



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: 05.20. 2025

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## **ArtsWest Announces THE EFFECT by Lucy Prebble**

**SEATTLE, WA** (May 20, 2025) – ArtsWest presents **THE EFFECT** by Lucy Prebble (*HBO's Succession*), directed by Producing Artistic Director, Mathew Wright. **THE EFFECT** is a **fast-paced, sci-fi thriller** that *The New York Times* calls "**heady and scintillating...cosmic and atomically intimate.**" The cast features Sunam Ellis, Tim Gouran, Anna Mulia, and Morgan Gwilym Tso. **THE EFFECT** performs at ArtsWest from June 19 – July 13, 2025. Tickets are available online at [artswest.org](http://artswest.org) or by phone at (206) 938.0963.

In this thrilling play, a clinical drug trial is thrown off-course when two young volunteers succumb to the gravitational pull of attraction. Playwright, Lucy Prebble, perfectly captures the high-speed rush of what it feels like to fall in love and keeps the audience and the characters at the center asking, 'Is their experience real or just a side effect?' **THE EFFECT** "explores **provocative ideas with rapid-fire dialogue and fierce humor,**" writes the *New Yorker*. Rather than critique the role of pharmaceuticals in mental health, Prebble employs the world of medicine as a vehicle to pose larger questions of fate, human nature, love, and connection.

For ArtsWest's final production of the season, Director Mathew Wright and Scenic Designer, Parmida Ziaei, are working closely together to **transform the intimate theater through environmental staging that will transport audiences into the not-too-distant-future of this sci-fi play.**

**The cast of THE EFFECT is loaded with powerhouse actors.** Sunam Ellis (*Dr. Lorna James*), most recently seen in Seattle Rep's *Skin of Our Teeth*, returns to ArtsWest stage after portraying Olympe de Gouge in *The Revolutionists* (2019). Tim Gouran (*Dr. Toby Sealy*) is a Seattle theater veteran who was recently in *A Raisin in the Sun* at Taproot. ArtsWest welcomes Anna Mulia, who is making her ArtsWest debut as Connie, and rounding out the cast, Morgan Gwilym Tso, who performed in the successful productions of *Wolf Play* (ACT Theatre) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Seattle Shakespeare) is returning to ArtsWest's stage after making his first professional debut there when he was in middle school.

The play created a huge buzz in 2023 when it was produced by the National Theatre in London and was transferred to The Shed in New York. ArtsWest is thrilled to share this thought-provoking play with Seattle audiences.

ArtsWest will present **THE EFFECT** Thursday through Saturday at 7:30pm and Saturday through Sunday at 3pm.

## **CAST**

Dr. Lorna James... Sunam Ellis

Dr. Toby Sealy..... Tim Gouran

Connie..... Anna Mulia

Tristan..... Morgan Gwilym Tso

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

Director ... Mathew Wright

Stage Manager ... Neen Williams-Teramachi

Associate Director & Choreographer ... Alyza DelPan-Monley

Scenic & Costumes Designer ... Parmida Ziaei

Lighting Designer ... Trevor Cushman

Co-Sound Designer ... Sandra Huezo-Menjivar

Co-Sound Designer ... Conor Fortner

Fight & Intimacy Director ... Ian Bond

Properties Master ... Zenaida Smith

## **About the Production**

*The Effect* by Lucy Prebble and directed by Mathew Wright plays June 19 – July 13, 2025 at ArtsWest (4711 California Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116). Tickets (ranging from \$15 - \$46) may be purchased online at [www.artswest.org](http://www.artswest.org), by phone at 206.938.0339, or at the Box Office Thurs. - Sat. 2:00 - 7:00pm, Sundays 11:00 am-3:00 pm.

## **Press Information**

Press tickets are available Opening Weekend, June 19 – 22. Please contact Rachel Ewen at [rachele@artswest.org](mailto:rachele@artswest.org) to arrange. Press & Production photos available by request to Corinne Park-Buffelen – [corinnep@artswest.org](mailto:corinnep@artswest.org) . Photo Credit John McLellan. Full production photos available by June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **About ArtsWest**

ArtsWest is a vibrant center for both theater and visual arts located in the West Seattle Junction. This 149-seat theatre provides a unique setting for audiences and artists as stories of human emotion unfold in an intimate space. Winner of the American Theatre Wing's National Theatre Company Award, and winner of multiple Gregory Awards, ArtsWest has produced work by such varied playwrights as Dominique Morisseau, Henrik Ibsen, Annie Baker, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Taylor Mac, and David Henry Huang. ArtsWest produces artistic events that provoke conversation, incite the imagination, and use live theater as a powerful agent of change. [www.artswest.org](http://www.artswest.org)

**For Calendar Editors:**

**Who:** ArtsWest

**Where:** 4711 California Ave SW Seattle, WA 98116

**What:** *The Effect* by Lucy Prebble and directed by Mathew Wright

**When:** June 19 – July 13, 2025, Thursday – Saturday at 7:30pm, Saturday and Sunday at 3:00pm

**Tickets:**

General Admission: \$46 | Senior: \$41 | Inclusion: \$15

Tickets online at [www.artswest.org/theatre/buy-tickets/](http://www.artswest.org/theatre/buy-tickets/) by phone at 206-938-0339, and at the box office, 4711 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98116 , Thursday - Saturday 2 - 7pm, Sundays 11am - 3pm.