

**JACK BRETT
ANDERSON**

**DURAN
FULTON BROWN**

**ANTHONY
TAYLOR**

A new play by Tina Jay

HELD

Directed by Richard Elson



“Yer can’t protect yerself in ‘ere”



Prison is a hard education.

Set in the harsh reality of an adult men's prison, **HELD** explores the desperate broken lives of five inmates and the locked chains that bind them. Developed from **WALKING** (Winner of the Windsor Fringe Kenneth Branagh Award) and **DOG CITY** (Lost Theatre), both by Tina Jay and directed by Richard Elson, the interlinking stories painfully reveal that for life inside nothing is free, and everything has a price to pay.

As the lives of Jamie and Fynn, the two younger inmates, unite together through the demands of drug baron Ryde, the need to escape brings a deeper and more dangerous meaning.

What happens when your saviour becomes your destroyer?

"We're delighted to have a brilliantly talented cast to bring the characters to life, who've also shown great enthusiasm, energy and commitment for this project, sharing our aim and vision to passionately reflect the lives and circumstances of these five individuals on the edge of society."

- Tina Jay

"The play encapsulates a world that is hard hitting and raw. The environment the characters grew up in led them astray and they live in a system that feeds off their despair... I'm excited to get the chance to bring these characters to life."

- Jack Brett Anderson



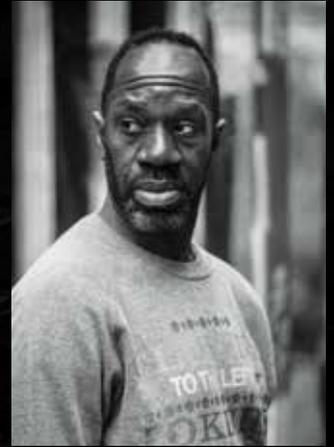
JACK BRETT ANDERSON

It was in his debut theatre role that Jack caught the eye of critics for his portrayal as Prince Edward in the Christopher Marlowe's **KING EDWARD II** at the South Bank's Rose Theatre. The British Theatre Guide described his performance as 'uniquely moving ...electric to watch.' Film and screen credits include the lead in the most recent two seasons of **WOLFBLOOD**, Jeff Mosley in Damien Mace and Alexi Waisbrot's feature film **DON'T HANG UP**, in which he starred alongside Sienna Guillory, Greg Sulking and Garrett Clayton; the BAFTA long listed and award winning short film, **HELLO AGAIN**, alongside Naomi Scott, and Lucien Laviscount's **RUNWAY**, which premiered at the Austin Texas Film Festival as well as the Omaha and Cinequest Film Festivals. Jack has also starred with Billy Zane, Dale Dickey and Shanley Caswell in **COME FIND ME**, as well as appearing as a guest lead in the popular drama series **CASUALTY** for the BBC.



ANTHONY TAYLOR

Anthony trained at Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama. His theatre credits include: **ROMEO AND JULIET**, **PEER GYNT** and **BABY DOLL** at The National Theatre; and **ANTIGONE** (directed by Declan Donnellan) and **SWEET BIRD OF YOUTH** at The Old Vic. Other theatre credits include: **JESUS IN THE MYSTERIES 2003** (Coventry Cathedral / Galway Arts Festival), **ANDORRA** (Young Vic), **THE LIFE OF GALILEO** (Birmingham Rep), and **THE MAN WHO** (Nottingham Playhouse). Film and TV credits include: **KICK ASS 2**, **WALKING WITH CAVEMEN, HE KILLS COPPERS** (directed by Adrian Shergold), **MURDER IN MIND** and **AFTER TOMORROW** (directed by Emma Sullivan).



DURAN FULTON BROWN

Duran's extensive film and television credits include **JASON BOURNE** (Universal Pictures), **THE TUNNEL II: DEBRIS** (Sky1), **THE MUSKETEERS** Series 3 (BBC1), **JEKYLL & HYDE** (ITV1) as well as a major role in the hit online fantasy series, **REN** (Mythica Entertainment). Independent film includes **ARTIFICIO CONCEAL** (Transient Films) and **OUTLAW** (Vertigo Films). Theatre work includes **THE ACCIDENT** at The Lyric, Hammersmith and **SCREWFACE** (directed by Rikki Beadle-Blair).





ACT 1 'WALKING'

Set in the shared cell of two inmates inside a contemporary UK prison over a two month period.

Jamie Jack Brett Anderson

Sleat Anthony Taylor

When young offender Jamie is thrown into the harsh reality of an adult prison, he soon falls prey to the rules and control of the older hardened prisoner Sleat, in a world where nothing is free. Betrayal and corruption are all around him as the dark torments of his past painfully return to haunt him.

Followed by an interval of 20 minutes

ACT 2 'DOG CITY'

The action takes place in the toilet area of the same prison, set over the course of two days.

Fynn Jack Brett Anderson

Cal Duran Fulton Brown

Ryde Anthony Taylor

Fynn is desperate for a way out, not only from prison but the strangling ties threatening to destroy him, but at what cost to himself and fellow inmate Cal? As Fynn and Jamie's lives are brought together, through the demands of drug baron Ryde, the need to escape brings a deeper dangerous meaning.

Writer	Tina Jay
Director	Richard Elson
Co-Producers	Tina Jay Richard Elson
Lighting & Sound Designer	Mitchell Reeve
Artistic Director	Matthew Keeler
Head of Technical	Patrick O'Sullivan
Poster Design & Marketing	James Kennett Paper and Pixels Design
Photography	Harry Richards
Composer (trailer)	Nicole Daiman
Q&A Host	Terri Paddock

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TINA JAY

Tina Jay is an award winning playwright having won both The International Student Playscript Competition for **ROTTEN APPLES** judged by Sir Alan Ayckbourn, performed at The Royal Exchange Manchester, and The Windsor Fringe Kenneth Branagh Award for New Drama Writing for **WALKING**. Her plays have been performed across London at numerous venues including The Lost Theatre, Rich Mix, Greenwich Theatre, Tristan Bates, The Bread and Roses Theatre, Baron's Court, St James' Theatre and The Park Theatre.

DOG CITY was originally performed at The Lost Theatre and since shortlisted for the BBC Writersroom 10, from which Tina was selected for the Holby City Shadow Scheme last October. She is currently in the final year of her MA in TV Scriptwriting at De Montfort University, Leicester, and presently working on a number of new projects for TV, film and theatre.



RICHARD ELSON

Richard's credentials span theatre, film and TV. He directed the original version of **WALKING** at The Windsor Fringe and has since worked with Tina on her plays **DOG CITY** and **BOUND**. Other theatre credits include **WALK ON** and **BROUGHT TO MIND** (Bread and Roses Theatre), **HOME TRUTH** and **MAN OF STRAW** (The Windsor Fringe) and **A ROYAL MESS** (Arts Theatre, Leicester Square).

TV and film work includes: RTS nominated **A CHRISTMAS STAR** (Cinemagic), **MI HIGH** (BBC), **SHADOW TRADE** (Earth Touch) and **STEFFI** (London Live).

THE PRODUCTION

Tina Jay has taught both English and Creative Writing in a men's prison, and whilst taking her degree part of her course was dedicated to researching the opportunities and benefits for the art of written expression within the prison environment.

On the very evening of winning the Windsor Fringe Kenneth Branagh Award, Tina and Richard were already committed to bringing the production to the West End.

They later joined the original play with **DOG CITY** to create two interlinking stories set in the same men's prison.

It's been a long journey but with the support of Arts Council Funding, Tina is delighted that **HELD** is now holding its London premiere at Tristan Bates Theatre and is now working on the development of a further prison play **TILL KINGDOM COME**.

Tina and Richard are planning a national tour of **HELD** with further performances in London and International Festivals.

The journey and the vision goes on.







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#Held