

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Pitlochry Festival Theatre presents

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

By **Tennessee Williams**

Director: **Elizabeth Newman**

- First in-house theatre revival of Tennessee Williams masterpiece in over 20 years
- Production directed by Pitlochry Festival Theatre's Artistic Director **Elizabeth Newman**
- Exciting cast to feature **Kirsty Stuart** (*Adventures with the Painted People and Faith Healer*, Pitlochry Festival Theatre, *Othello*, Frantic Assembly, *Call The Midwife*, BBC and *Shetland*, BBC Scotland); **Nalini Chetty** (*Cyrano*, Citizens Theatre/NTS, Zinnie Hassoun in *River City*, BBC and shortly to be seen in Gregory Burke's new ITV Drama *Six-Four*) and **Matthew Trevannion** (*War Horse*, National Theatre World Tour, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night*, West End and *Othello*, Frantic Assembly).
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* runs from 02 June – 30 September

PRESS PERFORMANCE:

Wednesday 7 June at 2pm, Pitlochry Festival Theatre

Pitlochry Festival Theatre to stage exciting revival of *A Streetcar Named Desire*

This June Pitlochry Festival Theatre is set to stage an exciting and rare Scottish revival of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Tennessee Williams' powerful and iconic portrayal of love, lust and loneliness.

New Orleans. 1940s. Blanche arrives at her sister's tiny apartment in the lively French Quarter of the city, her world falling apart and haunted by the loss of the family's luxurious Southern mansion. With broken dreams and a desperate desire to cling on to her freedom, Blanche seeks comfort from her sister, Stella. But as tensions – and passions – rise, Blanche finds herself thrown into a catastrophic confrontation with Stella's husband Stanley.

Generally regarded as one of the finest plays of the 20th century, *Streetcar* is also considered by many to be Tennessee Williams' greatest work. It first premiered on Broadway on December 3, 1947, launching the careers of, amongst others, Marlon Brando, Jessica Tandy and Kim Hunter. The London production opened in 1949, directed by Laurence Olivier featuring Vivien Leigh as Blanche. In 1951, the play was adapted for the screen starring Marlon Brando and Vivien Leigh and won four Academy Awards.

Tennessee Williams (1911-1983), born Thomas Lanier Williams III, explored passion with daring honesty and forged a poetic theatre of raw psychological insight that shattered conventional proprieties and transformed the American stage. The autobiographical play *The Glass Menagerie* (1945) brought what Williams called "the catastrophe of success." He went on to win two

Pulitzer Prizes, for *A Streetcar Named Desire* in 1948 and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* in 1955. Among his many other masterpieces are *Vieux Carre*, *Sweet Bird of Youth*, *The Rose Tattoo*, *Orpheus Descending*, *The Night of the Iguana* and *Camino Real*.

Leading *A Streetcar Named Desire's* impressive cast will be **Kirsty Stuart** (*Adventures with the Painted People* and *Faith Healer*, Pitlochry Festival Theatre, *Othello*, Frantic Assembly, *Call The Midwife*, BBC and *Shetland*, BBC Scotland) as Blanche DuBois; **Nalini Chetty** (*Cyrano*, Citizens Theatre/NTS, *Zinnie Hassoun* in *River City*, BBC and will shortly be seen in Gregory Burke's new ITV Drama *Six-Four*) as Stella Kowalski and **Matthew Trevannion** (*War Horse*, National Theatre World Tour, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night*, West End and *Othello*, Frantic Assembly) as Stanley Kowalski.

The cast is completed by **Matthew Churcher** (*Animal Farm*, National Tour/Fiery Angel & Birmingham Rep, *Peter Pan*, National Theatre/Bristol Old Vic and *White Teeth*, Kiln Theatre); **Oliver Cookson** (*Hay Fever* and *Travels with my Aunt*, Assembly Roxy) **Deirdre Davis** (Eileen Donachie in *River City*, BBC Scotland and *Monarch of The Glen*, Pitlochry Festival Theatre); **Keith Macpherson** (*Sunshine on Leith*, Pitlochry Festival Theatre, *Waiting for Godot*, Citizens Theatre and *Stan and Ollie*, BBC Films); **Patricia Panther** (*Peter Pan* and *Wendy*, Pitlochry Festival Theatre and *Orphans* and *Glasgow Girls*, National Theatre of Scotland); **Marc Small** (TV credits include *The IT Crowd*, *Jonathan Creek* and recently appeared in the Amazon Prime film *The People We Hate At The Wedding* with Ben Platt); **Jack Ward** (*Bridgerton*, Netflix) and **Kristin Weichen Wong** (*Field- Something For The Future Now*, Edinburgh International Festival).

A Streetcar Named Desire is directed by Pitlochry Festival Theatre's Artistic Director **Elizabeth Newman** (*Faith Healer*, *Sunshine on Leith* and *Adventures with the Painted People*, Pitlochry Festival Theatre); designed by **Emily James**, lighting by **Jeanine Byrne**, music composed and sound design by **Pippa Murphy** and fight direction by **Robin Hellier**.

Director Elizabeth Newman said:

"I believe A Streetcar Named Desire is one of the greatest plays ever written. Tennessee Williams wrote this drama with a very clear objective: to help humanity get to know itself better and well enough to concede that no person has a monopoly on right or virtue any more than they have on 'being evil'. He was determined to be honest about the contradictions that all human beings possess

within themselves. He beautifully draws the inescapable duplicity that everyone who lives and breathes is afflicted by. What makes it an exceptional play is Williams demands we face up to the truth that in this life there are no villains or heroes instead just people making decisions.

I cannot wait to bring this play to life for audiences this Summer. Audiences can expect to be transported to 1940s New Orleans and, whilst bathing in this setting, experience a compelling family drama with the chance to spend time with some of the world's most legendary characters. We can promise it'll be intense and powerful thanks to the Theatre's fantastic Ensemble. great creative team and Williams' astonishing writing leading the charge."

The production is presented by special arrangement with the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

A Streetcar Named Desire runs at Pitlochry Festival Theatre from 02 June till 30 September. Tickets are now on sale and are available from the Pitlochry Festival Theatre box office on **01796 484626** or online at www.pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

-Ends-

**For all press interviews please contact Duncan Clarke PR:
T 07880893750 or E duncanclarkepr@gmail.com**

NOTES TO EDITORS

PRESS NIGHT: Wednesday 7 June at 2pm.

Also available on Wednesday 7 June is a double bill of *A Streetcar Named Desire* (2pm) and *Gypsy* (8pm)

CREATIVES

Pitlochry Festival Theatre present

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

By Tennessee Williams

Director: **Elizabeth Newman**

Set and Costume Designer: **Emily James**

Lighting Designer: **Jeanine Byrne**

Composer & Sound Designer: **Pippa Murphy**

Fight Director: **Robin Hellier**

Cast: **Kirsty Stuart** (Blanche), **Matthew Trevannion** (Stanley), **Nalini Chetty** (Stella), **Matthew Churcher** (Drunkard/Doctor), **Oliver Cookson** (Steve Hubbel), **Deirdre Davis** (Eunice Hubbel), **Keith Macpherson** (Harold Mitchell), **Patricia Panther** (Woman), **Marc Small** (Pablo Gonzales), **Jack Ward** (Sailor/Young Collector) and **Kristin Weichen Wong** (Woman/Matron)

LISTINGS

2 June – 30 September

AUDITORIUM

Eve perf at 8pm:

June: 2, 3, 6, 22 & 27

July: 7, 8, 14, 19 & 27
Aug: 2, 11, 12, 15 & 30
Sept: 9, 14, 22 & 29

Mat at 2pm:

June: 7
July: 20
Aug: 3 & 16
Sept: 23 & 30

British Sign Language : 19 July at 8pm

Audio Described performance: 20 July at 2pm and Sat 9 September at 8pm

Relaxed performance: 16 August at 2pm

Tickets: £16-£39. Concessions available for Under 16s

Box Office and group bookings: 01796 484626

email boxoffice@pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

Website: www.pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

Pitlochry Festival Theatre. A Theatre for Everyone. A Theatre for a Lifetime.

Since 1951, Pitlochry Festival Theatre has been the artistic heart and soul of Highland Perthshire. Attracting over 100,000 visitors every year, we're more than simply a place to come and see a show – we're Scotland's leading producer of musical theatre, a champion of ensemble practice and the country's only rurally-located, major arts organisation. Our vision is to improve lives by sharing Pitlochry with the world and the world with Pitlochry, and our aim is to create life-enhancing experiences in our Theatre its and environment – a glorious eleven-acre campus that encompasses the magical Explorers Garden. In everything we do, we are committed to nurturing an exciting creative and cultural future for Scotland.

Pitlochry Festival Theatre is supported by funding from Creative Scotland and Perth & Kinross Council. It is also grateful to the many individual donors, trusts and foundations who continue to support the Theatre in its vision.

Pitlochry Festival Theatre

Address: Pitlochry Festival Theatre, Port Na Craig, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5DR

Box Office and group bookings: boxoffice@pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

Website: www.pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

Pitlochry Festival Theatre is supported by the following organisations:



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