

PRESS

AT THE

OLD VIC

PRESS RELEASE
30 APRIL 2019

THE OLD VIC ANNOUNCES MATTHEW WARCHUS' SEASON 5 PLUS NEW TRUSTEES AND THE LAUNCH OF TWO EXCITING SCHEMES FOR AUDIENCES

The Old Vic is delighted to announce **Matthew Warchus' Season 5** featuring an exciting and eclectic mix of thought-provoking entertainment.

In addition, The Old Vic is also today launching two new initiatives: an online loyalty scheme called **OV Extra**, designed to give audiences discounts, insights, invites and surprises for just £5 a month, and **Matinee Idols**, a social initiative specially for those aged over 60.

Plus we are delighted to announce the appointment of **Tina Alexandrou** and Olivier Award-winning actress **Sheila Atim** to The Old Vic Theatre Trust Board of Trustees.

AT A GLANCE

Productions:

- The world premiere of a new play by Old Vic Associate Artist **Lucy Prebble** based on **Luke Harding's** book ***A Very Expensive Poison***, directed by **John Crowley**.
- **Claire Foy** and **Matt Smith** make their Old Vic debuts in **Duncan Macmillan's** ***Lungs***, directed by **Matthew Warchus**.
- Old Vic Associate Artist **Jack Thorne's** version of ***A Christmas Carol*** directed by **Matthew Warchus** returns by popular demand.
- **Alan Cumming** and **Daniel Radcliffe** star in a double bill of **Samuel Beckett's** ***Endgame*** and ***Rough for Theatre II***, directed by **Richard Jones**.
- A musical adaptation of the hit 1983 film ***Local Hero*** directed by **John Crowley**. Book by **Bill Forsyth** and Old Vic Associate Artist **David Greig** with music and lyrics by **Mark Knopfler**.

Commissions and in development:

- Commissions for 2019 and beyond include: **Ella Hickson** with a new version of **Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex***, **Simon Stephens** with a new adaptation of Ibsen's ***An Enemy of the People*** and a new play by **Paul Unwin** chronicling the birth of the NHS directed by **Sarah Frankcom**.
- Following its work-in-progress run at The Old Vic in September 2018 **SYLVIA**, written (with **Priya Parmar**), directed and choreographed by Old Vic Associate Artist **Kate Prince**, is in development for a planned future life.

From The Old Vic:

- The **Olivier Award-winning** family production ***A Monster Calls*** directed by **Sally Cookson** will play at the Kennedy Center, Washington.
- **'Art'** by **Yasmina Reza** (directed by Matthew Warchus and revived at The Old Vic in 2016) continues a UK tour.
- The **Olivier Award-winning** production of Old Vic Associate Artist **Conor McPherson's** ***Girl from the North Country*** opens at the Princess of Wales Theatre, Toronto, from September 2019, after a sold-out run at The Public, New York, which began in September 2018.

On Season 5, Artistic Director Matthew Warchus commented:

'One of the things I love about theatre is its almost complete disinterest in trivialities. It feeds off - and feeds back - life's most titanic ideas and emotions. Our next batch of shows at The Old Vic is no exception and delivers five powerful stories in five contrasting genres; a world premiere play, a very topical duologue, a festive celebration, a

20th century classic and a brand new musical. First up is the extraordinary quest for an elusive truth in Lucy Prebble's dark fantasia *A Very Expensive Poison*, exploring the poisoning of Alexander Litvinenko in 2006. After that, and hot on the heels of the Extinction Rebellion consciousness-raising demonstrations, there's an extremely limited run of Duncan Macmillan's dazzlingly vibrant and profound two-hander, *Lungs*, which sees a conflicted couple wrestle with huge contemporary dilemmas surrounding the responsibility of bringing new life into an increasingly precarious world. Then there's the race against time to save the soul of greedy misanthrope Ebenezer Scrooge in Jack Thorne's emotional sucker-punch adaptation of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. In January we'll plunge into the absurdist verbal sparring which comprises Samuel Beckett's phenomenal play *Endgame* (playing for the first time in a double bill with his *Rough for Theatre II*), where human co-dependency, bathos and malevolence is laid bare in a post-apocalyptic wasteland. And, finally, a poignant (and comic) battle to save the environment in the new Scottish musical *Local Hero*.

These shows continue our social mission to present productions which entwine empathy, politics and entertainment for as wide an audience as possible. If you've never visited The Old Vic before, or if you haven't been back for a while, come along and check out what we're up to... you'll be surprised how much we've changed'

ENTERTAIN SOMETHING NEW

The Old Vic is unique. An independent, risk-taking, creative producing theatre operating without subsidy that has been reinventing itself for 200 years. At the heart of its local and creative community since its inception in 1818, the theatre has always played a vital part in shaping the theatrical and social landscape of London and beyond.

2019 will see some of the biggest changes the theatre has made, with works already underway to upgrade the building. From the autumn, for the first time ever, all visitors no matter what their access needs will be able to enter the theatre through a new entrance to a new Box Office and foyer space, as well as visit the Penny bar and café on the lower ground floor via a newly-installed lift. Wheelchair spaces in the auditorium will be increased from one to up to 10 and the ladies' loos provision (the biggest customer complaint) will be doubled to address the long-time issue of queues and overcrowding.

The focus is on the positive societal impact The Old Vic can have on the next generation and how it can respond to the needs of people today. The theatre's undeniable commitment to cultural education, social mobility and employability continues this year with the 10th anniversary of **Schools Club** which has, to date, benefitted over 10,000 young people, the expansion of the landmark employability programme **Front Line**, and the launch of a free employability programme, **Take the Lead**, for students aged 16–18.

With an auditorium of 1,000 seats and a (soon-to-be) accessible building, The Old Vic's aim is to be full for the 18 hours a day that it is open. Whether it be to see a show, enjoy a drink with a friend, join a debate or see behind the scenes, we want all people to feel like they can experience something new at The Old Vic. This Season will see the launch of **OV Extra**, designed to surprise and engage new and existing audiences. For just £5 a month anyone will be able to gain exclusive access to discounted and free tickets, discounts on food, drink and merchandise and a monthly surprise that could range from ticket offers or backstage tours to party invites or meet and greets.

oldvictheatre.com/ovextra

Inspired by recent studies reporting growing numbers of older people feeling lonely or isolated, and The Old Vic's belief in the restorative power of the arts, we are excited to launch **Matinee Idols**, a new scheme for people over 60. Open to individuals and groups, the scheme is free and offers the opportunity to attend a matinee at low cost and take part in a social event either pre or post show. This could involve a workshop led by one of the production's creative team, a Q&A with someone from the show, a talk with Old Vic staff or a look backstage – all with plenty of opportunities to chat and make new friends.

oldvictheatre.com/matinee-idols

NEW TRUSTEES

The Old Vic is delighted to announce two new appointments to its Board of Trustees:

Tina Alexandrou currently undertakes a number of trustee roles within the third sector, including Clore Social Leadership, Pilotlight and the Resolution Foundation where she has been involved since its inception. She has a particular interest in education and sits on the Ark Schools Board. Ark runs 38 schools in the UK and was established to make sure that all children, regardless of their background, have access to a great education and real choices in life. Prior to working in this sector, Tina's career was spent in the banking and insurance industry with KPMG, J. Rothschild and HSBC. On her appointment Tina said: *'I am delighted to be joining the Board of this incredible creative force and am particularly passionate about the work to diversify its audience base and its impressive range of education and talent outreach programmes'*

Olivier Award-winning actress **Sheila Atim** has been an Old Vic Ambassador since 2017 following her role in the award-winning *Girl from the North Country* at The Old Vic and Noël Coward Theatres, for which she won the Best Supporting Actress in a Musical award at the 2018 Olivier Awards, The Critics' Circle Award for Most Promising

Newcomer and the Clarence Derwent Award. Other theatre includes: *Othello* (Shakespeare's Globe); *Babette's Feast* (Coronet Printroom); *Les Blancs* (National Theatre); *Julius Caesar*, *The Tempest* and *Henry IV* (Donmar Warehouse's Shakespeare Trilogy); *The Interrogation of Sandra Bland* (Bush Theatre); *Volpone*, *Love's Sacrifice*, *The Jew of Malta* (Royal Shakespeare Company); *Hopelessly Devoted* (Paines Plough); *Rachel*, *Time is Love* (Finborough Theatre); *Klook's Last Stand* (Park Theatre). On her appointment Sheila commented: 'I'm very glad to be joining *The Old Vic* team. It's been exciting to watch the organisation evolve and embark on a mission to increase its inclusivity and innovation, both on stage and off. Having already performed at the theatre, I'm now looking forward to contributing in a new way towards that same mission'

PARTNERSHIPS

Our partnership with **Royal Bank of Canada** as *The Old Vic's* Principal Partner goes from strength to strength. Their seminal support enables us to honour the theatre's heritage as an adventurous hub of creativity with a strong social mission. They support all our main stage productions and have broadened the partnership to become Principal Partner of *The Old Vic's* flagship employability programme, **Take the Lead**.

As one of our longest and most loyal supporters, **PwC** continue their invaluable partnership with the theatre. Since the beginning of Matthew's tenure, over 63,000 people have enjoyed world-class theatre thanks to the **PwC £10 Previews**, with 35% of those bookers coming through *The Old Vic's* doors for the very first time.

We also continue *The Old Vic's* **Public Fund**, a vital collective who share with us the belief in the unique potential for the arts and entertainment to be a social act with profound impact.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

A VERY EXPENSIVE POISON

A play by Lucy Prebble

Based on the book by Luke Harding

Directed by John Crowley

An Old Vic production

WORLD PREMIERE

Previews from 19 Aug 2019, press night 05 Sep 2019

A shocking assassination in the heart of London. In a bizarre mix of high-stakes global politics and radioactive villainy, a man pays with his life.

At this time of global crises and a looming new Cold War, ***A Very Expensive Poison*** sends us careering through the shadowy world of international espionage from Moscow to Mayfair.

John Crowley (*Brooklyn*, *The Goldfinch*) directs **Lucy Prebble's** (*The Effect*, *ENRON*) reimagining of **Luke Harding's** jaw-dropping exposé of the events behind the notorious death of Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko.

Suitable for ages 12+.

LUNGS

By Duncan Macmillan

Directed by Matthew Warchus

Starring **Claire Foy** and **Matt Smith**

An Old Vic production

Dates to be announced

'I could fly to New York and back every day for seven years and still not leave a carbon footprint as big as if I have a child. Ten thousand tonnes of CO2. That's the weight of the Eiffel Tower. I'd be giving birth to the Eiffel Tower'

The ice caps are melting, there's overpopulation, political unrest; everything's going to hell in a handcart – why on earth would someone bring a baby into this world?

Directed by **Matthew Warchus**, **Claire Foy** and **Matt Smith** make their Old Vic debuts in **Duncan Macmillan's** hilarious emotional rollercoaster of a play, as a couple wrestle with our planet's biggest dilemmas.

Suitable for ages 14+.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A version by **Jack Thorne**

Directed by **Matthew Warchus**

An Old Vic production

Previews from 23 Nov 2019, press night 04 Dec 2019

Matthew Warchus' big-hearted, smash hit production of Charles Dickens' immortal classic returns to The Old Vic, joyously adapted for the stage by **Jack Thorne** (*Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*).

The Old Vic's **A Christmas Carol** fills the auditorium to the brim with mince pies, music and merriment. A unique staging immerses the audience in this uplifting story.

'It's hard to imagine a more pertinent Christmas tale, delivered with greater atmosphere, theatricality and emotional heft' WhatsOnStage *****

'Just when I thought the story of 'A Christmas Carol' couldn't be bettered, this beautiful version comes along. A fantastic reminder of how magical theatre and story-telling can be' (@jameschristmas1)

'It's magical' Time Out *****

'The most beautiful theatre production I've ever seen. I cried, totally overwhelmed with how pure it was' (@ChloeJPB)

'A Christmas Carol is absolutely the best Christmas show we've seen, ever. Superb, atmospheric, emotional. Brilliant' (@3rucyj5)

'Not even Scrooge himself could dislike this' The Times ****

'Our first visit to @oldvictheatre to see #OVChristmasCarol and we were all absolutely entranced. Beautiful staging, what a wonderful production of a story as relevant today as when it was first penned' (@adiposite)

'A Christmas Carol @oldvictheatre is the best piece of theatre I have seen in my life. A truly beautiful production that was perfect in every way which took the audience through an emotional journey that I never wanted to end' (@Jamiexdixon)

Suitable for ages 8+.

ENDGAME (in a double bill with ROUGH FOR THEATRE II)

By **Samuel Beckett**

Directed by **Richard Jones**

Starring **Alan Cumming** and **Daniel Radcliffe**

An Old Vic production

Previews from 27 Jan 2020, press night 04 Feb 2020

'Go and get two bicycle-wheels.'

'There are no more bicycle-wheels.'

'What have you done with your bicycle?'

'I never had a bicycle.'

Nothing stirs outside. In a bare room, Hamm, an old, blind tyrant, is locked in a stalemate with his servant Clov. Interrupted only by the nostalgic musings of Hamm's ancient, dustbin-dwelling parents, this bleakly funny double act cling stubbornly to their routine of casual savagery and mutual dependence.

Richard Jones (*The Hairy Ape, Into the Woods*) directs Beckett's macabre comedy in which hope and cruelty are the last things to die.

Endgame will be presented in a double bill with Samuel Beckett's rarely seen short play **Rough for Theatre II**, performed by members of the company.

Suitable for ages 14+.

LOCAL HERO

Book by **Bill Forsyth** and **David Greig**

Music and lyrics by **Mark Knopfler**

Directed by **John Crowley**

Based on the **Bill Forsyth** film

A Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh & Old Vic production

LONDON PREMIERE

Previews from 18 Jun, press night 30 Jun 2020

'Knox Oil will consider any price.'

'I tell you what, Mister Mac, how about this: a dollar for every grain of sand in my hand?'

Ambitious Texan oil executive Mac MacIntyre arrives in Scotland on a mission to buy a small seaside village and replace it with a refinery. It's the deal of a lifetime, but Mac soon finds that putting a price on this beautiful spot is more complicated than he bargained for. Before the locals get rich, they must decide what their home is worth.

The hit comedy film **Local Hero** takes to the stage as **John Crowley** directs a new musical adaptation by **Bill Forsyth** and **David Greig** (Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax*) with music and songs by the legendary **Mark Knopfler** (Dire Straits).

This production is presented by special arrangement with Neal Street Productions and Patrick Daly.

Suitable for ages 11+.

MORE AT THE OLD VIC

We are passionate about developing work that supports productions on the main stage and providing audiences with new ways to engage with The Old Vic.

VOICES OFF

Don't just watch theatre. Question it. Explore the themes raised by our main stage productions in our series of talks, debates and Q&As with leading voices in the arts, media, science and politics.

ONE VOICE

What power can one voice have – spread laughter, trigger tears, inspire empathy, provoke change? A series of newly-written monologues, spoken word and song from leading writers and performed by acclaimed actors on our stage – this is theatre in its rawest form. Without scenery, costume, and with nothing to rely on but words, One Voice reminds us what a single voice can do. Specially commissioned by The Old Vic and funded by the TS Eliot Estate.

FAMILIES

At The Old Vic we want your experience here to be enchanting, magical and memorable however old or young you are. Whether it's your first trip or you are a seasoned theatre explorer, we're offering more and more productions and events for everyone to enjoy and spark the imagination.

FROM THE OLD VIC

We want to share our work with as wide an audience as possible.

The Olivier Award-winning Old Vic production, in association with Bristol Old Vic, presented by Global Creatures and Jonathan Church Productions, of ***A Monster Calls*** will play at the Eisenhower Theater – Kennedy Center, Washington, from 21 Jul to 09 Aug 2020.

'**Art**' (revived at The Old Vic in 2016) is currently on a UK tour, produced by David Pugh and Dafydd Rogers.

Following its sell-out run at The Old Vic in 2017, West End transfer and twice-extended sell-out run at The Public in New York, ***Girl from the North Country*** will run at the Princess of Wales Theatre, Toronto, from Sep 2019.

ASSOCIATE ARTISTS & BAYLIS DIRECTOR

ASSOCIATE ARTISTS

Simon Baker (sound designer), **Stephen Beresford** (writer), **Peter Darling** (choreographer), **David Greig** (writer), **David Grindrod** (casting), **Manuel Harlan** (photographer), **Rob Howell** (designer), **Claire van Kampen** (composer), **Dennis Kelly** (writer), **Paul Kieve** (magician), **Drew McOnie** (choreographer), **Conor McPherson** (writer), **Tim Minchin** (composer), **Christopher Nightingale** (composer), **Tamsin Oglesby** (writer), **Lucy Prebble** (writer), **Kate Prince** (choreographer), **Jack Thorne** (writer), **Hugh Vanstone** (lighting designer) and **Gary Yershon** (composer).

BAYLIS DIRECTOR

Katy Rudd continues as this year's Baylis Director, having previously worked with The Old Vic as Associate Director on *Groundhog Day* (also on Broadway) and *The Master Builder* and as Director of the OV200 Bicentenary *Variety Night*.

COMPANY IN RESIDENCE

Wise Children will continue as The Old Vic's **Company in Residence**. Created and led by Emma Rice, Wise Children is an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation for 2018-22 based in the South West and with national significance. Wise Children is the first Company in Residence at The Old Vic under Matthew Warchus' tenure as Artistic Director.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Old Vic is an independent, not-for-profit theatre that has been a beacon of creativity and daring during its 200 year life. The Old Vic receives no regular public subsidy and is reliant on box office receipts, philanthropic donations and support from businesses to sustain its work both on and off the stage. That is why working in partnership with companies like RBC and PwC is so vital.

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), one of the largest banks in the world and Canada's largest company and financial institution by market capitalisation, is The Old Vic's Principal Partner. RBC's support enables The Old Vic to produce broader and more varied seasons for our main stage than ever before. Furthermore, RBC has enhanced their support to become the Principal Partner of The Old Vic's flagship employability programme, Take the Lead, which will give students from 20 state schools and colleges across London the opportunity to participate in a high-quality, creative employability project. These will be delivered by The Old Vic's highly experienced Education & Community team, to equip participants with the core skills of communication, self-management, self-belief, teamwork, and problem solving required for success in any workplace.

RBC's commitment to promoting world-class excellence in the arts and to strengthening the social fabric of communities makes them an ideal partner for The Old Vic.

Dave Thomas, CEO, RBC Europe, said: '*Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) has been the proud Principal Partner of The Old Vic since early 2015, demonstrating our commitment to supporting the arts and communities where we live and work. Through our partnership we have helped the theatre deliver more content, to more people, across more productions than at any time in its 200 year history. Our support extends to The Old Vic's offstage work and we are*

thrilled to be helping 1,000 16-18 year old students every year through Take The Lead, a free employability programme that uses theatre techniques and creative workshops to build on core communication skills. The Old Vic is an integral and important partner to RBC in the UK, promoting world-class excellence in the visual and performing arts whilst enhancing the communities around us'

This partnership reflects RBC's global commitment to creating vibrant communities through donations, community investments, sponsorship and employee volunteer activities. In 2018, RBC contributed more than C\$175 million to causes around the world.

PWC PREVIEWS

Together, each season, The Old Vic and PwC make 17,500 seats across our preview performances available for just £10, available to anyone and everyone. It is one of the few ticket initiatives within the arts sector with no criteria for access which genuinely inspires a new audience to experience the joy and power of theatre.

PwC, one of the world's largest professional services networks, has been partnering with The Old Vic since 2012 to make world-class theatre widely accessible. PwC's commitment to supporting the communities in which it operates resonates with The Old Vic's long-standing social conscience and desire to be a theatre for all people of London. We are incredibly proud to partner with PwC to ensure our work is not a luxury for a few but an opportunity for all, and The Old Vic continues to play an integral role within creative society and its community.

Kevin Ellis, Chairman and Senior Partner, PwC, said: *'We believe in making the arts open to all. I'm proud that through our £10 Previews tickets we have enabled tens of thousands of people to experience the magic of The Old Vic's fantastic productions, with over a third of those people attending the theatre for the very first time. We hope this initiative continues to make the theatre more accessible to everyone'*

ENDS

PRESS CONTACTS

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BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

Box Office 0844 871 7628 | oldvictheatre.com

Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | YouTube

@oldvictheatre #ovseason5

The Old Vic, The Cut, London SE1 8NB

Priority booking: Fri 26 Apr 2019

General public booking: Thu 09 May 2019

Please see our website for more information on how to become a member and access priority booking

ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES:

A VERY EXPENSIVE POISON

Audio Described: 30 Sep 2019 (touch tour at 6pm)

Captioned: 04 Oct 2019

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Audio Described: 06 Jan 2020 (touch tour at 6pm)

Captioned: 10 Jan 2020

Relaxed Performance: 11 Jan 2020

ENDGAME

Audio Described: 16 Mar 2020 (touch tour at 6pm)

Captioned: 20 Mar 2020

LOCAL HERO

Audio Described: 10 Aug 2020 (touch tour at 6pm)

Captioned: 14 Aug 2020

CONCESSIONS:

PwC £10 PREVIEWS: Available to everyone with half of the house priced at £10 for selected previews.

SENIOR CITIZENS: (age 60+): Best available seats for £30 for all matinee performances only.

SCHOOL GROUPS: (10+) £12.50 for Mon–Wed evenings and Wed matinees. 10% deposit required to reserve tickets – please have a credit card to hand when making your reservation.

GROUPS: Group rates available; please see our website for more details.

ACCESS RATE: £21 for all performances and one carer/companion ticket per booking available at £21. Please call 0344 871 7628 for access bookings.

All concessions are limited and subject to availability.

All 2019/20 ticket prices correct at time of issue.

NOTES TO EDITORS

BIOGRAPHIES

Matthew Warchus

Theatre includes: *A Christmas Carol*, *'Art'*, *The Caretaker*, *The Master Builder*, *Future Conditional*, *Speed-the-Plow* (The Old Vic); *Groundhog Day*, *The Norman Conquests* (The Old Vic/Broadway); *Matilda the Musical* (RSC/West End/Broadway/International tour); *Ghost The Musical*, *La Bête*, *God of Carnage* (West End/Broadway); *Deathtrap*, *Endgame*, *Our House*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (West End); *Boeing-Boeing* (West End/Broadway/UK tour); *The Lord of the Rings* (also co-writer, Toronto/West End); *Buried Child*, *Volpone* (National Theatre); *Follies* (Broadway); *Life x 3* (National Theatre/The Old Vic/Broadway); *True West* (Donmar/Broadway); *The Unexpected Man* (RSC/West End/Broadway); *'Art'* (Broadway/West End/Los Angeles); *Hamlet*, *Henry V* (RSC); *Betrayal*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Plough and the Stars*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (Leeds Playhouse). Opera includes: *Falstaff*, *Così Fan Tutte* (ENO); *The Rake's Progress* (ROH/WNO). Film includes: *Pride* — BIFA Best British Independent Film and Golden Globe Award nomination for Best Motion Picture — Musical or Comedy, *Simpatico*. Matthew was an Associate Director at the Leeds Playhouse and Artistic Associate at The Old Vic before being appointed Artistic Director of the theatre in 2015.

John Crowley

Theatre includes: *The Playboy of the Western World* (The Old Vic); *The Pillowman* (National Theatre/Broadway); *The Present*, *A Behanding in Spokane*, *A Steady Rain* (Broadway); *The Same Deep Water As Me*, *Tales From Hollywood*, *Juno and the Paycock* (Donmar). Film includes: *Brooklyn* – BAFTA for Outstanding British Film, *Boy A*, *The Goldfinch* (upcoming).

Alan Cumming

Theatre includes: *Bent* (West End); *Cabaret* – multiple awards, *Design for Living*, *The Threepenny Opera* (Broadway); *Macbeth* (National Theatre of Scotland/Broadway); *The Bacchae* (National Theatre of Scotland/UK tour/New York); *Elle*, *The Seagull* (Off-Broadway); *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* (National Theatre); *Hamlet* (Donmar); *Conquest of the South Pole* (Traverse, Edinburgh); *La Bête* (Lyric Hammersmith). Television includes: *Take The High Road*, *The High Life*, *Bernard and the Genie*, *Heavenly*, *The Runaway*, *Queers*, *Doctor Who*, *Broad City*, *Frasier*, *The L Word*, *Web Therapy*, *Masterpiece Mystery*, *The Good Wife*, *Instinct*. Film includes: *Prague*, *Circle of Friends*, *Goldeneye*, *Emma*, *X2: X Men United*, *Trilogy*, *Titus*, *Strange Magic*, *Any Day Now* – multiple awards, *Battle of the Sexes*, *After Louie*.

Bill Forsyth

Bill made his first feature film, *That Sinking Feeling*, in 1979 with local film technicians and young performers from Glasgow Youth Theatre. It entered the Guinness Book of Records as the cheapest feature film ever made and inspired subsequent generations of Scottish filmmakers. His following films include: *Gregory's Girl*, *Comfort and Joy*, *Housekeeping*, *Breaking In*, *Being Human*, *Gregory's Two Girls*, *Andrina*, *Local Hero* – BAFTA for Best Director, New York Critics' Circle Award for Best Script and featured in New York Times' Best Times Best Ten Movies of the Year.

Claire Foy

Theatre includes: *Macbeth*, *The Connections Plays: Baby Girl*, *DNA & The Miracle* (West End); *Ding Dong the Wicked*, *Love, Love, Love* (Royal Court). Television includes: *The Crown I & II* – Primetime Emmy Award, two Screen Actors Guild Awards, Golden Globe Award, *Wolf Hall*, *Crossbones*, *The Promise*, *Hacks*, *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Going*

Postal, Little Dorrit, Doctors, Being Human. Film includes: *The Girl in the Spider's Web, First Man, Unsane, Breathe, Rose Water, Vampire Academy: Blood Sisters, Wreckers, Nightwatch, Season of the Witch.*

David Greig

Theatre includes: Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax, Cover My Tracks* (The Old Vic); *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (West End); *Tintin in Tibet* (Barbican/West End/UK tour); *The Events* (Traverse/Young Vic); *The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart* (National Theatre of Scotland); *Outlying Islands* (Traverse/Royal Court); *The American Pilot* (RSC); *The Cosmonaut's Last Message To The Woman He Once Loved In The Former Soviet Union* (Donmar/Paines Plough); *Creditors, Caligula* (Donmar); *The Suppliant Woman* (Royal Lyceum Edinburgh); *Yellow Moon* – TMA Award for Best Show for Children and Young People, Brian Way Award for Best Children's Play (Traverse); *The Monster in the Hall* (Citizens Theatre, Glasgow). David is Artistic Director of the Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh.

Richard Jones

Theatre includes: *Too Clever by Half* – Olivier Award, *The Illusion* – Evening Standard Award for Best Director (The Old Vic); *The Hairy Ape* (The Old Vic/New York Park Avenue Armory); *Into the Woods* – Olivier Award (West End). Opera includes: *Hansel and Gretel* – Olivier Award (WNO); *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* – Olivier Award, *Ring Cycle* – Evening Standard Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement, *Katya Kabanova* – Olivier Award (ROH); *The Mastersingers of Nuremberg* – Olivier Award (ENO). Richard has directed for: The Old Vic, West End, Young Vic, National Theatre, Royal Court, RSC, Public Theater, New York and operas worldwide. Richard was appointed CBE in the 2015 New Year's Honours list.

Mark Knopfler

One of the most successful singer/songwriters worldwide, Mark Knopfler retreated from the spotlight as leader of Dire Straits to make his first solo record, *Golden Heart*, in 1996. Since then he has released eight further solo albums and toured extensively. Over the years, Mark has written the music for several films, including: *Local Hero, Cal, The Princess Bride, Last Exit To Brooklyn* and *Wag The Dog* and has played and recorded with a number of artists, including: Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Randy Newman and the late Chet Atkins.

Duncan Macmillan

Theatre includes: *People, Places and Things* (National Theatre/West End/St Ann's Warehouse, New York/UK tour); *1984* (Headlong/Nottingham Playhouse/West End/Broadway/International tour); *Every Brilliant Thing* (Paines Plough/Pentabus Theatre/Edinburgh Festival/UK & International tour/HBO); *City Of Glass* (HOME/Lyric Hammersmith); *2071* (Royal Court/Hamburg Schauspielhaus); *The Forbidden Zone* (Salzburg Festival/Schaubühne, Berlin); *Wunschloses Unglück* (Burgtheater Vienna); *Reise Durch die Nacht* (Schauspielhaus Köln/Festival d'Avignon/Teatertreffen); *Lungs* (Paines Plough/Sheffield Theatres/Studio Theatre, Washington DC); *Monster* (Royal Exchange Manchester).

Lucy Prebble

Theatre includes: *The Effect* – Critics' Circle Award for Best New Play (National Theatre); *ENRON* (Royal Court/Chichester/West End/Broadway); *The Sugar Syndrome* – George Devine Award (Royal Court). Television includes: *Secret Diary of a Call Girl, New World Order*. Lucy is also a writer for HBO series *Succession* and is currently creating two new series featuring Sarah Silverman and Billie Piper respectively. Other work includes: appearances on *Have I Got News for You*, writing a weekly technology column for The Observer and a role as Head Scene Writer for video game *Destiny*.

Daniel Radcliffe

Theatre includes: *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead* (The Old Vic); *The Cripple of Inishmaan, Equus* (West End/Broadway); *The Lifespan of a Fact, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Broadway); *Privacy* (Public Theater, New York). Television includes: *Miracle Workers, A Young Doctor's Notebook, The Simpsons, Extras*. Film includes: *Escape from Pretoria* (upcoming), *Guns Akimbo* (upcoming), *Playmobil: The Movie, Jungle, Now You See Me 2, Swiss Army Man, Imperium, Victor Frankenstein, Horns, What If, Kill Your Darlings, The Woman in Black, Harry Potter* film series.

Matt Smith

Theatre includes: *That Face* (Royal Court/West End); *Swimming with Sharks* (West End); *Fresh Kills* (Royal Court); *American Psycho* (Almeida); *Chatroom, Citizenship, History Boys* (National Theatre). Television includes: *The Crown, Doctor Who, Bert and Dickie, Christopher and His Kind, Moses Jones, Party Animals*. Film includes: *Morbius, His House, Official Secrets, Charlie Says, Mapplethorpe, Patient Zero, Pride and Prejudice and Zombies, Terminator: Genisys, Lost River*. Film as Director includes: *Cargese*.

Jack Thorne

Theatre includes: *A Christmas Carol, Woyzeck* (The Old Vic); *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (West End/Broadway); *Mydidæ* (Soho/West End); *Stacy* (Tron/Arcola/West End); *Let the Right One In* (West End/Dundee Rep/Royal Court); *Junkyard* (UK tour); *The Solid Life of Sugarwater* (Graeae/National Theatre/UK tour); *Hope* (Royal Court); *Bunny* (Nabokov/UK tour/New York); *Stuart: A Life Backwards* (Sheffield Crucible/UK tour). Television includes: *Kiri, National Treasure, The Last Panthers, Don't Take My Baby, This Is England, The Fades, Glue, Cast-*

Offs. Film includes: *Wonder*, *War Book*, *A Long Way Down*, *The Scouting Book for Boys*. Awards include: five BAFTAs, an Olivier Award and a Tony Award.

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