

# chichester festival theatre

Tuesday 21 April 2026

**Gabriel Byrne** joins **Geraldine James** in the world stage premiere of

## **45 Years**

From the film by **Andrew Haigh**

Adapted for the stage by **Hannah Patterson**

Directed by **Prasanna Puwanarajah**

12 June – 11 July, Minerva Theatre, Chichester

Press night: Thursday 18 June

**Gabriel Byrne** joins **Geraldine James** in the world stage premiere of **45 Years**, from the film by **Andrew Haigh**, adapted for the stage by **Hannah Patterson**, directed by **Prasanna Puwanarajah** and running at Chichester's Minerva Theatre from 12 June – 11 July, with a press night on 18 June.

**Gabriel Byrne** returns to the UK stage, making his Chichester debut as Geoff. The winner of many stage and screen awards, including a Golden Globe and two Tony nominations, his international career ranges from stage credits *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, *Long Day's Journey Into Night* and *Walking with Ghosts* on Broadway, to starring screen roles in *Miller's Crossing*, *The Usual Suspects*, *In Treatment* and *The War of the Worlds*.

**Geraldine James** comes to Chichester for the first time to play Kate. Her innumerable TV credits include *Back to Life*, *Silo*, *This Town*, *Dope Girls*, *Band of Gold* (BAFTA nomination) and *The Jewel in the Crown*. Tony Award-nominated for *The Merchant of Venice* on Broadway, her recent stage roles include *Creditors* (Orange Tree) and *As You Like It* (RSC).

Buried for decades, the body of a young woman is found in the melting ice. A thousand miles and 45 years away... a crack forms in the crystal of a marriage.

It's the week leading up to Kate and Geoff's wedding anniversary and preparations for the party are in full swing. As they choose the music for their first dance, a letter from Switzerland quietly shatters their world.

Is the past another country? Or are the secrets in the attic of our memory destined to return?

Adapted from **Andrew Haigh**'s critically acclaimed 2015 film, *45 Years* is an achingly tense, intimate and moving dance to the music of time.

**Hannah Patterson**'s plays include *Eden* (Hampstead Theatre) and *Playing With Grown Ups* (Theatre503), nominated for an OffWestEnd Award and the Susan Smith Blackburn Award, which transferred to 59E59 in New York.

Director **Prasanna Puwanarajah** makes his CFT debut; his recent work includes *Twelfth Night* at the RSC, for which he won the 2025 UK Theatre Award for Best Director.

The creative team includes designer **James Cotterill**, lighting designer **Guy Hoare**, composer **Ruth Barrett**, sound designer **Beth Duke**, movement director **Natasha Harrison** and casting director **Matilda James CDG**.

ENDS

### **BOOKING INFORMATION**

**cft.org.uk**    Box Office **01243 781312**

#### **Prologue: £5 tickets for 16 – 30s**

10,000 £5 tickets are available for 16 to 30 year-olds across all Festival 2026 productions; sign up for free at **[cft.org.uk/prologue](https://cft.org.uk/prologue)**.

**Images** can be downloaded from [cft.org.uk/pressimages](https://cft.org.uk/pressimages), password: festivalpress

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