

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

GOOD

**WEST END REVIVAL OF C.P TAYLOR'S 'GOOD'
STARRING DAVID TENNANT
TO LAUNCH DOMINIC COOKE AND KATE HORTON'S NEW COMPANY
FICTIONHOUSE**

- **David Tennant** returns to the West End in a new production of the acclaimed play *GOOD* by **C. P. Taylor**.
- *GOOD* will also star **Fenella Woolgar** and **Elliot Levey**, running at the **Playhouse Theatre** from **Tuesday 6 October**, directed by **Dominic Cooke** and designed by **Vicki Mortimer**.
- *GOOD* is the first production for **Fictionhouse**, launched by **Dominic Cooke** and **Kate Horton**, who reunite following their tenure at the Royal Court as Artistic Director and Executive Director.
- **Fictionhouse** will produce theatre, TV and film projects in the UK and internationally.

Today **Dominic Cooke** and **Kate Horton** launch their company **Fictionhouse** with a new West End production of C. P. Taylor's *GOOD*, starring **David Tennant**, **Fenella Woolgar** and **Elliot Levey**. Produced by **Fictionhouse** and **Playful Productions**, *GOOD* will play at the Playhouse Theatre for a strictly limited season from **Tuesday 6 October** (Press performance **Wednesday 14 October**).

John Halder is a good man.
But John Halder must adapt to survive.

How is it possible to be a good person when things are falling apart?

As the world faces its Second World War, John Halder, a decent, intelligent, music-loving German professor, finds himself swept along in a movement that crescendos towards an unthinkable finale. Good is a warning for our times.

Olivier Award-winning director **Dominic Cooke** reimagines one of Britain's most powerful, political plays with **David Tennant** returning to the West End, for 10 weeks only.

GOOD is produced in the West End by **Fictionhouse** and **Playful Productions**.
Speaking about making his West End return in GOOD, David Tennant said:

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Dominic is one of the UK's all-time great theatre directors. I am really inspired and delighted to finally get a chance to work with him, and especially on a wonderful play like C P Taylor's GOOD - a fantastic bit of writing that is more pertinent and resonant now than it has ever been.

Speaking about launching Fictionhouse with GOOD in the West End, Dominic Cooke said:

I have known David Tennant since he was a student and have wanted to work with him ever since. He is one of our finest actors and has the ideal combination of wit, warmth and charisma to bring John Halder vividly to life. I can't wait to start work with him and the amazing Elliot Levey and Fenella Woolgar on this dazzling play. CP Taylor's modern classic about the perils of moral compromise is an apposite fable for our troubled times and it feels like an exciting first project for Fictionhouse. Ever since we left the Royal Court, the incredible Kate Horton and I have been plotting about how we could find a way to work together again. Fictionhouse has been a long time coming and I couldn't be happier to be developing the successful partnership Kate and I built together at Sloane Square.

Speaking about the launch of Fictionhouse, Kate Horton said:

Dominic, David, Fenella, Elliot and the entire Good creative team are the best people I could imagine coming together to realise C.P. Taylor's extraordinary, vital play. Good encompasses all we hope for with our work at Fictionhouse - brilliant and absorbing writing that illuminates our world, made by our greatest actors, directors and designers. As well as being a remarkable artist of rare and brilliant talent, Dominic Cooke is my favourite creative and business partner. I am overjoyed that our many happy years of collaborating are starting again with Fictionhouse.

GOOD is the first stage production for Fictionhouse, the newly formed commercial producing partnership of Dominic Cooke and Kate Horton. Their long and fruitful working relationship, which began at the Royal Shakespeare Company, developed into a celebrated partnership at the Royal Court Theatre. Whilst at the Royal Court they produced over 100 new plays, including the world premieres of *Jerusalem*, *Constellations*, *Posh* and UK premier of *Clybourne Park* all of which they transferred to the West End. Their productions have been nominated for 210 major awards, winning 59 and their partnership saw the development and launch of an exciting new generation of playwrights including Mike Bartlett, Polly Stenham, Bola Agbaje, Nick Payne, Lucy Kirkwood and Tarell Alvin McCraney.

Tickets for GOOD go on sale at 12noon today, Tuesday 11 February 2020 - www.goodtheplay.com.

ENDS

For press enquiries please contact:

James Lever: james@joallanpr.com | +44 (0) 207 520 9392 | +44 (0) 7753 222 768

Hannah Stockton: hannah@joallanpr.com | +44 (0) 207 520 9392 | +44 (0) 7789 542 245

Jo Allan: jo@joallanpr.com | + 44 (0) 207 520 9394 | +44 (0) 7889 905 850

NOTES TO EDITORS

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Fictionhouse and Playful Productions Present

C.P. Taylor's

GOOD

Tuesday 6 October – Saturday 19 December 2020

Press night: Wednesday 14 October 2020, 7pm

Playhouse Theatre

Director: **Dominic Cooke**

Designer: **Vicki Mortimer**

Lighting Designer: **Paule Constable**

Sound Designer: **Paul Arditti**

Musical Director: **Nigel Lilley**

Cast: **David Tennant** (Halder), **Fenella Woolgar** (Helen+) and **Elliot Levey** (Maurice+)

BIOGRAPHIES

David Tennant (Halder) David Tennant has worked extensively in theatre, television and film, winning numerous awards for his work including the Critics' Circle Award for Best Shakespearean Performance and the Special Recognition Award at the NTAs in 2015. Tennant was last in the West End as *Don Juan in Soho* in 2017 directed by Patrick Marber. Other stage work includes Richard II and Hamlet for the RSC, Much Ado About Nothing in the West End and Lobby Hero at the Donmar Warehouse. His film credits include *Mary Queen of Scots*, *You Me & Him*, *Mad to be Normal*, *Fright Night*, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* and *Bright Young Things*. On television he is best known for playing the tenth incarnation of the Doctor in the BBC's classic series *Doctor Who*. Recent TV work includes Channel4's *Deadwater Fell*, *Good Omens*, *Criminal* and *There She Goes*. He recently wrapped on *Des for ITV* and will shortly start filming *Around the World in 80 Days* for the BBC.

Fenella Woolgar (Helen+) recent theatre credits include *Slaves of Solitude* (Hampstead Theatre), *Welcome Home*, *Captain Fox!* (Donmar Warehouse), Margaret Thatcher in Moira Buffini's *Handbagged* (Tricycle and Vaudeville, West End) and *Circle Mirror Transformation*, performed at the Rose Lipman Building in Haggerston as part of the Royal Court's Theatre Local project. Fenella appeared opposite Sheridan Smith in the Old Vic's 2012 production of *Hedda Gabler*, for which she won a 2013 Clarence Derwent Award. Fenella's other theatre credits include *The Veil* and *Time and the Conways* (National), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It* and *Bring Me Sunshine* (Royal Exchange, Manchester). Further theatre credits include *Brontë* and *Passage to India* (Shared Experience), *The Real Thing* (Old Vic), *Motortown* (Royal Court), *Charley's Aunt* (Sheffield Crucible and BBC Radio 4), *The Cherry Orchard* (York Theatre Royal) and *Playboy of the Western World* (Bristol Old Vic). On TV she is known for her role as Sister Hilda in *Call The Midwife*. Other credits include *Inside No. 9*, *Quacks*, *Halrlots*, *Home Fires*, *Spies of Warsaw*, *Agatha Christie: Poirot* and *Doctor Who*. For Radio 4 Fenella has also recently recorded *Go Set a Watchman* and *The Stuarts*. Film includes *Mr Turner*, *How to Lose Friends and Alienate People*, *St Trinian's* and *Vera Drake*.

Elliot Levey (Maurice+) Theatre credits include *Snowflake* (Kiln Theatre), *Three Sisters* (Almeida Theatre), *Mary Stuart* (Duke of York's Theatre), *Saint Joan* and *Coriolanus* (Donmar Warehouse), *The Mighty Walzer* (Royal Exchange, Manchester), *The Ruling Class* (Trafalgar Studios), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Wyndam's) and multiple productions at the National Theatre including *Danton's Death*, *The Art of Habit*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *England People Very Nice*, *His Dark Materials* and *Henry IV Parts I & II*. Levey is well known for his role of Francesco Pazzi in *Da Vinci's Demons*, and has also appeared on television in *Life*, *Truth Seekers*, *Quiz*, *Man Down*, *Martin's Close*, *Anne*, *State of the Union*, *Peaky Blinders*, *Press*, *Watergate*, *Black Earth Rising*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Ripper Street*, *Jamaica*

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Inn, Silent Witness and *New Tricks*. His film credits include *Murder on the Orient Express, Denial, Fallen, Florence Foster Jenkins, The Lady in the Van, Philomena* and *The Queen*.

C. P. Taylor (Writer) was born in Glasgow in 1929. During his thirty year career, he wrote more than seventy plays for theatre and television, many of which were first performed at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, and Live Theatre, Newcastle. He was a unique and much loved author equally at ease writing for the RSC or West End or working in the educational and community sectors where he pioneered new inclusive approaches to writing for children and young people. His plays include *Schippel, The Plumber, And a Nightingale Sang, Bread and Butter, Walter, Black and White Minstrels, Allergy, Bandits* and *Bring Me Sunshine*.. Plays for young people include *Operation Elvis, The Rainbow Coloured Disco Dancer* and *You are my Hearts Delight*. *GOOD* was first produced by the RSC in 1981, playing at the Donmar Warehouse, Aldwych Theatre and subsequently on Broadway. A film featuring Viggo Mortensen, Jodie Whittaker and Jason Isaacs was released in 2008. Cecil died in 1981 aged 52 leaving behind an extraordinary legacy and his influence continues to be felt today.

Dominic Cooke (Director) is a highly accomplished theatre, film, and television director based in London. Dominic was Artistic Director of the Royal Court Theatre from 2007 to 2013. During his tenure at the Royal Court he directed *Clybourne Park* by Bruce Norris, for which he was nominated as Best Director for the Evening Standard Awards. He won the 2018 Critic's Circle Best Director Award for his National Theatre production of *Follies* starring Imelda Staunton. The show was also nominated for ten Olivier Awards, winning two, including Best Musical Revival and returned for a second run in 2019. His previous production, August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, also at the National Theatre, won an Olivier Award for Best Revival. Dominic has successfully transitioned over to television and film. In 2015 he scripted and directed the BAFTA nominated series of Shakespeare history plays *The Hollow Crown - Wars of the Roses*, which was produced by Sam Mendes and featured Benedict Cumberbatch, Dame Judi Dench, Hugh Bonneville, Andrew Scott, Michael Gambon, Sally Hawkins and Sophie Okonedo. Dominic's first feature film, based on Ian McEwan's Booker Prize nominated novel *On Chesil Beach*, starred Saoirse Ronan and Emily Watson. Variety's review of the film said it "marks one of the most impressive debuts of a director since Tom Ford made "A Single Man." He is an Associate at the National Theatre, a lifelong Associate Artist at the Royal Shakespeare Company and a trustee of Kiln Theatre. He was awarded a CBE for services to Drama in 2015. His latest film, *Ironbark*, starring Benedict Cumberbatch has its premiere at Sundance in January 2020.

Vicki Mortimer (Designer) Vicki Mortimer's work in theatre includes *The Visit, Anna, When We Have Sufficiently Tortured Each Other, Follies* (Critics' Circle Award for Design and Olivier Award for Best Costume Design 2018), *The Plough and the Stars, The Threepenny Opera, Here We Go, The Silver Tassie, Othello, Hamlet, Waves, Cat in the Hat, Three Sisters, The Seagull* and *Closer* at the National; *Wise Children* for Emma Rice and Wise Children; *The Meeting* at Chichester; *Little Match Girl* at Shakespeare's Globe and on UK tour; and *Oil* at the Almeida. She has also designed for the RSC, Kneehigh, Young Vic, Donmar, Almeida, Royal Court, on Broadway and internationally. Opera includes *Death in Venice* at the Royal Opera House; *Lessons in Love and Violence* and *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the ROH and on international tour; *Ariodante* at Vienna Staatsoper; *Written on Skin* at Aix Festival and on tour; *Al Gran Sole* Salzburg Festival and Staatsoper Berlin and *Neither / Footfalls* at Staatsoper Berlin; *Entfuhrung Aus Dem Seraglio, Die Meistersinger Von Nurnburg* and *Cosi Fan Tutte* at Glyndebourne; *The Winter's Tale, After Dido* and *The Way Back Home* (also at the Young Vic) for English National Opera; and *Wozzeck* (Winner of the International Opera Award for Design 2016) at Lyric Opera, Chicago.

Paule Constable (Lighting Designer) theatre includes *The Visit, The Ocean at the End of the Lane, Master Harold and the Boys, Follies, Pericles, Nine Night, Pinocchio, Mosquitoes, Common, Angels in America, The Red Barn, The Threepenny Opera, wonder.land, Behind the Beautiful Forevers, The Light*

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Princess, Table, This House, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Phèdre, Death and the King's Horseman, Waves, Saint Joan and War Horse (National Theatre); *Wolf Hall* (RSC, West End and Broadway); *ear for eye, How to Hold Your Breath, Clybourne Park, The Weir* (Royal Court); *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Michael Grandage Company); *Teddy Ferrara, The Chalk Garden and Othello* (Donmar Warehouse); *Happy Days, Feast, Vernon God Little* (Young Vic); *17, Herons, Blasted* (Lyric Hammersmith). Opera includes *Death in Venice, Benvenuto Cellini, Satyagraha, Medea, Dr Dee* (English National Opera); *Billy Budd, Entführung aus dem Serail* (Glyndebourne); *Roberto Devereux, Cav and Pag* (Metropolitan Opera, New York). Dance includes *Romeo and Juliet, Swan Lake, The Red Shoes, Sleeping Beauty, Play Without Words, Dorian Gray* (Matthew Bourne). She is the recipient of two Tony awards, four Olivier awards, a Helpmann Award, three Knight of Illumination awards, three LA Critics Circle awards and both New York Drama Desk and Critics Circle awards. Paule is an Associate at the National Theatre and Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, and a Royal Designer for Industry.

Paul Arditti (Sound Designer) theatre includes *The Inheritance* (Broadway, Young Vic and West End (Olivier nomination for Best Sound Design 2019 with Chris Reid)); *A Very Expensive Poison* (Old Vic); *Tree* (Manchester International Festival and Young Vic); *This Is My Family* (Chichester); *Local Hero* (Lyceum Edinburgh); *The Jungle* (Young Vic, West End, New York and San Francisco); *Caroline, or Change* (Chichester, West End and Broadway); *The Visit, Rutherford and Son, Pericles, Absolute Hell, Macbeth, Amadeus* (Olivier nomination for Best Sound Design 2017), *Beginning, Mosquitoes, The Threepenny Opera, Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, wonder.land, Everyman, Behind The Beautiful Forevers, London Road, One Man Two Guvnors* (Tony nomination), *Saint Joan* (Olivier Award) and *The Pillowman* (Drama Desk Award) (National Theatre); *The Prime Of Miss Jean Brodie* (Donmar Warehouse); *Shipwreck, Mary Stuart, King Charles III, Bacchae, Little Revolution and American Psycho* (Almeida Theatre); *Labour Of Love and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (West End); *A Midsummer Night's Dream and Julius Caesar* (Bridge Theatre); *Hamlet* (Kenneth Branagh Company at RADA). Other awards include Tony, Drama Desk and Olivier Awards for *Billy Elliot The Musical*; Tony nomination for *Mary Stuart* and an Evening Standard Award for *Festen*. Paul is an associate at the National Theatre. paularditti.com

Nigel Lilley (Musical Director) Musical Director credits include *Caroline or Change* (West End, Hampstead Theatre, Chichester Festival Theatre and Broadway); *Oklahoma* (Chichester Festival Theatre); *Follies* (National Theatre, including revival); *Fun Home* (Young Vic); *The Go-Between and Charlie And The Chocolate Factory* (West End); *My Fair Lady and Company* (Sheffield Crucible); *Ragtime* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); *Spring Awakening* (European Premiere, Lyric & Novello); *La Cage Aux Folles* (Chocolate Factory & Playhouse); *Piaf* (Donmar Warehouse & Vaudeville); *The Bacchae* (National Theatre of Scotland & Edinburgh International Festival) and *Acorn Antiques* (UK Tour). Music Supervisor credits include *Romantics Anonymous* (Shakespeare's Globe, Wise Children Tours, Bristol Old Vic, US Tour); *Guys And Dolls and Sweet Charity* (Royal Exchange); *Chaplin The Musical* (European Tour); *Bend It Like Beckham* (West End); *A Wolf In Snakeskin Shoes* (Tricycle Theatre); *Anything Goes* (Sheffield Crucible & UK tour); *That Day We Sang* (Manchester Royal Exchange & Manchester International Festival); *Paper Dolls* (Tricycle Theatre); *The Umbrellas Of Cherbourg* (Curve Leicester & West End) and *Sweet Charity* (Chocolate Factory/Theatre Royal Haymarket). Television credits include *Gentleman Jack* (BBC/HBO); *Victoria* (Mammoth/ITV); *Our Friend Victoria* (Phil McIntyre Entertainment/BBC); *That Day We Sang* (Endor/BBC); *Victoria Wood's Christmas Special* and *Up The Women* (BBC); *2008 Royal Variety Performance* (conducting La Cage aux Folles) and *Musicality* (C4).

Fictionhouse Limited

Great Artists, Powerful Stories

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Newly established by Dominic Cooke and Kate Horton, Fictionhouse is an independent producing company, developing and making drama for television, film and theatre. Central to the idea of Fictionhouse is the Directors' relationships with top writing, acting and directing talent and their skill in developing and producing distinctive drama.

Company directors Dominic Cooke and Kate Horton have a long, strong and fruitful working relationship, which began in 2001 at the Royal Shakespeare Company and developed into a celebrated partnership at the Royal Court Theatre.

While running the Royal Court, they produced over 100 new plays, which were nominated for 210 major awards, winning 59 and their partnership saw the discovery and launch of an exciting new generation of playwrights such as Mike Bartlett, Bola Agbaje, Anupama Chandrasekhar, DC Moore, Nick Payne, Lucy Kirkwood, the UK launch of Bruce Norris and a resident home for Tarell Alvin McCraney.

Whilst at the Royal Court, in addition to extraordinary artistic achievement, they developed the commercial arm of the company, extending its reach and building its financial health. They transferred work to the West End and Broadway with great commercial and critical success, including Jez Butterworth's JERUSALEM, Lucy Prebble's ENRON, Bruce Norris's CLYBOURNE PARK, Nick Payne's CONSTELLATIONS, Laura Wade's POSH, Mike Bartlett's COCK, April de Angelis's JUMPY and Polly Stenham's THAT FACE. They also introduced Theatre Local, a ground-breaking initiative to take work direct to new audiences, firstly at Elephant and Castle shopping Centre and then converting the Bussey Building in Peckham, presenting work by Rachel De-Lahay, debbie tucker green, Bola Agbaje and Hayley Squires.

www.fictionhouse.co.uk

Kate Horton

Kate was the Executive Director of the Royal Court Theatre working alongside Dominic. She was previously the Commercial Director at the RSC and subsequently the Deputy Executive Director at the National Theatre, producing across the NT's theatres, from classic revivals to new work by James Graham, Stephen Beresford and debbie tucker green. Kate launched the celebrated performance space THE SHED and led the transfer of the multi award winning *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* to the West End. Recently she worked with Barry Diller, Scott Rudin, George C. Wolfe and Stephen Daldry on planning and developing Little Island, a unique cultural park designed by Thomas Heatherwick, now being built in Lower Manhattan on the Hudson River and opening in Spring 2021. She is a Trustee of the Old Vic Theatre.

Playful Productions

Playful Productions was founded in 2010 by Matthew Byam Shaw, Nia Janis and Nick Salmon to develop, produce and general manage theatre. Its productions have received 27 Olivier Awards, 10 Tony® Awards, 8 Evening Standard Awards, 2 Golden Globe® Awards, 8 Emmy® Awards, 1 Oscar® nomination and 1 Grammy® nomination.

Playful collaborates with a range of partners, theatres and talent to create and manage productions to inspire and captivate audiences. It has worked with writers including Peter Morgan and Hilary Mantel to develop explosive premieres in the UK and America including *Frost/Nixon*, *Wolf Hall* and *Bring up the Bodies* and *The Audience* which was further developed into global Netflix hit *The Crown*, with Playful as Executive Producer. It has presented landmark revivals including *Flare Path*, *American Buffalo*, *The Weir*, *The Goat*, *Don Juan in Soho*, *No Man's Land* and *Noises Off*. Championing the new writing of some of the UK's most exciting voices, Playful has brought the likes of Lucy Prebble's *Enron*,

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Martin McDonagh's *Hangmen* and James Graham's *Quiz* to popular audiences. Playful has general managed many of the West End's most loved and prolific shows such as *Wicked*, *Come From Away*, *Groundhog Day*, *Kinky Boots*, *An American in Paris* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and has also toured work extensively around the UK and internationally including productions of *Wicked*, *Kinky Boots* and *Shrek The Musical*. Playful celebrates its 10th Birthday in 2020.

www.playfuluk.com @playfulprods

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

GOOD

Playhouse Theatre
Northumberland Avenue
London WC2N 5DE

Booking number: 0844 871 7631

Website: www.goodtheplay.com

Tuesday 6 October – Saturday 19 December 2020.

Press Night: Wednesday 14 October 2020

Performances Monday to Saturday at 7:30pm, Saturday matinee at 2:30pm

Ticket prices: From £20