

Press kit

**The Bridge Theatre, Brussels' only professional English-language theatre, returns with a new, hypnotic and provocative production in a historically charged location**

## **855-FOR-TRUTH**

*Eva Hudson, directed by Lydia McKinley*

*2 - 14 JUNE 2025*

*The Berger Court (Stassart House), Brussels*

From 2 June to 14 June 2025, The Bridge Theatre will bring a hypnotic and provocative drama, **855-FOR-TRUTH** to the Brussels audiences. With this production, Brussels' only professional English-language theatre takes on a new challenge, producing a new adaptation of a new play that has not been performed before. As a nomadic company, it is temporarily setting up in an extraordinary and historically charged location, The Berger Court in Stassart House, once the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. Everything will come to life thanks to an immersive set design made with recycled materials and designed by Ellie Wintour.



**855-FOR-TRUTH** by Eva Hudson and directed by Lydia McKinley is a hypnotic, provocative drama set somewhere in the woods, sometime close to the end of the world. In this remote location, the paths of two strangers with radically opposed

backgrounds and ideologies cross: an 18-year-old member of a religious sect, and a young climate scientist. Meredith, raised in a Christian cult, believes the world will end in six days. Isaac, a fringe environmentalist, is in a race against time to find out what is going on.

In **855-FOR-TRUTH**, the boundaries between faith, science and survival blur. The play offers a story of humanity that reveals our urge to fix the world, and each other. It raises the question of where the most polarised viewpoints can align and what new perspectives can emerge through exchange.

### **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

**Dates:** 2-14 June 2025

**Venue:** The Berger Court (Stassart House), 13 rue du Berger, Brussels

**Tickets:** € 11 – 38.50

**Press Night:** 3 June at 20:00

**Daily performances at 20:00, except on Sunday 8 June**  
**Saturday matinee, every Saturday at 15:00**

## **Set and costume design**

Ellie Wintour

Ellie Wintour is a set and costume designer for theatre, fashion, music and exhibitions. For this production she is creating an enchanting textile forest, with fabric trees that descend from the ceiling to the floor like soft veils. She lets you immerse yourself in a world full of mystery and hypnosis. The entire set is constructed from reused and recycled materials, fabrics that have previously been used in theatre productions in Belgium and the United Kingdom, and even leftover materials from Paris Fashion Week.

## **The Cast**

In this new production, Molly Hanly and Max Raphael take on the roles of Meredith and Isaac, bringing this hypnotic, provocative drama to life.



### **Molly Hanly in the role of Meredith**

Born and raised in Dublin, Molly is a recent graduate of the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, where she was recipient of the 2023 Theatre Club Music Award. Molly made her Irish stage debut as Connie Millington in *Youth's The Season – ?*, written by Mary Manning and directed by Sarah Jane Scaife at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.



### **Max Raphael in the role of Isaac**

Born in the UK, Max brings extensive screen experience, with film credits including *The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* (Lionsgate), *Executioner* (Lovebomb Pictures), *Black Beauty* (Disney+), and *Slaughterhouse Rulez* (Sony International). On television, he appeared in *Don't Lick the Walls* (Scribble Creative).

## Director

Lydia McKinley



Lydia McKinley is responsible for directing 855-FOR-TRUTH. Committed to the development and staging of new writing, Lydia places human connection and character at the heart of her work, with touches of the fantastic in her staging. She is co-founder of Gentlewomen Production House and works as a literary assistant at Finborough Theatre. She completed the MA in Dramatic Directing at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and is represented by Lou Davidson of Simon & How Associates.

Recent productions include *ONE OF THE BOYS* (The Playground Theatre), *Cancer B\*tch!* (Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford Playhouse) and *The Project* (Brockley Jack).

## Creative team

<b>Playwright</b>	Eva Hudson
<b>Director</b>	Lydia McKinley
<b>Production</b>	The Bridge Theatre
<b>Design</b>	Ellie Wintour
<b>Lighting design</b>	Brett Kasza
<b>Sound design</b>	Mark Fenton
<b>Composer</b>	Joe Penaliggon

A co-production with Gentlewomen Production House

## ABOUT THE BRIDGE THEATRE

Opened in 2021, The Bridge Theatre is the only professional English-language theatre in the Belgian capital. It produces two new plays per year, each with a cast of high-level actors (Native English speakers or those with previous English-language experience). As a nomadic theatre, each production is presented in a different venue in Brussels.

The Bridge Theatre's mission is to connect Brussels residents through cultural experiences, in a language spoken daily by many of the city's residents.\*

The Bridge Theatre is more than just a production company. It engages with the local community through a variety of activities, combining community workshops, activities for schools, and immersive training experiences for organisations, in addition to its original productions, to share the benefits of the performing arts beyond the stage.

## ABOUT STASSART HOUSE

Stassart House is a building of over 5,000 m<sup>2</sup>, located in the heart of Brussels, near Porte de Namur and 150 metres from Chaussée d'Ixelles. It was first the headquarters of the Belgian Colonial Union and then the Maison de la Radio (the forerunner of RTB) from 1923 to 1930. In 1986, it became home to the Royal Conservatory of Music of Brussels' Theatre and Spoken Arts department until 2020. Since March 2022, the site has been occupied by Young European Artists, which has transformed it into creative workshops and an exhibition space.

\* The latest language barometer conducted in 2024 by BRIO - the Brussels Centre for Information, Documentation and Research - shows that English is the second most widely spoken language in the Brussels-Capital Region, spoken by 47% of the city's residents on a daily basis.

## PRESS CONTACT



**CARACAS**[com](https://caracascom.com)

[@caracascom.com](https://caracascom.com)

[info@caracascom.com](mailto:info@caracascom.com)

+ 32 (0) 2 560 21 22

Rue Barastraat 175 ☺ 1070 Bruxelles