

PRESS RELEASE: 26 November 2021

For immediate release



house theatre announces its support to four brilliant contemporary theatre productions to tour to 27 arts venues in south-east and east England during spring 2022



Here's What She Said to Me

written by Oladipo Agboluaje;
directed by Mojisola Elufowoju
presented by Utopia Theatre
touring from 27 January 2022

The Beautiful Game

presented by Next Door Dance
touring from 04 February 2022

Ladykiller

by Madeline Gould;
directed by Madelaine Moore
presented by The Thelmas
touring from 09 February 2022

plus, a supported tour of

Slime

written and composed by Sam Caseley;
directed by Ruby Thompson
presented by The Herd Theatre
touring from 26 March 2022

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house theatre's spring 2022 touring season includes three presented shows and one supported.

The three presented shows celebrate women and their stories. Characterised by strong female characters, each show is brought to stages across the south east by brilliant female-led companies.

The Thelmas' *Ladykiller*, a one-woman blood-soaked thriller set in a hotel room and the world of zero-hours contracts, has built something of a cult following since its award-winning run in Edinburgh in 2018. *Here's What She Said to Me* from Utopia Theatre sees a cast of three women play 32 characters, telling a moving story of daughters and mothers in the world of migrations and shifting identities. *The Beautiful Game*, a history of football (and the offside rule) is told by Next Door Dance's unstoppable ensemble of four female dancers.

Slime by The Herd Theatre, will be supported by house from March: a hilarious, surreal show for 2-5-year-olds and their families, told with a handful of words and lots of SLIME.

Gavin Stride, director of Farnham Maltings which delivers the house initiative, said,

'Two years ago, these very special pieces of performance had their plans cut short by the global pandemic. Ladykiller and Slime were midway through their tours, The Beautiful Game had just gone on sale, and Here's What She Said to Me had managed just three performances at its original home, Sheffield Theatres. Our support to these companies and their shows remained undimmed. So, we are thrilled to be finally keeping our promise to present the best new theatre in towns across the south east of England.'

house was established in 2012 as a venue network initiative to improve the range, quality and scale of theatre presented across the south east and east of England. It did that by convening a network of more than 180 venues in the region. Ten years on, the ambition and network are stronger than ever.

South-east England in particular has the highest concentration of small, medium and large towns of any region in the UK*. With Covid-19 increasing the perception of local, and with the demise of the high street and a focus on place-making within almost all Local Authorities, house theatre continues its mission to work closely with venues to support their towns and communities to celebrate their local identity and to experience high-quality cultural activity.

— ENDS —

* Source: [Centre for Towns](#)

Notes to Editors

FURTHER INFORMATION AND INTERVIEWS

Please contact Meghan Cosgrove, Arts Administrator for house
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SHOWS ON TOUR SPRING 2022

Please note: tour schedules are correct at the time of publishing, but could be subject to change.

Utopia Theatre and house present

Here's What She Said to Me

written by Oladipo Agboluaje; directed by Mojisola Elufowoju



'Extraordinary energy' [British Theatre Guide](#)

Meet Agbeke, Omotola and Aramide, three generations of proud African women connecting with each other across two continents, across time and space.

Here's What She Said to Me combines drama with music, poetry and movement to tell a moving story of daughters and mothers braving life with an undying hope, optimism and resilience.

Touring from 27 January 2022 with the following dates supported by house:

Wednesday 2 February 2022	READING South Street Arts Centre at 8pm
Thursday 3 February 2022	CHIPPING NORTON The Theatre at 7.30pm
Saturday 5 February 2022	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Old Town Hall Arts Centre at 8pm
Sunday 6 February 2022	GILLINGHAM GlassBox Theatre at 8pm
Tuesday 8 February 2022	PETERSFIELD Bedales, Olivier Theatre at 7.30pm
Wednesday 9 February 2022	FOLKESTONE Quarterhouse at 7.30pm
Thursday 10 February 2022	WORTHING Theatres at 7.30pm
Friday 11 February 2022	LONDON artsdepot at 7.30pm
Saturday 12 February 2022	HOUNSLOW Arts Centre at 8pm
Tuesday 15 February 2022	NORWICH Playhouse at 7.30pm
Wednesday 16 February 2022	MAIDENHEAD Norden Farm Centre for the Arts at 7.30pm
Thursday 17 February 2022	COLCHESTER Lakeside Theatre at 7.30pm
Friday 18 February 2022	BEDFORD The Place Theatre at 8pm
Saturday 19 February 2022	OXFORD Arts at the Old Fire Station at 7.30pm



For the full tour schedule, please visit www.utopiatheatre.co.uk

More information on the [house website](#)

Production photos by George Eyo

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Next Door Dance and house present

The Beautiful Game



Some love it, others loathe it, but we can't avoid it – it's everywhere! A laugh-out-loud look at our undying obsession with football, celebrating everything from weird match-day rituals to ridiculous armchair punditry. *The Beautiful Game* explores the highs and lows of football fandom – it may even attempt to explain the offside rule.

Four women deliver a knockout performance in this ballsy, high-energy show which is brimming with nostalgia and set to a buzzing soundtrack.

Even if football isn't your thing, Next Door Dance's electric, feel-good show will persuade you of its charms.

Touring from 04 February 2022, presented by house:

Friday 04 February	BEDFORD The Place Theatre at 7.30pm
Saturday 05 February	GILLINGHAM GlassBox Theatre at 8pm
Sunday 06 February	BRACKNELL South Hill Park Arts Centre at 4pm
Wednesday 09 February	HENLEY-ON-THAMES Kenton Theatre at 7.30pm
Thursday 10 February	WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA The Maltings at 7.30pm
Friday 11 February	DISS Cornhall at 7.30pm
Sunday 13 February	CRANLEIGH Arts Centre at 2pm
Tuesday 15 February	WEYMOUTH The Bay Theatre at 7.30pm
Wednesday 16 February	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Old Town Hall Arts Centre at 8pm
Thursday 17 February	READING South Street Arts Centre at 7.30pm
Friday 18 February	BORDON Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre at 7.30pm
Saturday 19 February	FARNHAM Maltings at 7.30pm
Sunday 20 February	SHOREHAM-BY-SEA The Ropetackle Arts Centre at 7.30pm
Friday 25 February	HAVANT Spring Arts and Heritage Centre at 7.30pm
Saturday 26 February	NORWICH Space 2 @ Theatre Royal at 7.30pm



For the full tour schedule, please visit www.nextdoordance.co.uk/

More information on the [house website](#)

Photo by Daniel Chatterton-Jones

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The Thelemas and house present

Ladykiller

by Madeline Gould;

directed by Madelaine Moore



A hotel room, a maid and a dead woman. It's not what it looks like, really, it's not. It was self-defence... and anyway, the woman was asking for it.

The chambermaid considers herself to be a pretty normal person; she reads books. She pretended to read the party manifestos at the General Election. She's even read The Psychopath Test and she's pretty sure she's not one, so...

Award-winning 'smash hit' Ladykiller is a blood-soaked morality tale about victimhood, power and flipping the gender rule book on psychopathy – a (gruesome) quintessential, jet-black comedy for the age of the gig economy.

Touring from 08 February 2022 with selected dates presented by house:

Wednesday 09 February	READING South Street Arts Centre at 8pm
Thursday 10 February	PORTSMOUTH Groundlings Theatre at 8pm
Saturday 12 February	BURY ST EDMUNDS Theatre Royal at 7.30pm
Tuesday 22 February	HENLEY-ON-THAMES Kenton Theatre at 7.45pm
Thursday 24 February	NORWICH Playhouse at 7.30pm
Friday 25 February	OXFORD Arts at the Old Fire Station at 7.30pm
Saturday 26 February	HOUNSLOW Arts Centre at 8pm

THE THELMAS

For the full tour schedule, visit www.thethelmas.co.uk/

More information on the [house website](#)

Photo by Greg Veit Photography

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The Herd Theatre presents

Slime



Being a slug is hard. Everyone thinks you're disgusting.

Slug and Caterpillar are starving, and the only leaf left in the garden is just out of reach. Slug thinks they should work together. Get the leaf, eat the leaf, play a game, be friends. Caterpillar has other ideas. Slugs are gross, they're covered in slime and they have terrible taste in music.

Things get sticky.

Enter Slug and Caterpillar's world and sit in a giant garden to SQUISH, SQUELCH and PLAY your way through this hilarious, surreal show for 2-5 years and their families, told with a handful of words and lots of SLIME.

Touring from 26 March 2022 with selected dates supported by house:

Saturday 2 April	BEDFORD Quarry Theatre at 11.30am and 2.30pm
Sunday 3 April	CAMBRIDGE Junction at 12pm and 2.30pm
Monday 4 April	ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE Babylon Arts at 11am and 2pm
Wednesday 6 – Thursday 7 April	LONDON The Albany at 11am and 2pm
Sunday 10 April	LONDON artsdepot at 11am and 2.30pm
Tuesday 12 April	BASINGSTOKE Proteus at 11am and 2pm
Thursday 14 April	FAVERSHAM Alexander Centre at 11am and 2pm
Friday 15 April	GILLINGHAM GlassBox at 11am and 2pm
Friday 22 April	FARNHAM Maltings at 11.30am and 2.30pm
Saturday 23 April	PORTSMOUTH The Groundlings at 11am and 2pm
Sunday 24 April	ISLE OF WIGHT Quay Theatre at 11am and 2pm



For the full tour schedule, please visit: www.theherdtheatre.co.uk/

More information on the [house website](#)

Photo credit: The Other Richard

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about house theatre

house supports arts venues by improving the range, quality and scale of theatre presented across South East and East England and exists to build the audience for contemporary theatre across the region. It does this by supporting venues and artists to develop audiences and by helping to create a long-term infrastructure for touring. house is delivered by Farnham Maltings, and supported by Arts Council England.

www.housetheatre.org.uk

Previous season highlights include

Catch of the Day (presented with Red Fox Theatre)

Bobby & Amy by Emily Jenkins (presented with Emma Blackman Productions)

Square Go by Kieran Hurley and Gary McNair (presented with Francesca Moody Productions)

Duckie by Le Gateau Chocolat (presented with The Sick of the Fringe)

Evening with an Immigrant by Inua Ellams (presented with Fuel)

Jess and Joe Forever by Zoe Cooper (presented with the Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond)

Backstage in Biscuitland by Touretteshero (supported by Unlimited, Graeae and BAC)

Harrogate by Evening Standard award-winning Al Smith (presented with High Tide)

OFFIES Award-winner *JOAN* by Lucy J Skilbeck (presented with Milk Presents)

Farnham Maltings also delivers caravan and tour-finder.org, and produces Akin Theatre, Bert & Nasi, Bucket Club, Little Bulb and Victoria Melody.

Further information:

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farnham **maltings**



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