

March 2023

"Is This Good Enough?"

WYA Puts on a Show for London's National Theatre Connections Festival

Following on from their production of **'Remote'** in 2022, Waterford Youth Arts are once again preparing to take to the stage for National Theatre's Youth Theatre Festival, Connections. Later this month, the cast of Avaes Mohammad's **'Is This Good Enough?'** will put on three home performances before departing for Riverbank Arts Centre in Kildare on April 1st, all under the direction of Nicholas Kavanagh of Curious State.

On a cold winter's night, young people from all over the city – the Rudeboys, the Party Girls, the Footballers, the Chess Players, the Skateboarders, the Drug Runners and the Uniformed School kids – converge on the park. Summoned there by the mysterious and enigmatic Cyroe. No one really knows who Cyroe is, or has ever really met him. . . all they know is that when Cyroe calls, you answer.

Avaes Mohammad's works have chronicled post 9/11 multicultural Britain and represented the challenges of young people in the UK. He currently seeks to engage with the heritage of Islamic and Sufi literatures, reinterpreting them for contemporary western audiences. As a performance poet, his influences range from the Sufi saints of South Asia to the dub poets of Jamaica. His essays and opinion pieces engage with topics that include integration, identity and the arts.

NT Connections is one of the biggest celebrations of youth theatre in the world. Each year the national theatre commissions writers to produce new plays specifically for an ensemble of young actors and then invites a select number of companies to produce them.

'Is This Good Enough?' is set to be performed at the Mount Sion Primary School Hall on the 25th and 26th of March at 8pm, with a 2pm Matinee on the 26th and the Riverbank Arts Centre in Kildare on the 1st of April, potentially taking the stage in London for the main festival later in the year.

For more information, visit: www.waterfordyoutharts.com or follow @watyoutharts on social media. Tickets are available from waterfordyoutharts.eventbrite.com and riverbank.ie.

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