SIMONE ASHLEY

Simone Ashley shot to global fame as the female lead of season two of **Netflix** and **Shonda Rhimes**'s hit show *Bridgerton*. Based on author **Julia Quinn's** second novel in the romance series, *The Viscount Who Loved Me*, the season followed *Bridgerton* heir **Anthony Bridgerton**'s romance with *Kate Sharma* (Ashley). The announcement of Ashley's casting was globally celebrated for breaking down a race barrier, changing Kate's ethnicity from the books so her family would be of Indian descent. Praised for its diverse cast and progressive storylines, the show broke records and became an instant cultural phenomenon lauded with a variety of prestigious awards and critical acclaim. Ashley was subsequently named one of **Forbes' 2022 30 Under 30** (Entertainment Europe) and featured in the **2022 Time100 Next** list.

Set to reprise her role of 'Kate' in *Bridgerton* season three, Ashley recently appeared in **Disney**'s live-action reimagining of *The Little Mermaid*, as Ariel's sister, **Indira**. She also voices **Rose** in GFM Animation's animated feature film, *10 lives*, which premiered at Sundance Film Festival in January 2024. Next, Ashley will helm Amazon Prime Video's original romantic-comedy *Picture This* and lead independent film *This Tempting Madness.*

Prior to her breakout moment, Ashley was best known for her role as Olivia in the highly praised television series *Sex Education*, which won the **Top 100 Popular Television award** from ReFrame in 2020, and has been nominated for various BAFTA, MTV, and GLAAD series awards.

Past credits include Netflix's BROADCHURCH; BBC's WOLFBLOOD, C.B. STRIKE, DOCTORS, and CASUALTY; Freeform's GUILT; Rai Production's L'ISPETTORE COLIANDRO; Euston Film's mini-series BECAUSE THE NIGHT; Warner Bros' POKEMON DETECTIVE PIKACHU; Dandelion Production's TV movie A WORKING MOM'S NIGHTMARE; ZORG Studio's KILL BEN LYK; GlobalWatch Film's BOOGIE MAN; and the short SPARROW.

An avid animal lover and photography enthusiast, Ashley currently splits her time between London and LA.