

# COLLAB COMPANY

*advancing the arts*





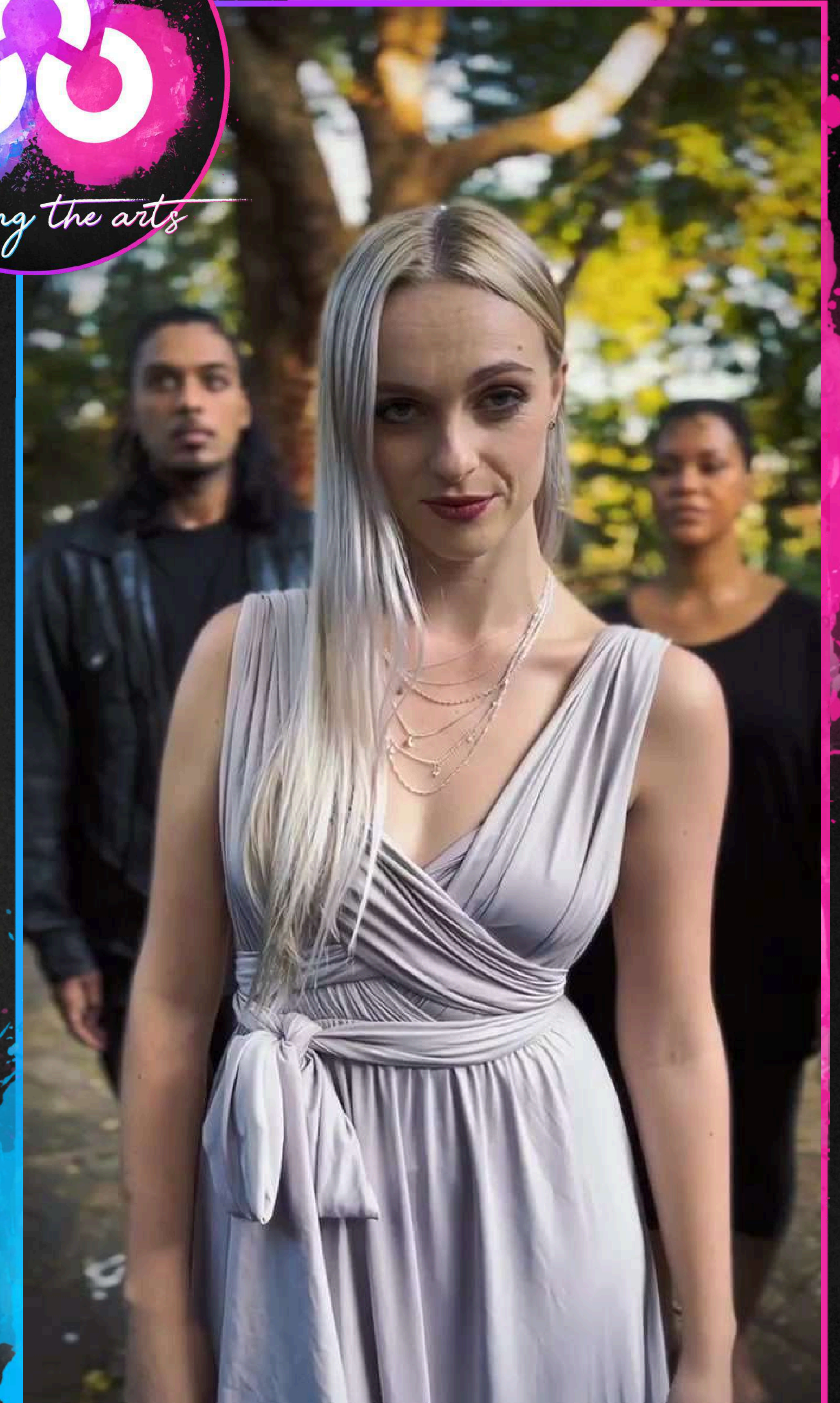
# our company

Collab Company is a Dubai-based performing arts organisation that is **advancing the arts** through intentional, innovative and imaginative collaborations. As an extension of our founder and creative director, Collab Company embraces a **multidisciplinary approach** to a wide range of experimental projects, educational programs and outreach initiatives, **locally and internationally**.

Every idea begins its creative journey with Collab Company from within one of our three platforms:

- **Creations** – productions, projects and publications
- **Classroom** – 21st century holistic arts education
- **Collective** – outreach and connection

Whilst each platform plays a **very particular role** within the wider context of our organisation, it is the synergy that exists between all three platforms that characterises our unique style. It is within these intersectional spaces that we find the inspiration and skills we require to develop each new idea, **harnessing potential from across the spectrum of art and education**.



**SHE IS APHRODITE, THE GODDESS OF LOVE  
ANTIGONE RETOLD THE WOZA HABIBI TOUR  
IN DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA (JULY 2025)**





**LAUREN FILMING A SELF-TAPE FOR SHAKESPEARE DAY (2021)**



## *our creative director*

Lauren Noble is a South African theatre director, producer, designer, writer and performance practitioner who crafts bespoke events and experiences which consciously blur boundaries between art forms. Her pedagogy involves tangibly supporting creatives of all ages to empower themselves by wielding the potential of the arts across the creative spectrum.

Throughout her, Lauren has been compelled to develop her own multidisciplinary approach to the arts. Her creative projects have become synonymous with highly ambitious theatrical productions and progressive arts education campaigns. As the founder and creative director of Collab Company, Lauren has crafted a space where she proudly advocates for the disruption of outdated methods of artistic and educational practices in favour of evolutionary 21st century methodologies.

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE  
ABOUT LAUREN NOBLE**





# our ethos

- **INCLUSIVITY**: We are committed to valuing diversity by actively embracing the potential of individuals of all ages, ethnicities, identities, religions and worldviews. We endeavour to consciously dismantle systems of exclusivity.
- **PROFESSIONALISM**: We are committed to professionalism, acknowledging that our evolution is directly impacted by our collaborations with other professionals. Professionalism functions as a right and also a responsibility...
- **RESPECT**: We are committed to exemplifying the respect we wish others to experience when they collaborate with us, regardless of their age or rank. We are determined to foster a culture of compassion, courtesy and camaraderie, all of which are the by-products of a respectful environment.
- **INTEGRITY**: We are committed to the creation of artistic and educational environments where integrity and principled conduct are tangibly observable in all interactions therein.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**: We are committed to a system of accountability which requires us all to acknowledge and act upon our responsibility for and to others. This ensures that we are bound by a shared ethical framework.
- **SAFEGUARDING**: We are committed to the safety of everyone, without exception, and have therefore designed our infrastructure to perpetuate safeguarding practices at every level. Safety, security and wellness is your right just as it is your responsibility.







**PRODUCER, CO-WRITER, DIRECTOR, DESIGNER: COSTUME, PROPS AND SET, SOUND EDITOR, IMMERSEE EXPERIENCE LIAISON FOR THE ELF IN THE GULF (DUBAI, 2024)**

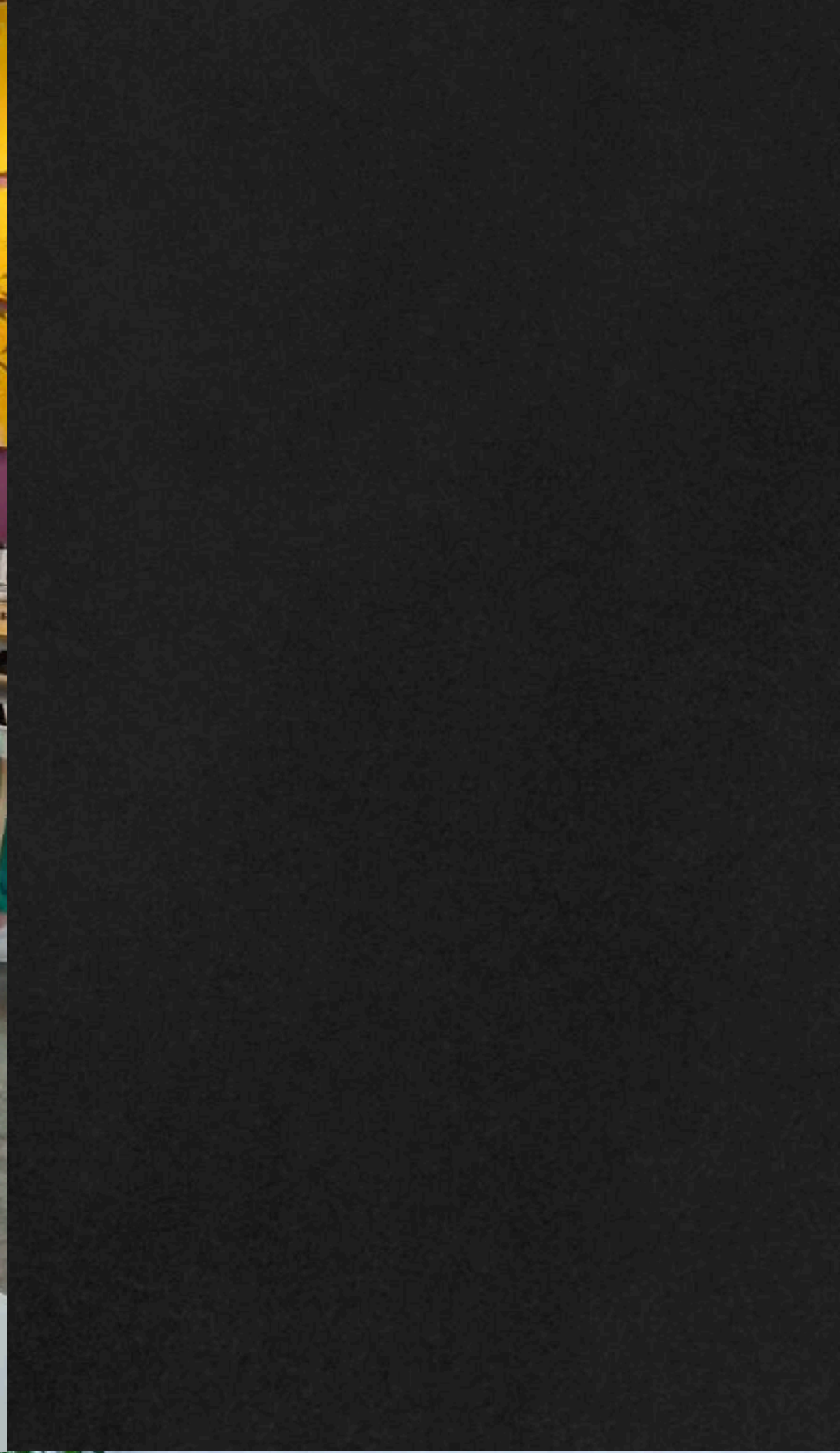




**PRODUCER, WRITER, DIRECTOR, SOUND EDITOR AND TECHNICIAN, ARTS EDUCATION LEAD, DESIGNER (COSTUME, PROP AND SET), TALENT RECRUITMENT, IMMERSIVE EVENT CURATOR FOR ANTIGONE RETOLD - THE WOZA HABIBI TOUR (DURBAN, 2024)**







**CONCEPT DESIGNER, CONFERENCE CURATOR, TALENT BOOKER,  
DISCUSSION PANELIST AND EVENT MANAGER FOR ADVANCING  
THE ARTS: THE CONFERENCE FOR CREATIVES (DUBAI, 2024)**







**PRODUCTION DESIGNER (SET, COSTUME, PROPS), CONSTRUCTION ADVISOR  
BUDGET COORDINATOR, LOBBY INSTALLATIONS CURATOR AND BACKSTAGE  
MANAGER FOR MTDXB'S THE ADDAMS FAMILY MUSICAL (DUBAI, 2023)**







**CONCEPTUAL/PRODUCTION DESIGNER, WRITER, TECHNICAL SCRIPTWRITER  
STAGE MANAGER, TALENT MANAGER, PERFORMANCE PARTNER AND DIRECTOR  
FOR EMIRATES LITFEST'S OPENING CEREMONY (DESERT STANZAS, 2023)**





**WRITER, DESIGNER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, STAGE MANAGER, ARTISTIC  
INSTALLATION CURATOR, EVENT MANAGER, PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT  
AND TECHNICIAN FOR ANTIGONE RETOLD: THE INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE**





**CURRICULUM DESIGNER, ARTS EDUCATION INCLUSION SPECIALIST, DRAMA  
TEACHER, STAGE DESIGN SPECIALIST, ADVOCATE FOR HOLISTIC PEDAGOGY  
AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM THROUGH THE ARTS AS HEAD OF PERFORMING ARTS**





a few of our collaborative partners

**WEST END**  
*Worldwide*



**TMC**

Thomas More College  
*An Inspired Education*



**ARBOR**

A SCHOOL BY  
**PRAXIS**



**Emirates**

**EMIRATES AIRLINE  
FESTIVAL OF  
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مهرجان سكة للفنون والتصميم  
SIKKA ART & DESIGN FESTIVAL  
2024 مَارِس - 03 فَبْرَايِر  
MARCH - FEBRUARY 23



THE BULB



TEAM ANGELWOLF

THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL'S CENTRE FOR CREATIVE ARTS PRESENTS

26th **JOMBA!**

CONTEMPORARY DANCE EXPERIENCE

27 AUG - 8 SEPT 2024 | DURBAN

finding our way home

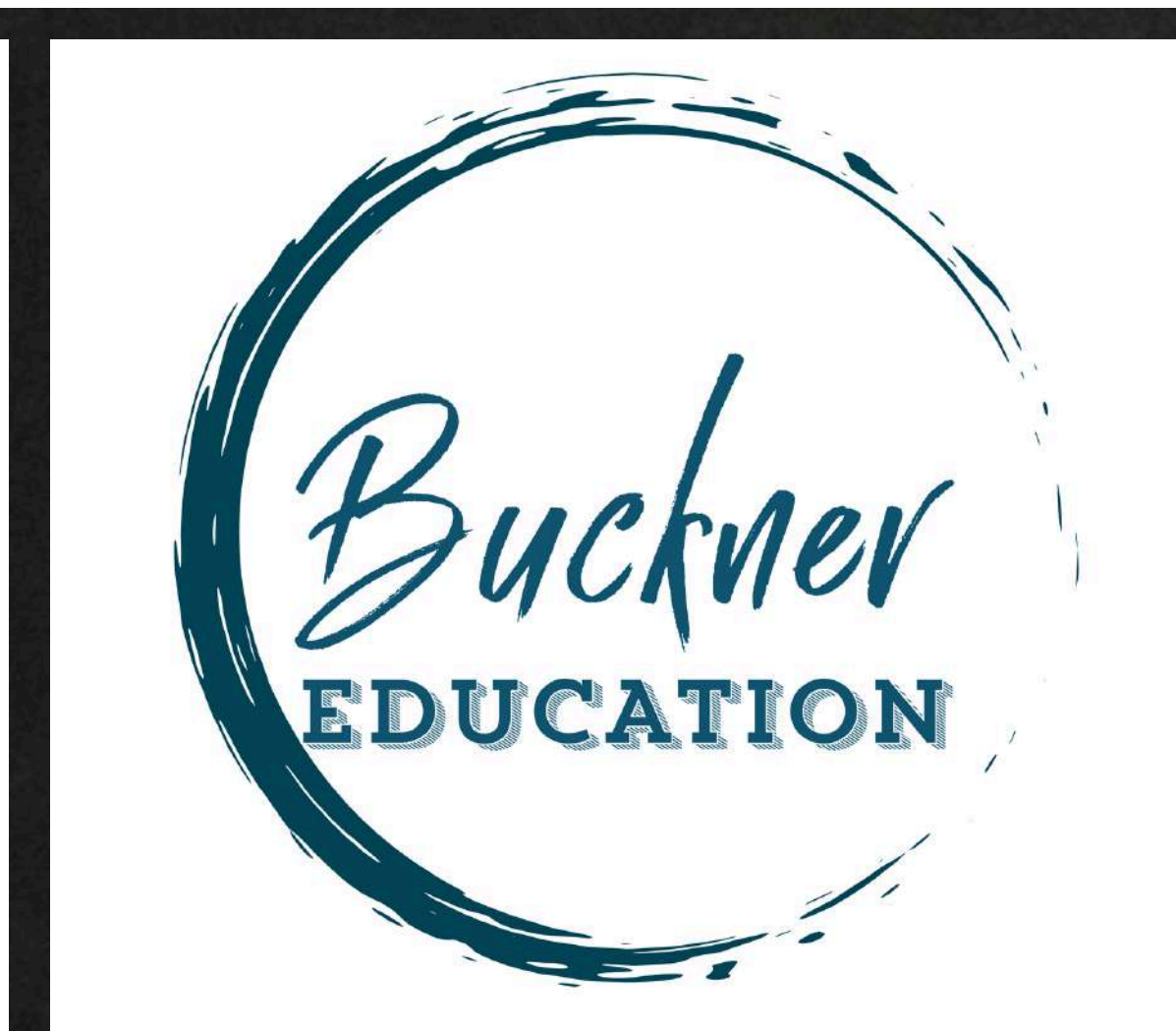
COMPUTICKET



International Association of  
Theatre & Performing Arts for  
Children & Young People

**IMMER  
SEE**







# COLLAB CREATIONS

*checkmate the musical*





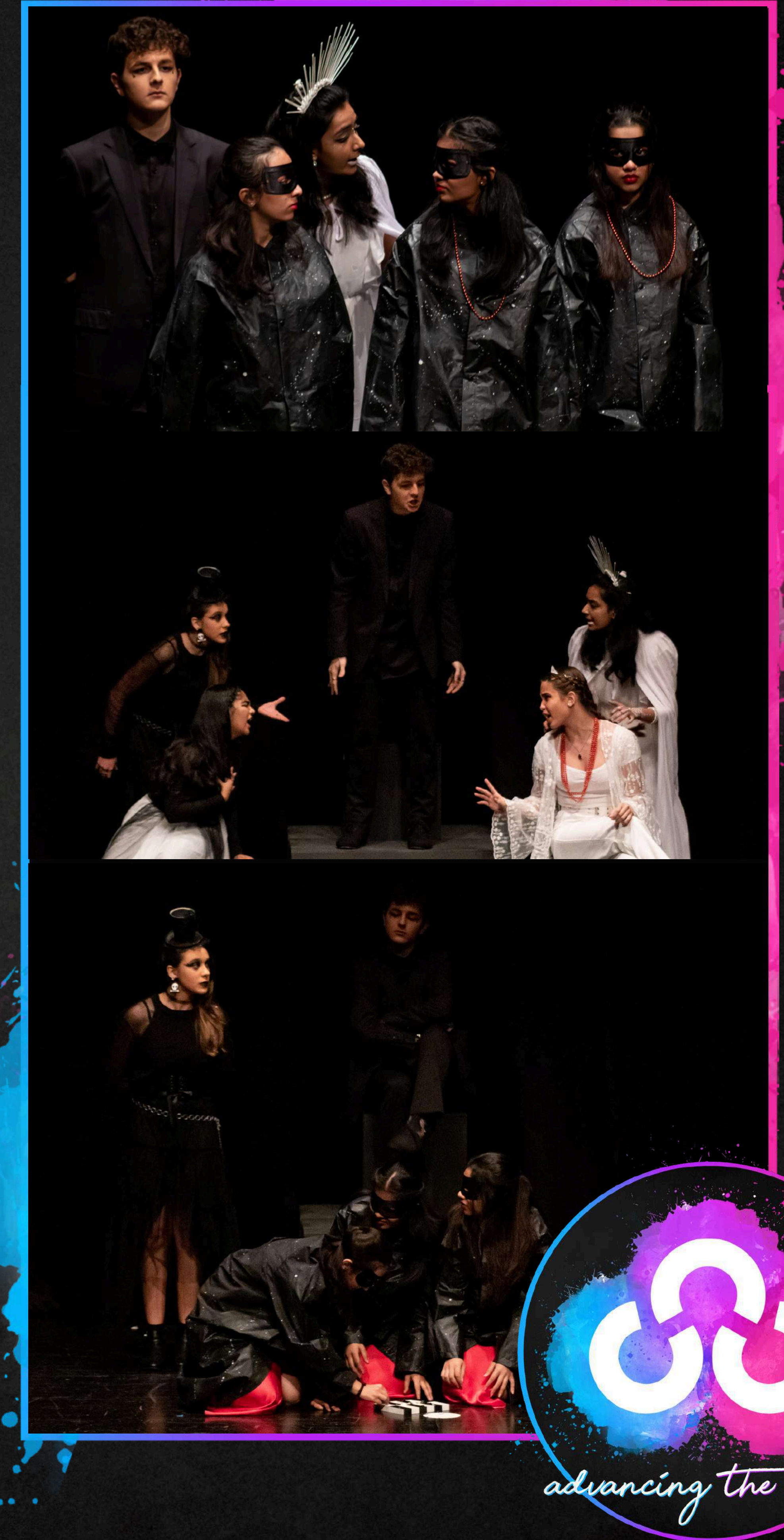
# down the rabbit hole

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE ON  
THE ORIGINAL CHECKMATE](#)

*Checkmate The Musical* follows the fragmented narrative of 16 chess pieces as they are forced to play their way across an oversized chessboard at the command of their King. A violent and volatile thrower of tantrums, this King comes from a royal lineage that have been taught that their position as the weakest on the board must be counteracted by exerting power over the other pieces in every way.

And yet, something feels different today... as the cruelty of the King reaches unprecedented heights, something inexplicable begins to happen amongst the backline pieces who are suddenly compelled by some unseen force to reclaim ownership over their own identities and break free from their toxic relationships with the King, the game, themselves and one another. The Queen, Bishops, Knights and Rooks begin to establish new roles for themselves by attempting to manipulate the rules of the game, but it is the journey of three frontline Pawns that results in the realisation that it is those very rules that bind them to their old roles in the first place.

*Checkmate* began as a devised production which won Best Play at a Dubai theatre festival in 2021. Now, *Checkmate The Musical* is set up as an immersive experience which is a unique blend of poetic monologues, choral odes, intertextual references, experimental choreography, and gritty female-led vocalists from the last 50 years.







The play is layered with dance, song, gesture, movement, and leaves the audience wondering about the submissive frontline pieces who appear to have lost their muchness.



Driven to demotion,  
my twin taunts me  
from across the board.  
I move in any direction.  
Sidelined and  
squandered  
on black and on white  
I am the *Queen*



To the right or the left  
of my King or my Queen,  
I move diagonally.  
Traversing  
the board  
upon black, upon white  
I am the *Bishop*



Awaiting my orders between  
garrison and goddess,  
I move at right angles  
Leaping over all others as  
black becomes white  
and white becomes black  
I am the *Knight*





# Tier One

# 375dhs

## FOUNDATIONAL LEVEL COLLABORATION

Tier 1 ensures that the arts remains accessible to all with an entry level fee which avails a diverse range of informal collaborative and educational opportunities within the group dynamic.

## WHAT DOES TIER ONE INCLUDE

- 1x branded **show shirt**\*\*
- Lauren Noble driving opportunities for the entire cast as the **Scriptwriter**, **Producer** and **Director** of *Checkmate The Musical*:
  - Devising characters, their expressive form (music, dance. acting) and the plot to suit our cast
  - Involving any cast who wish to engage in learning in collaboration.
- Lauren Noble as the **Production Manager** and **Mentor**, availing her extensive skill set in professional and student productions within group activities:
  - Design days and dates (set, costume and props)
  - Creative campaigns (flashmobs, photoshoots)

\*\*please note that an additional show shirt and similarly branded hoodies are available at an additional cost in all packages.



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TIER DOES REQUIRE  
INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS TO SUPPORT WITH  
SIMPLE ASPECTS OF THEIR COSTUME DESIGN**



# Tier Two

# 775dhs

## INTERMEDIATE LEVEL COLLABORATION

Tier 2 includes full access to everything included in Tier 1 but also avails a set of bespoke opportunities which are geared towards professional training, tutoring and technique development.

## WHAT DOES TIER TWO INCLUDE

- 1x branded **show shirt**\*\*
- Lauren Noble as the **Scriptwriter, Producer, Director** and **Production Manager** of *Checkmate The Musical*, availing educational expertise by providing two 30 minute lessons in any of the following areas spread out throughout the production process:
  - Set, costume or prop design
  - Producing a play
  - Performance refinement
  - Scriptwriting and devising
  - Advice on next steps in auditions, career or studies
- A **basic reference letter** detailing the *Checkmate* production process from start to finish.

\*\*please note that an additional show shirt and similarly branded hoodies are available at an additional cost in all packages.





# Tier Three

# 1175dhs

## ADVANCED LEVEL COLLABORATION

Tier 3 includes full access to everything included in Tier 2 but also avails access to a collaborative exam entry for performance arts in production. This is an accredited exam via Trinity College of London (UCAS points for university entry, CPD for teachers, and elevating a CV)

## WHAT DOES TIER THREE INCLUDE FOR STUDENTS?

- 1x branded **show shirt**\*\*
- Lauren Noble as **Exam Mentor**, availing her expertise in holistic artistry and arts education by leveraging the work already being produced by the cast and crew (*Checkmate The Musical* is the item being examined by Trinity College)
- **Exam entries and eventually certification printing** are included in this package.
- Those who opt into Tier 3 will receive **one additional bespoke lesson of 30 minutes** from one of our other experts:
  - musical theatre, acting through song, lyric writing, finding your voice
  - emotive expression, choreographic refinement, stylistic technique
  - audition, career and educational advice
- Ability to list us as a **reference** for career or educational advancements.
- A **detailed reference letter highlighting individual involvement** in the *Checkmate* production process from start to finish.
- Tier 3 participants will receive **any exclusive opportunities** Collab Company has access to during the production process.



\*\*please note that an additional show shirt and similarly branded hoodies are available at an additional cost in all packages.



## The Kings

The Black King and The White King are both brats. Born into royalty, their Fathers and Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers have all been Kings, which has resulted in a self-fulfilling belief in Kings simply having the right to rule... but all that is about to change!

Two male performers. Strong character actors with singing and/or dancing abilities preferred.



## The Queens

Exposure to the tyranny of their Kings has caused our Queens to realise that they used to be much more muchier... but just because muchness is lost doesn't mean it cannot be found again! Will our Queens realise that looking at the reflection of someone else in The Looking Glass might allow them to see themselves more clearly instead?

Two female performers. Strong character actors. Singer or dancer preferred.



## The Pawns

The Pawns are our dancing or singing members of the ensemble who break into musical numbers alongside the opposing cast from within the audience. There are three lead Pawns who are buffeted around the chessboard and are never, ever given the same opportunity as the backline characters to speak up and tell their story. How frustrating it must be to be rendered voiceless in a space where you do so much for the game!

Multiple male or female singers and/or dancers. Three Pawns also requiring strong character acting ability.





## The Rooks

Switching from black to white... white to black... and back again... The Rooks have absolutely no idea what their own identity actually is any more. What are their next moves? Who gets to decide? Do they even get a say in their own journey on the board? Desperately wanting to fit in everywhere, the Rooks have unwittingly caused themselves to fit in nowhere instead.

Four female performers. Combination of skills preferred with at least two being strong character actors too.



## The Knights

Our Knights are compelled by honour to stand with their Kings but begin to realise that each King is a character who works against his own Kingdom. This bids the question... Are they the shields of the King, or are they the shields of the Kingdom?

Four female performers. Combination of skills preferred with at least two performers being strong character actors too.



## The Bishops

Conflicted and cautious, the Bishops are the moral compasses of this chess collection. Our Bishops choose this moment to navigate the board using a strategy they have never attempted before. Will they chart a new course? And will at last they discover why a raven is like a writing desk?

Four female performers. Combination of skills preferred with at least two performers being strong character actors too.





# important info



- **DEVISING ALONGSIDE THE CAST AND CREW**

- we use a very unique methodology whereby we finalise the script of our productions with **direct input from the cast and crew.**
- this allows us to **tailor the characters, music, choreography and vibe** of the production to the people we wish to work with.

- **AUDITIONS**

- visit [here](#) to download your **audition scripts and backing tracks**
- make sure to **register** for your auditions on the same page (there are instructions for dancing, acting and singing auditions)
- acting **auditions will take place in groups** – you can rehearse before auditions with friends or find friends to work with on audition day itself!

- **SPOTIFY PLAYLIST**

- those trying out for dance will **need this playlist** for their audition
- those auditioning to sing and act should **listen for inspo** regarding the style and genre of the show.

- **ADDITIONAL SHOW SHIRTS AND HOODIES**

- Every tier package avails one show shirt as wearable merch.
- Additional **show shirts are 110dhs** (for those everyday wear-ers!)
- Additional **hoodies are 220dhs** (for those nostalgic folks like me who has six!)



# Lauren Noble

*founder and creative director*

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