



A Leeds Playhouse and Kani Public Arts Centre co-production

# MISSING PEOPLE

By Brad Birch

Co-directed by Mark Rosenblatt and Nobuhiro Nishikawa

**12 – 21 MAR**

## HELLO AND WELCOME

Five years ago the Playhouse and Kani Public Arts Center signed a Memorandum of Understanding, acknowledging our commitment to sharing best practice across continents.

Five years on, I'm thrilled we're able to produce a new piece of work together, demonstrating our cultural common ground despite being thousands of miles apart. This is the very first co-production we've undertaken together, and a poignant, relevant story of family that spans cultures and continents.

The 2020 Japan Season of Culture is an apt time to showcase our nourishing international relationship; it's a real pleasure to be able to share this brand new play with audiences both in Leeds and Japan.

**James Brining**, Leeds Playhouse Artistic Director

## DIRECTORS' NOTE

*Missing People* is a rare experiment in genuine international collaboration. For British artists to work on a collaborative project with another country, especially one so different from our own, is vital. And to tell a story in which the only way to overcome difference is to better understand the views of someone else – however difficult, however alien, however inhibited by language – is more timely than ever.

**Mark Rosenblatt**, co-director

*Missing People* is about how easily we can disappear from each other, especially our nearest and dearest. How we stop communicating, even if we think we are talking.

On the surface, the play's about the prodigal son's disappearance. But it's really about the emotional distance between the people he has left behind and how deeper tensions are brought to the surface.

**Nobuhiro Nishikawa**, co-director

0113 213 7700  
@leedsplayhouse  
leedsplayhouse.org.uk



LEEDS  
PLAY  
HOUSE

## CAST

Linda  
**Ishia Bennison**

Dan  
**Simon Darwen**

Yasuko  
**Yuri Eikawa**

Sakiko  
**Susan Hingley**

Chiyo  
**Natsumi Nanase**

Masaru  
**Yutaka Oda**

Koji / Genki  
**Hiroki Tanaka**



Official event of the  
Japan Season of Culture

## CREATIVE TEAM

Co-directors  
**Mark Rosenblatt**  
**Nobuhiro Nishikawa**

Set Designer  
**Rumi Matsui**

Costume Designer  
**Rie Nishihara**

Lighting Designer  
**Elliot Griggs**

Sound Designer  
**Matt Padden**

Movement Director  
**Sachi Kimura**



Supported by the Great  
Britain Sasakawa Foundation

Script Translator  
**Keiko Tsuneda**

Production Coordinator and  
Interpreter  
**Mikiyo Usui**

Technical Interpreter  
**Akiko Sato**

LED Image and Video  
**Kei Urashima**

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Head Stage Manager  
**Kazutaka Mori**

Stage Manager on the Book  
**Sharon Speirs**

UK Production Manager  
**Steve Watling**

Surtitles  
**Shumpei Yamaguchi**

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