Welcome to this introduction to RUST at the Bush Theatre. Rust is written by Kenny Emson and directed by Eleanor Rhode. The audio described performance in the Bush studio theatre is on Saturday 27July at 2.45. For details of a touch tour before the performance please contact the box office on 020 8743 5050.

The performance lasts for approximately 75 minutes with no interval. Seating is unreserved. The theatre gives an advance warning that Rust contains strong language, adult themes and the use of haze and flashing lights, also eco-friendly duck feathers which could trigger allergies. A further warning on the door of the studio warns that the performance contains scenes which some audience members may find disturbing. For more information please contact box office in advance or speak to the duty manager. The audio description is written and will be given at the performance by Alison Clarke.

RUST is performed by a cast of two actors in their mid to late 30s they are **Nadia** and **Daniel**. The performance publicity tells us:

*‘Nadia and Daniel have a secret. In fact they have quite a few. They’ve just signed on the dotted line for a studio flat. Under a pseudonym, naturally – Mr and Mrs White.*

*After years of school pic-ups, TV takeaways, and the day to day drudgery of married life, this is their chance to wipe the slate clean. But as much as they try to redefine the rules, and themselves, the outside world is closing in.*

*Ultra-contemporary, sexy and funny, Rust pushes the boundaries of trust, love and lust to the limit*.

When we enter the small intimate space of the studio theatre at the Bush the audience seating is arranged two rows deep against three of the four black walls. The audience surround the performance area on three sides and are seated near enough for those in the front row to be able to reach out and touch the actors during the performance.

The set is very simple and represents the rented flat. In front of the empty, black, fourth wall is an area about four feet deep. Here six very slim, fluorescent lighting tubes are suspended vertically, they are of uniform size each about six foot long and spaced to allow the actors to pass between, in front of or behind them during the performance. The tubes hang free allowing them at times to swing gently independent of each other. At other times they move in unison like pendulums. The tubes change colour with the scenes. At first they are illuminated in soft pastel colours, at others they all shine gold or orange and at others they are all pure white.

The main performance area in the centre of the audience is almost completely taken up by an enormous mound of pillows about 3 feet high and extending over an area about 15 feet square with a narrow space of floor around the edge where one or other of the actors stands occasionally. The pillows are encased in slightly crumpled white or pale pastel coloured pillow cases and are piled apparently at random. This mound is the only furnishing in the flat and for much of the time represents a double bed.

All the action takes place in the flat over a period of four years. The scenes are episodic each fading to a short blackout before the action moves on. The black outs are usually accompanied by a short sound track.

The actors remain in the same costumes throughout.

**NADIA** is a petite figure with an elfin, heart-shaped face and mischievous glint in her sparkling dark eyes. Her features frequently light up with a wide smile. Her dark hair is swept up and secured at the back of her head and hangs in a fringe to her eyebrows. Curling tendrils of hair escape and frame her face. She moves with a confident stride and stands upright, feet firmly planted, hands on her hips, she frequently tilts her head coquettishly, or flings herself onto the pillows stretching seductively. She is dressed stylishly but casually in wide legged burnt orange trousers, a loose, black, silk shirt tucked in at the waist, the sleeves rolled up. Nadia is always barefoot.

**Daniel** is just a couple of years older. He is a solid, bearded figure. His hair and wiry beard are greying and his hair is swept back from his face. He wears a long, dark blue denim shirt which hangs open over the shapeless, white, tee shirt he wears underneath. His shirt hangs outside his dark, denim jeans, the sleeves rolled up to the elbow. At first Daniel wears red patterned socks but as time passes, he abandons these and is barefoot. Prominent on his left wrist is a large watch.

Both Nadia and Daniel wear wedding rings, Nadia’s is accompanied with a discreet but sparkling engagement ring.

Please note that as time passes the characters refer to occasional items of furniture, these do not appear, but are mimed by the actors.

Rust is performed by

Claire Lams as Nadia and Jon Foster as Daniel

Design is by Max Johns

Lighting design by Jess Berberg

Sound Design by David Gregory

Production Manager is Marco Savo

and the Stage Manager is Julia Nimmo

THE DIRECTOR IS ELEANOR RHODE

AND RUST HAS BEEN WRITTE BY KENNY EMSON