

MEDIA RELEASE

THE
COURT
THEATRE

24 May 2019

For immediate release

[Boudica](#)

Written by Tristan Bernays

Performed by The Court Youth Company

The Forge at The Court's Pub Charity Studio

Short show description:

After her husband's death, legendary Iceni Queen Boudica's homeland was stolen; her body was broken; and unspeakable things were done to her daughters by the invading Romans. Now she's back – and she's brought an army.

ARMY OF YOUNG PERFORMERS TAKE THE STAGE AT THE COURT THEATRE

IN-BRIEF:

Battle is raging at The Court Theatre as The Court Youth Company present their biggest production ever in epic play *Boudica*.

Telling the story of legendary Iceni Queen Boudica, this monumental drama is an invigorating spectacle, performed by some of Canterbury's most promising young performers.

"*Boudica* is an adaptation of the life of the Queen of the Iceni, who is a real historical figure," says Director Dan Bain. "It tells the story of her uniting the disparate warring tribes of Britain to overthrow the occupying Roman forces."

Although set in the distant past, *Boudica* was written just two years ago, giving this ancient story a modern twist.

"It's got that feel of something classic and worthy, but with a really modern and contemporary sensibility to it," Bain says.

With well over twenty characters, numerous battle scenes and a series of intense, dramatic monologues, *Boudica* is a huge undertaking for any organisation, let alone a training and performance company.

"I'm really impressed by this year's cohort," Bain says. "They've got a really good work ethic and I'm excited to see where we can get this piece to."

Despite its ancient story, audiences can expect a show that's big on scale, grit and drama in *Boudica*.

Boudica runs at The Court Theatre from the 25 – 29 June.

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The Court Theatre

PO Box 268

Christchurch 8140

New Zealand

Email: admin@courtheatre.org.nz

www.courtheatre.org.nz

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IN-DEPTH:

Battle is raging at The Court Theatre as The Court Youth Company present their biggest production ever in epic play *Boudica*.

Telling the story of legendary Iceni Queen Boudica, this monumental drama is an invigorating, hair-raising spectacle, performed by some of Canterbury's most promising young performers.

Boudica's story is an ancient tale of revenge and power, following her attempt in 61AD to recover her homeland, stolen by the occupying Romans after her husband's death.

"*Boudica* is an adaptation of the life of the Queen of the Iceni, who is a real historical figure," says Director Dan Bain. "It tells the story of her uniting the disparate warring tribes of Britain to overthrow the occupying Roman forces."

Although set in the distant past, *Boudica* was written just two years ago, giving this ancient story a modern twist.

"It's got that feel of something classic and worthy, but with a really modern and contemporary sensibility to it," Bain says.

Bold, brash and fierce, Rehearsal Assistant Director Riley Harter says, "audiences can look forward to experiencing an epic revenge story in *Boudica*."

Harter, who works with the Youth Company as The Court's Education Co-ordinator, is thrilled to be working with this year's young performers as they take on the company's biggest challenge to date.

"There's a lot to look forward to with this show – especially seeing what these young performers are capable of," she says.

With well over twenty characters, numerous battle scenes and a series of intense, dramatic monologues, *Boudica* is a huge undertaking for any organisation, let alone a training and performance company.

"I'm really impressed by this year's cohort," Bain says. "They've got a really good work ethic and I'm excited to see where we can get this piece to."

One of the biggest challenges is choreographing multiple fight scenes in an exciting yet safe fashion. "I'm teaching them how to fight each other so no one gets hurt," Bain assures.

"This element of physical theatre is new to us," says Boudica herself, company member Lillian Fata.

"It's exciting getting to play a very physical performance," says fellow company member Meg Fulton. "We get to fight, I get to stab some people – and we get to slap each other!"

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Boudica runs at The Court Theatre from the 25 – 29 June.

Cast

Boudica	Lillian Fata
Blodwynn	Meg Fulton
Alonna	Sarah Lawrence
Cunobeline	Richard Townsend
Clothen/Ensemble	James Caughley
Badvoc	Anaru Shadbolt
Andraste/Ensemble	Freddy Thornton
Gunnervik/Ensemble	Stella Cheersmith
Waylen/Sejanus/Ensemble	Travis Woffenden
Guard/Ensemble	Kaitlyn Cooper
Druid/Ensemble	Abby Burkin
Warrior Woman/Ensemble	Sam Scott
Gaius Suetonius	Josiah Morgan
Catus Deciamus	Felix Elliott
Silvia/Ensemble	Jorja Farrant
Cato	Luka Malthus
Lucius	Haydon Dickie
Sestus	Anita Mapukata
Roman Woman/Ensemble	Isayah Snow
Centurion 1	Quinn Kueppers

Creatives

Director	Dan Bain
Rehearsal Assistant Director	Riley Harter
Lighting Designer	Paul Johnson
Costume Designer	Hayley Douglas
Stage Manager	Erica Browne

Ticket Prices

Adult	\$22
Student	\$15

Show Times

- Tuesday – Saturday 7:00pm

Bookings: phone 03 963 0870 or visit www.courttheatre.org.nz

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For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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