

# Matthew Landers & Poppy Laila

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Matt and Poppy are long time collaborators and co-writers, who's work seeks to explore the state of the nation through a mix of comedy and kick ass drama.

Matt's debut play 'Arrows' was a winner of the 'Willy Russell Foundation Award' for best new script. His next 'A Dog Called Redemption' won the Manchester Evening News award for best new play and the Oscar Wilde Award for excellence at the Dublin Theatre festival. He is also a theatre and film director and dramaturg, his last project 'Growing Pains' a collaboration with poet Tom Gill, receiving critic's choice at the Edinburgh fringe and enjoying a sell out national tour.

Poppy was born in Bangladesh and was originally a short story writer. Brought up on the great Bollywood cannon those vibrant influences can be seen throughout her work.

In 2015 Poppy and Matt began working together when Matt was commissioned to write the first episode of TV thriller 'INNOCENT' by **Big Talk Productions**, about an affair between a Muslim student and her white middle-class teacher that ignites racial tensions in inner city Salford. Their latest work includes:

**POLY:** The story of a northern, female Asian P.C who becomes an accidental polygamist and blackmailed into a investigating a Preston gangland murder. Currently in development with **BBC productions**.

**RUSHOLME RAJ:** a comedy crime Bollywood musical set in and around Manchester's vibrant curry mile. Currently in development with **Avalon**.

**TWOCKERS:** a female gang show about a group of multicultural working-class women who become Manchester's most unlikely car thieves.

**LINES:** A fish out of water comedy drama about a young London Bengali boy forced on the run in the rural north, and the unlikely bond he forms with a racist ex-soldier.

**KALA:** The story of a female Rohingya Muslim refugee who flees persecution in Myanmar and Bangladesh, to become a champion boxer in the U.K.