

LOVE DANCE

A COMEDY

Written by **ANDY WALKER**

Directed by **LESLEY MANNING**



10 - 27 NOVEMBER

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   @chiswickplay

Jacoba Williams and Derek Murphy cast in *Love Dance* at Chiswick Playhouse

Chiswick Playhouse, 2 Bath Road, London W4 1LW

Wednesday 10th November – Saturday 27th November 2021

Press Night: Thursday 11th November, 7.30pm

The cast has been announced for the hilarious and uplifting rom-com *Love Dance*, which will run at Chiswick Playhouse from 10th – 27th November. **Jacoba Williams** (*A Midsummer Night's Dream, Twelfth Night, The Globe*) will bring to life the witty and career-driven Rose, an accomplished surgeon who is desperate to have a baby, but not a long-term relationship. Joining her on stage is **Derek Murphy** (*Sequins, Organised Chaos; Dial M For Murder, Michael Friend Productions*) as lazy and immature musician Adam. In exchange for a sofa to sleep on, Adam agrees to help Rose find a father for her child, all the while unaware he's falling in love with her...

This comic triumph from acclaimed duo Andy Walker (*The Story of Tracy Beaker*) and Lesley Manning (*Ghostwatch*) tells of the hilariously rocky path of the two most unlikely characters finding love. Exploring the balance of highflying careers and motherhood goals with all the heart and humour of a rom-com, the team behind Chiswick Playhouse's 5-star play *Delivery* reunite to tell a reverse love story for our generation.

Writer Andy Walker says, *It is so great to be working with these two actors, who we've admired for such a long time. Jacoba and Derek bring a real sense of warmth and wit to the show. It's amazing to see them really set the script alight.*

Director Lesley Manning comments, *We are delighted to be working with two such fabulous actors – it's such a thrill to get the play on its feet with such incredible talent.*

Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Love Dance</i>
Performance Dates	Wednesday 10 th November 2021 – Saturday 27 th November 2021 Tuesday – Saturday, 7.30pm Saturday matinee, 4pm
Location	Chiswick Playhouse, 2 Bath Road, London W4 1LW
Box Office	Tickets are priced at £22.00 (£19.50 preview and concession) via the Chiswick Playhouse Box Office (0208 995 6035) and www.chiswickplayhouse.co.uk
How to get there	Chiswick Playhouse is located above the Tabard Pub. The nearest underground station is Turnham Green (on Piccadilly and District lines). The 94 from the West End, Notting Hill and Shepherd's Bush stops outside and 267, 237, 391, E3 and H91 also stop nearby.
Director	Lesley Manning
Writer	Andy Walker
Cast	Jacoba Williams Derek Murphy
Running Time	90 minutes (no interval)
Twitter	@ChiswickPlay

Andy Walker

Andy Walker is an award-winning animator specialised in non-sync animation – animation with no dialogue. He was entirely responsible for the animation of the first five series of CBBC's flagship children's programme *The Story of Tracy Beaker*. Ironically, when Andy hung up his pencils from his animation career, he started to write for film and theatre, with 100% more dialogue. After his prize-winning short film *Curtain Call*, he wrote a number of short plays including *Border*, which played at Southwark Playhouse, Soho Theatre and Chiswick. *LOVE*

DANCE is Andy's second full-length play to be produced, following *DELIVERY* in 2020 – which received two five-star reviews and the OSO Barnes New Writer's Award before closing due to COVID-19.

Lesley Manning

An award-winning film and TV director, Lesley Manning's seminal direction on BBC's horror film *Ghostwatch* has been recognised world-wide. After moving over to making independent films, such as *The Agent* and *Leila*, Lesley's first foray into theatre came out of a film journey.

Screenwriter Martin Wagner asked whether she would like to direct his play, and having never done theatre before, she jumped at the chance. After directing several of Andy Walker's films and plays, including *Curtain Call* and *Border*, the pair continued their collaboration with *DELIVERY* in 2020 and enjoyed two five-star reviews.

All enquiries, high res images and further information:

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