

BA ACTING & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRESENTS



THURS 26 FEB – FRI 27 FEB | 7:30PM
SAT 28 FEB | 2:30PM & 7:30PM

RUNNING TIME

80mins. There is no interval.

RATING: 15+

This production contains gunshots, violence, flashing lights, scenes of a sexual nature, sexual references, strong language, references of death and themes of abandonment, references to online grooming, sexual exploitation of minors, and discussions around the sharing of pornographic images.

CLIFFTOWN THEATRE

NELSON STREET, SOUTHEND, ESSEX SS1 1EF | 01702 328335 | WWW.CLIFFTOWNTHEATRE.CO.UK

SHIFT

What happens when play collides with algorithms, anonymity and a seemingly endless digital universe?

Shift into the world of Roblox. Built from interviews, conversations, and lived experiences, *Shift* explores the joy, creativity, and chaos that shapes one of the largest online playgrounds in the world, and the complex politics of addiction that frame the dopamine machine that can keep adults and children alike locked online.

Shift has been constructed exclusively from verbatim text sourced from interviews, internet forums and chat inside Roblox games. We interviewed Roblox players past and present, parents of players and anyone with a strong connection to the subject. Online spaces provide sanctuary and freedom but also anonymity, and a lack of consequence. These are the paradoxes we wanted to explore. The fractured identities of online role play in a liminal space - part bedroom, part server - where real bodies and avatars blur: Who are we when we log on? What are we seeking? And what does it cost?

In a world where growing up increasingly happens online, we found wild, absurd, haunting stories about the spaces in between; between player and person, freedom and control, connection and risk, logging in and logging out. "What would you do in a world without consequence?"

Welcome to the Server.

By Alex Grayson

SARAH KIM FIELDING DIRECTOR

Sarah Kim Fielding is a theatre director, dramaturg, and writer working across devised, interdisciplinary, and experimental performance, with a focus on politically engaged, site-responsive, and hybrid forms.

She is Associate Director of The Invisible Circus, where she has directed work in cathedrals, car showrooms, and underground tunnels. She was dramaturg on Common/Wealth's most recent production, *Demand the Impossible*, and is a dramaturg and script reader for Theatre503, as well as a script reader for the Finborough Theatre.

Sarah holds an MA in Text and Performance from Birkbeck and RADA (Distinction) and is an alumna of the Royal Court Writers Group.

ROBLOX

Roblox (*/ˈrɒʊ.blɒks/ ROH-bloks*) is an online game platform and game creation system developed by Roblox Corporation that allows users to program and play games created by themselves or other users. It was created by David Baszucki and Erik Cassel in 2004, and released to the public in 2006. As of February 2025, the platform has reported an average of 85.3 million daily active users. According to the company, their monthly player base includes half of all American children under the age of 16.

The platform hosts millions of user-created games (officially referred to as "experiences" since 2021), all created using a dialect of the programming language 'Lua; and the platform's game engine, Roblox Studio. While Roblox is free-to-play, it features in-game purchases done through its virtual currency known as "Robux", and game developers on the platform are able to create items that cost Robux. Furthermore, the platform hosts a large virtual economy centred around those items and Robux. Using the platform's "Developer Exchange" program, creators on the platform are able to exchange their earned Robux for real-world currency. The platform has also been used to host virtual concerts and events, as well as advergames.

While Roblox started off small—both in playerbase and as a company—it began to grow rapidly in the second half of the 2010s. This growth was further accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. By 2020, over 5,000 games on Roblox had been played over a million times, and over 20 had been played over one billion times. Although critic reviews for Roblox have been positive, it has faced heavy criticism for its content moderation, due to the large amount of sexual or politically extremist material on the platform. It has also been criticized for its alleged exploitative practices toward children and microtransactions.

The platform has been restricted or completely blocked in several countries, including China, Russia, Turkey, and Iraq.

~ Wikipedia

SHIFT GAMES/EXPERIENCES

In order of appearance

1. Grow a Garden
2. Adopt Me
3. Benefit Street
4. Heaven Line
5. Tsunami
6. The IKEA Co-Worker Game
7. The Mexican Border
8. Break In
9. Nothing
10. Baddies
11. Vibe Place

CAST

In alphabetical order

[ALEX GRAYSON](#)



Flippa789
Sean | RADO

[ANNA ELLISON](#)



Flippa823
IKEA Worker
Kaitlyn | Mum

[DAIZ CROAIN](#)



Flippa814
Mills3472
Taco | Joel

[DES DAMARI](#)



Flippa1717
Ethan | Mum

[HUNTER LYNE](#)



Flippa707
J Streamer
IKEA Worker

[ISLA PETER-SWAIN](#)



Flippa672
Louis
Lola

[JAMES TRASKE](#)



Flippa8080 | Daniel
Scary Larry
IKEA worker

[KATIE ROLFE](#)



Flippa7777
IKEA Worker
Job Centre Lady
Louise | Sister

[LAUREN EVERSON](#)



Flippa487
Dulcie
Ahmet

[SCARLETT FOWLER](#)



Flippa1919 | Lynn
Purplegirl494
Lukas | Georgia

[SOPHIA DAWKINS](#)



Flippa1858
BySelf
LuAnn

[WREN DAVI RUBIN](#)



Flippa1041 | Blake
Brandon | Border Guard
Dean

CREATIVE & TECHNICAL TEAM

Written by
Directed by

The Company
Sarah Kim Fielding

Lighting & Sound Design
Costume Design
Set Design
Fight Directors

Steve Owens
Sarah Melville
Carlos Moral Reis
Lilian DeClair
Roni Elson

Production Manager
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Managers

Steve Owens
Charlotte Windley
Lauren Everson
James Traske
Wren Davi Rubin
Sophia Dawkins
Ali Manners
Andrea Wingrove-Dunn
Ellie James
Eliot Randle
Carlos Moral Reis

Wardrobe Supervisor
Wardrobe Assistant
Poster Artwork
Lighting & Sound Operator
Set Construction

Head of Course
Movement Tutor
Voice Tutor

Ainslie Masterton
Steffany George
Morag Stark

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to be interviewed by the cast for our verbatim show. Thank you for trusting us with your personal stories, without these interviews this show wouldn't have been possible to make.

EAST 15
ACTING SCHOOL



University
of Essex

