

Utopia 6

'At its heart, Utopia 6 is about displaced people. It is about how difficult it is to overcome outsider status for those entering new societies, especially societies defined by privilege. The city of Utopia 6 has been carefully designed to meet the needs of its inhabitants and flaunts its natural resources. The residents are sheltered from the rest of the world's predicament by a huge electromagnetic fence. Virtual Reality brings the audience personally into this Utopian community while raising uncomfortable questions about the price and limits of inclusion.'

--Directors, David Kaskel and Nathan Miller

Synopsis

Utopia 6 takes place 200 years from now in a world ravaged by environmental disasters and wars that have killed more than half of the human population. But 1% of the population lives in select cities spread across the world. And for those lucky few million, Utopia 6 awaits...

This new drama follows a virtual presentation of the city to the patrons of the Utopia Life Corporation. You are taken through the city while the CEO presents alongside her assistant Bea, a top graduate of the Refugee Apprenticeship scheme. However, it becomes clear that the devastating emotional effects of The Crisis have taken an irreversible toll on Bea.

Utopia 6 is CGI based and employs the latest in VR directorial techniques and rendering technology.

Directors

David Kaskel is the founder of Breaking Fourth, a VR-first studio in London, and the creator of the VR drama *Ctrl*, which was chosen for the Raindance Official Selection and nominated for both the Wired Audi Innovation Awards and a Proto Award. City AM gave it five stars and called it *'the first steps into a vast new sphere of entertainment'*.

Nathan Miller co-founded the Cambridge University Filmmaking Society. His recent directing credits include a successful run of *Arcadia* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (*'thought-provoking and emotionally affecting, and the comedy is perfectly pitched'* - *EdFringe Review*) and festival-selected short films.

Writer

Playwright **Jo Harper**'s play *Can You Hear Me Running?* premiered in 2016 at Pleasance Theatre, London (*'Engaging one-woman show combining energetic storytelling and rich visuals'* - *The Stage*). She was shortlisted for Liverpool Hope playwriting award and long listed for Theatre 503 Award.

Cast

Utopia 6 was performed by top London acting talent including **Elizabeth Boag** (recently praised by Ben Brantley of the New York Times) and **Georgina White** (*'White is... volatile, vulnerable and crackling with emotional and theatrical intelligence.'* - *The Stage*).

Composer

The music was composed by **Alex Parsons** whose recent work includes BAFTA-nominated Channel 4 documentaries and BAFTA winning animation series.