

1536

By Ava Pickett





AVA PICKETT

- **Born 1993 (Essex, UK)**
- **Screenwriter & Playwright**
- **BA in Theatre from Middlesex University; MA from Royal Central School of Speech & Drama (2018)**
- **2023-24 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize for 1536**
- **2025-26 The National Theatre Writer In Residence**
- **2 2026 Olivier Nominations**

PREMIERE



**ALMEIDA
THEATRE
London, 2025**



**THE
AMBASSADORS
THEATRE
London (West End),
2024**

TUDOR ENGLAND



- Catherine of Aragon Dies
- Anne Boleyn to be executed
- King Henry VIII marries Jane Seymour
- Reformation Parliament Ends



ABOUT 1536

- **Historical Drama**
- **Small rural village/field in Essex, London 1536**
- **Female friendship, systemic misogyny, transactional nature of sex/marriage, class, and trickle-down effect of violence against women**
- **Darkly comic, sharp, and naturalistic**

"1536 is a fiendishly smart and funny play which asks whether female solidarity can survive in a world where barbarism and misogyny are state sanctioned."

"Everyone is from Essex"



JANE

"19 yrs, A Midwife"



ANNA

"23 yrs, In Service"



MARIELLA

"22 yrs, A



RICHARD
"25 yrs, A Man With



WILLIAM
"29 yrs, A Man With Power"

RECEPTION & IMPACT

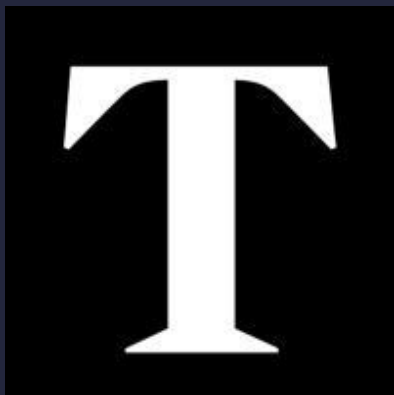
4 stars ★★★★★

The Guardian's Miriam Gillinson got straight to the point: 'Set against the impending execution of Anne Boleyn, 1536 is an effortlessly funny, bold and ballsy play, which asks the question: just how much have things really changed for women today?'



1 star ★

The Times' Clive Davis was mystified by the play's appeal to others. He called it 'the kind of simplistic, feminist-lite drama about the evils of patriarchy that you normally encounter in a one-hour slot at the Edinburgh Fringe, where my instinct would be not to write a review to spare the feelings of everyone involved.'



THANK YOU!

<https://almeida.co.uk/whats-on/1536-play/#cast-creatives>

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2025/may/14/1536-review-almeida-theatre-london>

<https://www.thetimes.com/culture/theatre-dance/article/1536-review-terrible-tudor-drama-6zdk6rb8d>

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2011/oct/23/great-english-dates-1536-monasteries>