

The Javaad Alipoor Company and Riverside's National Theatre of Parramatta
in association with Sydney Festival

RICH KIDS:

A HISTORY OF SHOPPING MALLS IN TEHRAN



Riverside Theatres, Parramatta
22 - 23 JANUARY

RIVERSIDE | NATIONAL THEATRE
OF PARRAMATTA



FROM THE WRITER AND DIRECTOR

“Like all of us who come from more than one background, or have a family history of refugee status or migration, internationalism is something that I feel in my bones. So as a political artist, the traditional English writer or directors dream of making a “state of the nation” play has always struck me as parochial, and unambitious – I strive to make state of the world theatre. And there’s no point in doing that if you can’t find friends and interlocutors around the world to share that work with. This is a show that is fundamentally about the feeling of careening out of control, down a path that you don’t understand. I think now more than ever we all understand that feeling. I really hope that you get some of the same space for thought, laughs and weird handwrought joy from watching this show that my collaborators and I got from making it.”

Javaad Alipoor

Rich Kids: A History of Shopping Malls in Tehran opened Friday 22 Jan, 2022 at Riverside Theatres, Parramatta.

Supported by the UK/Australia Season Patrons Board, the British Council and the Australian Government as part of the UK/Australia Season.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Riverside’s National Theatre of Parramatta acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the Darug people.

THE JAVAAD ALIPOOR COMPANY PRESENTED BY RIVERSIDE'S NATIONAL THEATRE OF PARRAMATTA IN ASSOCIATION WITH SYDNEY FESTIVAL

RICH KIDS: A HISTORY OF SHOPPING MALLS IN TEHRAN

WRITTEN BY JAVAAD ALIPOOR

CO-CREATED BY JAVAAD ALIPOOR AND KIRSTY HOUSLEY

CREATIVE TEAM

Performers	Javaad Alipoor Peyvand Sadeghian
Video Designers	Thom Buttery and Tom Newell for Limbic Cinema
Sound Designer	Simon McCorry
Lighting Designer	Jess Bernberg
Production Management	Dom Baker for The Production Family

ADDITIONAL CREATIVE TEAM MEMBERS ON THE ORIGINAL PRODUCTION:

Designer	Lucy Osbourne
Creative Collaborator	Yael Shavit
Dramaturg	Chris Thorpe
Assistant Director	Kayleigh Hawkins
Intern	Isabel Olson

THE TEAM

NATIONAL THEATRE OF PARRAMATTA

Executive Producer	Joanne Kee
Acting Associate Producer - Production	Daniel Holdsworth
Company Coordinator	Sarah Mott
Project Officer	Leigh Russell

RIVERSIDE THEATRES

Director	Craig McMaster
Business Manager	Sainesh Moss
Marketing & Communications Team Leader	Sophie Anderson
Operations Manager	Mike Brew
Executive Producer, National Theatre of Parramatta	Joanne Kee
Program Manager	Catherine Swallow

This online version of Rich Kids is presented on YouTube and also, simultaneously on Instagram.

You can follow the show by watching on your main screen. Extra interactivity is facilitated by having Instagram on your smartphone where you can view a pictorial feed and sections on Instagram Live.

AUDIENCE REQUIREMENTS

You will need an internet connection, a computer/tablet and a smartphone.

For a richer experience of the show, please download the Instagram app in advance and ensure you are following @shoppingmallsintehran

This digital version of *Rich Kids* was made possible with the support of Arts Council England, Battersea Arts Centre and Norfolk & Norwich Festival.

The original version of the show, which premiered at the Edinburgh Festival in 2019, was a co-production with HOME, Manchester in association with Traverse Theatre Company. It was supported by Arts Council England and co-commissioned by Diverse Actions, Theatre in the Mill, Norfolk & Norwich Festival, Battersea Arts Centre and Bush Theatre.

For more information on The Javaad Alipoor Company and to join our mailing list please go to: www.javaadalipoor.co.uk

THE JAVAAD ALIPOOR COMPANY

The Javaad Alipoor Company (JAC) seeks to make theatre compelling to audiences who are culturally engaged but don't see theatre as relevant to their lives. The company explores subjects that challenge expectations and provoke critical thinking. The work is always political, pushes the boundaries of the form, and focuses on 'liveness' and the power of story to change perceptions.

Established in 2017, JAC stands on the shoulders of Northern Lines, the first company founded by Javaad Alipoor – a British-Iranian, Manchester-based and Bradford-built artist and writer – and retains its commitment to making new work with diverse artists for diverse audiences and communities. Originating from Bradford and now based in Manchester, the Company was set up as a community theatre project engaging with 4,000 participants over four years in some of the most ethnically diverse and deprived wards in Bradford. We have since toured work internationally, produced digital stage to screen adaptations seen by over 100,000 people and are addressing the lack of diversity in theatre through co-creation and partnership. The company is celebrated for its innovative, inclusive, high-quality work.

In 2017, Javaad began writing a trilogy of plays about how technology, resentment and fracturing identities are changing the world. *The Believers Are But Brothers* (2017) opened in Edinburgh where it won a Fringe First Award, before transferring to London's Bush Theatre. It has toured nationally and internationally, and in 2019 was commissioned for television by the BBC and The Space and adapted and produced by the Company as its first screen project. The play's sequel – *Rich Kids: A History of Shopping Malls in Tehran* (2019) – premiered at the Traverse Theatre, winning a Fringe First Award. Its London transfer and subsequent national tour was postponed by Covid-19, inspiring the creation of a new digital version for online audiences. This new version was commissioned by Battersea Arts Centre and Norfolk & Norwich Festival and has been shown by a wide range of national and international partners.



CITY OF
PARRAMATTA



SEASON
2021-22



Australian Government