

*This Press Release is embargoed until Tuesday 18th February 2020*



**The Thelmas present**

# LADYKILLER

**Written by Madeline Gould, Directed by Madelaine Moore**

**Play at [Theatre Name] to head Off-Broadway in New York**

*“vastly entertaining, jauntily horrifying”* Lyn Gardner.

Following their UK Tour, The Thelmas are pleased to announce that *Ladykiller* will be heading to 59E59 Theaters, Off Broadway from the 12th May to the 7th June 2020.

59E59 Theaters is a non-profit theatre presenting a year-round curated program of the very best of American and international Off Broadway premieres.

New Diorama Theatre (NDT) and 59E59 Theaters, will join forces to co-curate 59E59 Theaters' Brits Off Broadway season from April to June, 2020. Established in 2004 the Brits Off Broadway Season 2020 will be an ambitious three month-long curated programme of Off-Broadway-style UK companies that offers New Yorkers a rare chance to witness the kind of work garnering praise in venues and Festivals in Britain, but rarely seen in America; see the show at [Theatre Name] before it head to Manhattan!

Winner of the VAULT Festival 2019 Pleasance award, “blood-curdling shriek of a smash hit” *Ladykiller* was a sell out at Edinburgh Fringe 2018, and Vault Festival 2019. A blood-soaked morality tale about victimhood, power, and flipping the gender rule book on psychopathy.

A hotel room, a chambermaid and a dead woman. It's not what it looks like, really, it's not. It was self-defence... and anyway, the woman was asking for it. The chambermaid considers herself to be a pretty normal person; she goes to the cinema. She reads books. She pretended to read the party manifestos at the General Election. She's even read The Psychopath Test and she's pretty sure she's not one so...

Writer, Madeline Gould has created an often funny, often bleak, and somewhat unnerving character, who possesses a staggering level of insight, but also the dreadful sociopathic qualities usually reserved for those who reside in high security prisons. She explains:

*It is so rare that we see the character of a female criminal drawn with as much complexity as their male counterparts and it is important to me that, in our battle for equality, we accept, explore and embrace the female capacity for violence, criminality and evil as much as we celebrate the positives. The play is a big “what if?” and an exploration of how female criminality is and has historically been treated differently to that of males.*

The character of HER presents us with a genuinely complex and compelling female protagonist, tapping into the feminist zeitgeist in a most unexpected way.

The 2020 national and international tour is supported by house and and Laura Elmes Productions.

**Notes to Editors:** The Thelmas are a female-led theatre company focused on distributing traditional female narratives and making theatre that is big bold and emotionally resonant. They are an Associate Artist at Ovalhouse 2019 -2021.

Running time: 65 minutes

Age recommendation: 16yrs +

Warnings: Strong Language, adult content. Contains complex themes of murder, assault and abuses of power, graphic visual representation of blood, sexual references, and graphic descriptions of violence and autopsy.

Website: <https://www.thethelmas.co.uk/ladykiller>

Twitter: @TheThelmas #LADYKILLERplay

Instagram: @TheThelmas

### **Creative Team**

Director: Madelaine Moore

Writer: Madeline Gould

### **Cast**

HER: Hannah McClean

To book review tickets, or for interviews and any further information, please contact:

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