

OUTSIDE THE OLD VIC



**SIOBHÁN
MCSWEENEY**

**SAMUEL
WEST**

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE

A play by

CARYL CHURCHILL

8 October 2025

**"Did you have a good day? Yes, great. Nice and sunny.
Yes, I had a sandwich in the park. Nice and sunny."**

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Ideas
Happen
Here

Did you have a good bank?
Yes, Coutts.
Barclays and sunny.
Yes, I had oil in the park.
Nice and BP.

OUTSIDE THE OLD VIC

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE

**Starring BAFTA
Award winner
Siobhán
McSweeney
and BAFTA
Award nominee
Samuel West,
Culture Unstained
presents the
UK premiere of
Tickets are Now
On Sale, written
by acclaimed
playwright
Caryl Churchill
and directed by
Cressida Brown.**

**\$290 BILLION
IN FOSSIL FUELS.
\$37BN IN WAR CRIMES.
\$9BN IN WEAPONS.
1 INDEFENSIBLE
SPONSOR.**



© MARK BRENNER

**Caryl
Churchill**

"Theatres used to claim they wouldn't survive without tobacco sponsorship. Now it's time to refuse to let our work be used to advertise companies causing destruction and death by investment in fossil fuels and Israel's atrocities."



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**Siobhán
McSweeney**

"I think that being an artist, part of your job is to make things a bit better. Theatre needs sponsorship. It doesn't need to be complicit in genocide, in the arms trade, and in the destruction of the world. That shouldn't be the option. I love theatre, theatre's my life, but I'm not willing to sacrifice the world for it. We need to find some kind of compromise. And the fact of the matter is that it's become the status quo but it doesn't have to be. There can be another way. There has been another way. There will be another way."

Siobhán McSweeney



© BRUCE CHATTERTON

**Samuel
West**



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**Wet'suwet'en
Hereditary Chief
Na'Moks**

"They break down our doors, they come at us with chainsaws, with attack dogs, with snipers. This is what the money of the Royal Bank of Canada does. That money must be gone. Because when the money is gone, the violence is gone. Do not allow Royal Bank of Canada to continue to sponsor this building."

Programme Note CULTURE UNSTAINED

RBC's sponsorship of the arts is dwarfed by its **\$290 billion investments in fossil fuels** since the Paris Agreement, making it one of the biggest funders of climate destruction in the world. 12.8% of the bank's total holdings are in **companies complicit in genocide and apartheid**.

RBC holds over \$37 billion worth of investments in companies complicit in war crimes, including **weapons manufacturers arming Israel** in the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people. Just this year, RBC has more than doubled its stake in Boeing, which produces Israel's "weapon of choice".

RBC is a major funder of Palantir and other producers of AI-based **combatant policing systems targeting both Palestinians and First Nations communities** as they peacefully defend their lands from pipelines, such as the RBC-funded Coastal Gaslink and TMX projects which violate Indigenous consent on unceded territory.

Yet The Old Vic continues to paint RBC in a positive light in its communications – this is what sponsorship money buys. RBC's relationship as a 'Principal Partner' to The Old Vic is a **cynical branding exercise which is a transaction, not a donation**.

If The Old Vic is serious about its 'social mission', it will join the long list of cultural institutions which have liberated themselves from fossil fuel funding.

Find out more at
cultureunstained.org/oldvic

ticketsarenowonsale.com

SUPPORT ETHICS IN ARTS

Theatre needs funding. It doesn't need to be complicit in genocide, in the arms trade, and in the destruction of the world.

The Old Vic's principal partner Royal Bank of Canada is one of the biggest investors in fossil fuels in the world and has billions of investments in companies supplying arms to Israel. Will you join Caryl Churchill, Samuel West, Siobhán McSweeney, Paapa Essiedu, Mark Rylance and others in calling on the Old Vic to end its partnership?



Take Action:

write to the Old Vic urging them to end their partnership with RBC.

Is something the matter?

Tar sands.

Did you have a good war?

Yes, massacre.

Bankers and crash.

Yes,

I had financial misconduct in the park.

Investment in arms trade.

I do think there's Israel's illegal occupation you're not telling me.

I'm really completely human rights violations.

Gaza.

Ok then.

I do think rising sea levels you're not saying.

It's carbon emissions.

So there is war crime?

It's whitewash greenwash really.

What are you frightened of?