



PLASTIC BODIES

an opera about opera

PLASTIC BODIES is created and performed by Amy Bryce, Rosie Middleton, Sarah Parkin, Maya-Leigh Rosenwasser and Catherine Valve.

We are equal co-creators, each contributing according to our skillsets. Though some of these are quite distinct, our creative roles often cross over. No-one is performing or doing anything in this show in which they haven't been part of the creation process.

We are also very lucky to have worked with dramaturg and movement consultant Sofia Bagge at key points throughout the process.

We always love talking about collaboration, so ask us if you want to know more!

CONTENT WARNING

PLASTIC BODIES contains multiple references to abuse and discrimination. Please take care, and feel free to leave and come back in. The ushers may ask you to wait till the end of a scene for re-entry.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Dramaturgy and movement consultation:
Sofia Bagge

Sensitivity readers:
Molly Barker and CN Lester

Lighting and outside eye
Sam Redway Wells

Sound engineer
James Creed

THANK YOU'S

We have some wonderful supporters!

Thank you to:

Morag McLaren and Cooper Hall; Lissy Malt and The Place Theatre, Bedford; Peter Tompkins and Timothy Wotherspoon at the St. Pancras Clocktower for hosting our rehearsals; Scott McLaughlin and the University of Leeds for commissioning a scene; House of Bedlam for their wonderful samples; Larry Goves and CAPPA at Britten Pears Arts; Lucy Schauer and Christopher Gillett and Made at the Red House; Vaughan Williams Foundation; Hinrichsen Trust; The Marchus Trust; HCMF; and Jay Mullins for his wonderful prop-making. .

Thank you to Sam Redway Wells and James Creed for joining the team for this performance.

A special mention goes to Bill, Anna, Leo, Claire, Steve, David and Sophie at Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival, a shining light for new work in the UK. Without Tête à Tête, this work, and many other new operas would struggle to find a first outing in the UK amid continuing Arts and funding cuts.

A huge and deep thank you to our wonderful dramaturg and movement consultant Sofia Bagge, who has been an integral part of this project, bringing creativity, care and a much needed objectivity to this project since 2023.

BIOGRAPHIES



[Amy Bryce](#) is a British composer based in London whose deliberately playful scores produce music that is strikingly visual or theatrical. Notable commissions include BBC Radio 3, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Stiftung Kunst und Musik für Dresden, the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain, and the Royal Philharmonic Society. Described as 'producing music in often unexpected, ever-imaginative ways' by London Youth Choirs, for whom Amy composed the recently Ivors Classical Award-nominated, *In Your Hands*, Amy's experiences as a queer artist means she approaches the industry through a lens of rejection

and reclaiming, offering instead a sense playfulness and wit.



Mezzo-soprano [Rosie Middleton](#) performs and creates experimental music, new opera, and performance art. Her creative practice spans composition, theatre and movement. Projects include *12HOURS* (with Catherine Kontz, Somerset House/Rainy Days Festival), *Songs After Nature* (with Pia Palme, Saari Foundation, Finland), and *voice(less)* (by Laura Bowler, Mira Calix and Esin Gunduz). In the UK she has performed her work at HCMF, Iklectik, The Tate Modern, and Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival. Internationally other recent performances include at Donaueschinger MusikTage, Podium Festival and Royaumont. Rosie's opera roles include *The Blue Woman* (Laura Bowler, Royal Opera House, Britten Pears Arts), and *The Carmen Case* (Diana Soh, Opera National de Bordeaux).



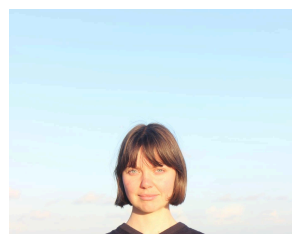
Canadian/French Soprano [Sarah Parkin](#) (she/her) specialises in new music and contemporary opera. She is an experienced deviser, and regularly incorporates physical theatre and movement into her practice. Select performances: Double Ditto, Groyne 'n'Goosed (Adam de la Cour - LCMF); Roll Up! (Jack McNeill & Claire Willoughby - Mahogany Opera); Voices of the Sands (Michael Betteridge); Student 3, Innocence (Kaija Saariaho - Cover - Royal Opera House); p.e.r.s.o.n.a.l.c.l.u.t.t.e.r. (Dark Music Days; KM28); A Kinder Society (Amy Bryce -Stiftung Kunst und Musik für Dresden); Robe (Alistair White - Tête à Tête and Métier). Sarah was a Britten-Pears Young Artist with VOICEBOX (delivered by Juliet Fraser, 23-24); and is creating a one-woman show, TROUBLEMAKER, for the 2025 Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival.



[Maya-Leigh Rosenwasser](#) is a performer, composer and researcher specialising in new works for piano, live electronics and multi-disciplinary ensembles. Her PhD research at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance explores how we can create and use queered processes in experimental music, with a focus on electroacoustic composition/performance and improvisation. Notable performances, include Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (PLASTIC BODIES), Cafe Oto, Unit 44 (flxnflx & Kirkos Ensemble), Kyriakides Steinway Gallery, BBC Radio 3's 'Harbringers of Change' broadcast and the Pianodrome at Leeds International Piano Competition (Square Music). Her work has been supported by Britten Pears Arts, Made at the Red House and Help Musicians.



[Catherine Valve](#) is an LGBTQ+ filmmaker from Herefordshire. She graduated from Buckinghamshire New University with a degree in Film & Television production. She is particularly focused on telling the stories of under-represented groups and strives to make experiences of the LGBTQ+ community and women a central theme of her work. She has lived in London for 12 years, working as a film maker over a broad range of subjects including arts centred work, documentary and comedy. Catherine has directed several projects, including an award winning short film, and collaborated with other filmmakers and creatives to produce engaging films for a range of audiences.



Sofia Bagge is a Swedish theatre director and climate dramaturg, based in Colchester, Essex. She works with new writing for theatre, new work for opera as

well as cross-disciplinary live performance. She is the co-founder of climate focused theatre company Wise Ram Theatre, based in Colchester.

Credits include Decommissioned (director and dramaturg) which premiered at the Pleasance Theatre London April 2023, Help Me Learn (director) at The Glitch London, February 2024, Stag King (director and dramaturg) at Camden People's Theatre and Wardrobe Theatre Bristol 2023. 12HOURS, a marathon 12-hour performance for voice and electronics, at Somerset House and Rainy Days Festival, Luxemburg.