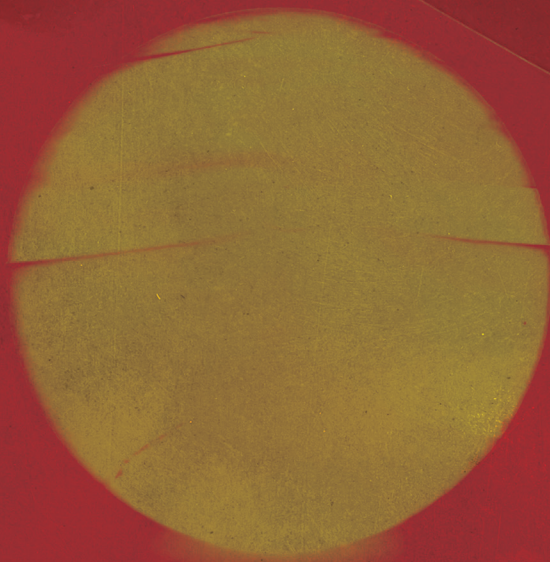


Brighton  
Festival

# NEW DAWN

3-26  
May  
2025

Guest Director  
Anoushka Shankar



ThirdSpace Theatre

# Earth Teeth

Brighton Dome Studio Theatre | Sun 4 & Mon 5 May

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Thank you to those who wish to remain anonymous

**Thank you to all our Members and our Big Give donors**

# BRIGHTON FESTIVAL 2025

A very warm welcome to Brighton Festival 2025, guest directed by the wonderful Anoushka Shankar.

The journey this Festival takes you on is a testament to Anoushka's vision, ambition, and artistic inspirations, and it is a privilege to be sharing this programme of work with you all. I welcome the warmth and generosity of her invitation to us all towards a New Dawn.

A festival of this ambition and scale would not be possible without the longstanding support from Brighton & Hove City Council and Arts Council England, and we are also extremely grateful to our Principal Supporter The Pebble Trust, Major Supporter the Bagri Foundation, Major Sponsor Mayo Wynne Baxter and to our partners at the University of Sussex.

There are so many dedicated people who make Brighton Festival happen: our patrons, members, supporters, partner companies and venues, audiences, staff, volunteers, and - most importantly - the artists, emerging and stellar, who bring us the rapture, surprise, provocation and joy that a great Festival line-up should.

I look forward to seeing you across the city through May, and wish everyone a wonderful Festival from the parades to the parties, from the talks to the walks, from symphonies to table tennis, and from dusk to new dawns.



**Lucy Davies, Chief Executive  
Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival**







Brighton  
Festival

Fast-paced, thought-provoking,  
and darkly humorous;  
this is a play for our times.

ThirdSpace Theatre

# Earth Teeth

THEATRE

Sun 4 & Sun 5 May, 7.30pm  
Brighton Dome Studio Theatre

## CREATIVE TEAM

Writer	Sarah Leaver
Director	Tanushka Marah
Producer	Dave Barnstorm
Stage Manager	Samatha Tugwell
Assistant Stage Managers	Theo Fairburn, Megan Yates
Projection Designer	Giles Thacker
Lighting Designer	Jules Deering
Sound Designer	Cerys Green
Scenic Designer	Angela El-Zeind
Vocal Leader	Kirsty Martin
Makeup	Louise Trottier
Wardrobe	Megan Yates
Script Dramaturgy	Carmen Nasr, Phil Porter
Associate Directors	Nicola Chambers, Dave Barnstorm, Sarah Leaver
Assistant Director	Katya Schwarz

## CAST

Jay	Oceana Bertino-Kavadellas
Mia	Lola France
Max	Cody Thacker
Archie	Rob McCloskey
Kat	Zoë Alexander
Jordan	Connor Randall
Sophie	Lauren Brakes
Lilith	Tegwen Edwards
Jem	Jamie Johnson
Chorus	Taiwo Adepoju
	Arlo Buabasah
	Belynn Carr
	Ava Dawson
	Sara Engeli Rutger
	Isla Fulcher
	Amali Gill
	Dominic Lacey
	Lotta Orsola

ThirdSpace Theatre

# Earth Teeth

Sun 4 & Mon 5 May 2025  
Brighton Dome Studio Theatre

**Running time:** 80 mins (no interval)

In the face of overwhelming odds, a group of friends turn to the Earth for help.

Young people possess the power to bring about change but they are born into a world they did not create. Ritual and superstition, myth and chaos, these are the only tools they have when hope is lost. They ask the Earth to listen. But what will the Earth ask in return?

Fast-paced, thought-provoking, and darkly humorous; this is a play for our times.

*Earth Teeth was developed by Sarah Leaver in collaboration with the young people of ThirdSpace Theatre between 2023 and 2024. It was then performed at Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts, who kindly offered their wonderful space for the R&D performances in July 2024. ThirdSpace hope to tour the production after the Brighton Festival run. Please get in touch for more information - [dave@thirdspacetheatre.co.uk](mailto:dave@thirdspacetheatre.co.uk)*

## **Biographies:**

*Sarah Leaver (she/they) has worked in theatre for 25 years as an actor, teacher, and youth director.*

Sarah wrote and toured her solo show, *Memoirs of a Hermaphrodite*, from 2010. As an actor and deviser they have worked extensively with Company Collisions and Periplum Theatre, touring the UK and internationally. Sarah has taught, directed, and trained young adult actors for 15 years (Northbrook College, Institute for Creative Training, Academy Creative Training, Brighton). She has completed an MA in Creative Writing and received a Developing Your Creative Practice grant from Arts Council England to develop her writing for young adults. *Earth Teeth* is her first full cast play.

*Tanushka Merah (she/her) is a theatre director and the Artistic Director of ThirdSpace Theatre CIC.*

Her directing work seen in Brighton Festival includes BAKKHA! and Romeo & Juliet. She was an Artist in Residence at Brighton Dome, and regularly works for Brighton People's Theatre, Shubbak Festival, Seenaryo, and more.

She also works as a Movement Director for companies such as the RSC, a dramaturg, writer and workshop leader. After completing a degree in Philosophy her early career began by founding Company:Collisions which toured for ten years all across the UK and abroad. She has won two awards - The Genesis Young Director Award at the Young Vic and The Outstanding Theatre Award Brighton Fringe - and her work has been nominated for two other awards. Her production of *Medea* toured international festivals in Cyprus and Albania, representing British Classical Theatre. Two of her original works appeared in London's International Mime Festival. *Rest Upon The Wind* sold out at Riverside Studios and Tristan Bates before touring extensively in the Middle East. She is currently directing *Ibn Batuta's Travels* for Shubbak Festival 2025.

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#### JOIN A THIRDSPEACE CLUB TODAY

Do you want a free trial for your child at one of our engaging weekly drama sessions?

Learn acting and drama skills, work as a team, build confidence, create public theatre shows, all in a nurturing & inspiring environment. Open to everyone aged 5-25. Subsidised and free places available in all clubs.

And if you quote 'Earth Teeth' we will extend your free trial to a whole month! Scan the QR code below to register!



Visit our website [www.thirdspacetheatre.co.uk](http://www.thirdspacetheatre.co.uk) or use this QR code.

**Funders:** Brighton Youth Centre



# Welcome to a New Dawn

What an honour it is to find myself at the helm of an institution that seeks, year on year, to celebrate boldness, diversity, and connection. Brighton has long held a special place in my heart—it's a city where difference holds value, where art forms collide and cross-pollinate freely, where the promise of transformation is made reality. To be curating the programme feels like an extraordinary opportunity to take part in the uplifting creative energy of this city.

For 2025, we look towards a New Dawn. Together with the Brighton Festival team, I've shaped a programme that envisions a hopeful future - an emergence from the dark of night into the glow of early morning.

For years now there have been so many reasons to despair, to worry, to lose hope. But we have the power and insight within us to craft an alternate future, and that only comes about through what we create in the present. We'll not only celebrate art's power to challenge and uplift, but also to explore what lies ahead.

We need this, I think—to come together, to lift each other up into the light, to be beacons for one another as we take stock, take aim, and take action. This isn't just a festival for audiences to experience passively—it's for everyone to participate in, to connect with, to feel part of.

By bringing together artists and modalities from all over the world, with their rich and varied heritages, we reimagine what's possible—through music, through dance, through storytelling.

I'm delighted that so many artists answered the call and will be bringing their unique perspectives and beauty to the Festival.

I can't wait for us all to share in this journey.

A handwritten signature in white ink, reading 'Anoushka' with a stylized flourish and a small 'x' mark below it.

Anoushka Shankar

Brighton Festival 2025 Guest Director



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