

MY YCC STORY

Last year I was lucky enough to be part of the Young Commissioning Circle for CFT's production of *Cock* by Mike Bartlett. Ever since I heard about the play, I desperately wanted to see it in production, so I felt genuinely special to be involved in its first UK revival.

I really enjoyed having the behind-the-scenes experience and following the production from the rehearsal room to the stage. The Commissioning Circle was given a briefing by Kate Hewitt, the director, and it was so useful to hear first hand about the artistic choices that create a play like *Cock*. She talked about the provocative nature of theatre, the inspiration behind the play and what interested her about staging *Cock* in 2018.

After the briefing (and seeing the model box containing the set design), I was excited to see the show. It blew me away. The acting was superb and it was fascinating to observe how Mike Bartlett's script and Kate's briefing translated into a vivid and funny play. When the show had finished, we met the actors and some of the backstage crew. I was really inspired by how lovely they all were and the advice they gave on how to work in theatre.

I came away from the experience learning about how much goes into making a play happen and I'm grateful for the opportunity to meet the other members of the Commissioning Circles and talk to them about why they love theatre.

