herbert himself? Reining in the energies of our cast alone deserves special plaudits. Beyond establishing himself as a real asset to theatre through his brilliant directing he is also a genuinely great guy and friend. As a first time producer, I know I've asked some rather obvious/basic/stupid question and having Gus around to answer them or shoot down my sometime over-exuberant ideas has been really helpful.

And to our cast: thank you all. It's been swell. Truthfully, wholeheartedly (and aloofly) I wouldn't have enjoyed this process anywhere near as much without each of you. We have been gifted noblemen and women, ensembles and knights all with more ability than their roles ever required. I have full confidence you'll smash it.

Thanking everyone involved in such a large performance is difficult, but our backstage crew, from tech to costume, make-up to set design, have all been an absolute pleasure to work with and an enormous help throughout.

Clichéd as it is, I truly hope and believe that watching King Lear will be as pleasurable as my producing of it. It's a timeless, thought-provoking script, directed by an incredible director, performed by a stellar cast and assisted by an amazing crew. Enjoy.

# Lear's Knights

James Curling - BSc Chemistry (1st Year)

Nathan Dampier - BA History & Russian (2nd Year)

Holly Gatfield - BA English (2nd Year)

Arzhia Habibi - BA Contemporary Chinese Studies (4th Year)

Immy Hulbert - BA History (3rd Year)

Bernardo Kerr - PhD Theology & Religious Studies

Charlotte Kirkman - BA International Media  
and Communications (1st Year)

Max Miller - BA Geography (1st Year)

Beth Mullen - BSc Economics (1st Year)

Akash Ramnath - Msci International Relations and  
Global Issues (1st Year)

Elinor Ward - BA English (1st Year)

Gus Herbert - Director  
BA History (3rd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Directing: Blackbird, Buried  
Child (Nottingham New Theatre)



## Director's Note:

What first attracted me to the prospect of directing King Lear was its approach to the psyche and the impact of mental illnesses upon families. How the other characters in one of Shakespeare's finest tragedies react to Lear's descent through dementia was something I was incredibly keen to explore. But what I wanted to add to all of this was how Lear's illness and subsequent rashness impacts upon the political state, which has been something that is not as focussed upon as much as the familial issues in the performance history of this play. King Lear is a superb play and I feel like I'm directing my favourite scene every time we rehearse and while it has been very stressful to direct a play on such an epic scale, I have loved every second of it.

My cast have been unbelievable and deserve so much praise for their talent and commitment to such a huge production. There are too many of them to name individually in this small space, but everyone has thrown their all into this show and the results have been magnificent. I have had the benefit of working with such a diverse cast of actors who have all brought something different to the group and have worked together wonderfully. I cannot sing their praises enough.

I would like to thank Matt above all else for your immense hard work and unwavering support throughout this entire process. You have been the backbone of this production and I am sure that everyone involved will give testament to how fantastic you have been. And the fact that this is your first time producing displays just how talented you are. To the rest of the crew, thank you so much for providing me with amazing creative support for such a massive project. So many parts have come together and I am extremely appreciative for everyone's commitment to this show. I hope you have a great night and enjoy the show as much as we have enjoyed working on it.

Nick Gill – Lear  
BA Politics (2nd Year)



Previous Experience:  
Acting – Room 30; Titus Andronicus  
(Nottingham New Theatre)  
Producing – Tribes  
(Nottingham New Theatre)

Emilie Brittain – Ensemble  
BA Music (1st Year)



Previous Experience:  
Singing – Bent; Doubt  
(Nottingham New Theatre)

Genevieve Cunnell – Goneril  
MA Creative Writing (4th Year)



Previous Experience:  
Acting – Kiss Me Like You Mean  
It; The Last Days of Judas Iscariot;  
Boeing-Boeing; Moon; Porphyria;  
Closer (Nottingham New Theatre)

Bethany Ames – Ensemble  
BA English (1st Year)



Previous Experience:  
Acting – A Midsummer Night's  
Dream (St Mark's Catholic School)

Niamh Caines - Oswald  
BA English (1st Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - Grim (Untold Theatre  
Company); Punk Rock (Hoghead  
Theatre Company); Yerma  
(Tonbridge Grammar School)



Becca Jones - Regan  
BA Law (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - Tribes (Nottingham  
New Theatre)



Omid Faramarzi - Ensemble  
BA English & History (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - Equus; Letting Go;  
Back to Oblivion  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Rachel Connolly - Cordelia  
BA English (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - A Servant to Two  
Masters; Habeas Corpus  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Karl Rawsthorne - Ensemble  
BA Ancient History (3rd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - Kiss Me Like You Mean It;  
Little Red (Nottingham New Theatre)



Sam Peake - Gloucester  
LLB Law (3rd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting - Molly Sweeney;  
A Clockwork Orange;  
Jack Aged 5 and a Half  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Shannon Smith - Edmund  
BA Media/Communications  
& Spanish (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting – Mojo; Blackbird; The  
Pitchfork Disney  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Ben Hollands - The Fool  
MA English (4th Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting – 18b; The Final Act; Equus; The  
Rehearsal; Habeas Corpus; Sorry, Wrong  
Number; The Comedy of Errors; East; 1984;  
The 39 Steps (Nottingham New Theatre)



James Roscow - Edgar  
BA History (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting – Tribes; The Last  
Days of Judas Iscariot  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Jake McGrath - Albany  
BA English (1st Year)

This is Jake's first production at  
The Nottingham New Theatre

Previous Experience:  
Acting – Tartuffe; Billy Liar; Guys and  
Dolls; You Never Can Tell  
(Epsom College)



Ollie Shortt - Kent  
LLB Law (2nd Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting – Romeo and Juliet;  
Sorry, Wrong Number; The Pitchfork  
Disney (Nottingham New Theatre)  
Directing – Blue Remembered  
Hills (Nottingham New Theatre)  
Producing – The Final Act  
(Nottingham New Theatre)



Dave Porter - Cornwall  
MA International Relations (6th Year)

Previous Experience:  
Acting – Kiss Me Like You Mean It;  
Titus Andronicus; A Midsummer  
Night's Dream; The Laramie  
Project (Nottingham New Theatre)  
Directing – Moon; Antigone;  
All My Sons (Nottingham New Theatre)

