

ALMEIDA THEATRE

PRESS RELEASE: 17 July 2017

THE ALMEIDA THEATRE ANNOUNCES A NEW SEASON INCLUDING TWO WORLD PREMIERES, A TENNESSEE WILLIAMS' CLASSIC AND THE LAUNCH OF THE SECOND SERIES OF DIGITAL FILMS IN THE FIGURES OF SPEECH PROJECT:

- **ALBION, A NEW PLAY BY MIKE BARTLETT, DIRECTED BY RUPERT GOOLD**

ALBION MARKS THEIR FIRST COLLABORATION SINCE THE OLIVIER AWARD-WINNING *KING CHARLES III*

THE CAST WILL FEATURE VICTORIA HAMILTON

- THE WORLD PREMIERE OF *THE TWILIGHT ZONE*, BASED ON STORIES FROM THE CLASSIC 1960s CBS TELEVISION SERIES, ADAPTED BY ANNE WASHBURN, DIRECTED BY RICHARD JONES
- A REVIVAL OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS' CLASSIC *SUMMER AND SMOKE*, DIRECTED BY REBECCA FRECKNALL
- FIGURES OF SPEECH, A PROVOCATIVE ANTHOLOGY OF DIGITAL FILMS EXPLORING THE VOICES BEHIND VISIONARY LEADERSHIP, CONTINUES WITH A SECOND SERIES, TO BE RELEASED LATER THIS SUMMER, DIRECTED BY ANTHONY ALMEIDA
- *INK*, BY JAMES GRAHAM AND DIRECTED BY RUPERT GOOLD, WILL TRANSFER TO THE DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE, IN THE WEST END FROM 9 SEPTEMBER 2017
- *MARY STUART*, BY FRIEDRICH SCHILLER, ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY ROBERT ICKE, WILL TRANSFER TO THE DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE, IN THE WEST END FROM 13 JANUARY 2018
- THE ALMEIDA YOUNG COMPANY'S *FROM THE GROUND UP* VISITS THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE THIS SUMMER
- ALMEIDA PARTICIPATION PARTNER WITH ARSENAL IN THE COMMUNITY ON A NEW PROJECT, *AGAINST ALL ODDS*, A RESPONSE TO CHRISTOPHER SHINN'S *AGAINST*, LED BY WRITER CHARLOTTE JOSEPHINE

Almeida Artistic Director Rupert Goold said: *"We are thrilled to present three major new productions at the Almeida, including two world premieres and one rare revival. Spanning the Atlantic and beyond, this season is a timely and limitless interrogation into contemporary cultural anxieties and the power we have over our own lives."*

“What do we truly desire? What is it that scares us the most? Is it more dangerous to live in the past or only in dreams? Are we looking to belong – or to escape?”

“Here at the Almeida we are committed to ongoing relationships with artists and for that reason, following on from his extraordinary work on King Charles III and Game, we are excited to welcome back Mike Bartlett with Albion. Equally, Anne Washburn’s work with us on the mind-bending Mr Burns was one of the most controversial and formally exhilarating texts we have presented – and we are thrilled to produce a brand new play with Anne’s unique take on The Twilight Zone. Finally, we are delighted to present an exciting new director to the Almeida stage, Rebecca Frecknall, with Tennessee Williams’ rarely performed Summer and Smoke. Rebecca has been part of our Resident Director scheme which aims to support emerging directors.

“Opening the season, Albion interrogates the political state of England through the lens of tangled family politics. The Twilight Zone looks back at American nightmares made during the Cold War which speak as powerfully to the current political moment and the ongoing power of the imagination today. And to complete the season, Summer and Smoke explores the spiritual and sexual sacrifices we can make on the journey to self-discovery.

“Each play challenges the preoccupations of daily life in search of something more meaningful. The answers might lie close to home – the earth beneath our feet, the complexity of family, or national identity. They might already exist in our bodies and souls without our knowing – love, sickness, belonging. Or they might be found beyond our physical existence, in alternate universes, technology... and dreams.

“Our Figures of Speech digital project continues with a new slate of filmed speeches, featuring Derek Jacobi, Noma Dumezweni, Russell Tovey, Pearl Mackie, John Heffernan and responses by our young leaders, challenging British politics, rediscovering the power of rhetoric and questioning the art of leadership.

“In the West End, Ink by James Graham will open at the Duke of York’s Theatre in September, Robert Icke’s production of Hamlet featuring Andrew Scott runs at the Harold Pinter Theatre until September, and Mary Stuart with Lia Williams and Juliet Stevenson, opens at the Duke of York’s Theatre in January.

“The ground-breaking work of Participation continues in multiple projects across the rest of the year, including From the Ground Up at the Edinburgh Festival and a new project in partnership with Arsenal in the Community and supported by The Arsenal Foundation, following the success of Play On.”

THE SEASON

Tuesday 10 October – Friday 24 November 2017

World Premiere

ALBION

a new play by **Mike Bartlett**

directed by **Rupert Goold**

Press night: Tuesday 17 October at 7pm

It's England really, isn't it? A climate without cloud and rain isn't honest.

In the ruins of a garden in rural England, in a house which was once home, one woman searches for seeds of hope.

Albion is a new play by **Mike Bartlett**, directed by **Rupert Goold**, their first collaboration following their international award-winning production *King Charles III*. The cast will feature **Victoria Hamilton** with further casting to be announced.

Albion is designed by **Miriam Buether**, with lighting by **Neil Austin**. Casting is by **Amy Ball**.

Victoria Hamilton has previously appeared in *The Doctor's Dilemma* at the Almeida. Recent television appearances include The Queen Mother in *The Crown* and Anna in *Doctor Foster*. Other theatre credits include *Love, Love, Love* at the Royal Court; *Twelfth Night* for the Donmar Warehouse at Wyndham's Theatre; *Once in a Lifetime*, *Summerfolk* and *Money* at the National Theatre; *Suddenly Last Summer* at the Donmar Warehouse and UK Tour; *Sweet Panic* in the West End; *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* at the Roundabout Theatre, New York and in the West End; *Home & Beauty* in the West End; *The Country Wife* and *As You Like It* at Sheffield Crucible; *King Lear*, *The Provoked Wife* and *The Seagull* at The Old Vic; *Troilus And Cressida* and *As You Like It* at the RSC; *The Master Builder* in the West End; *Retreat* and *Memorandum* at the Orange Tree Theatre. Other television includes *Our Ex-Wife*; *The Circuit*; *Call the Midwife Christmas Special*; *The Game*; *What Remains*; *Toast*; *Larkrise to Candleford*; *Time of Your Life*; *Trial & Retribution*; *Wide Sargasso Sea*; *The Shell Seekers*; *A Very Social Secretary*; *Jericho*; *Spine Chillers*; *To the Ends of the Earth*; *The Brontes*; *Goodbye Mr Chips*; *Baby Father - I & II*; *Victoria & Albert*; *The Savages*; *King Lear*; *The Merchant of Venice*; *Persuasion*; and *Pride and Prejudice*. Films include *French*; *Scoop*; *Before You Go* and *Mansfield Park*.

Mike Bartlett's plays for the Almeida include *Game* and the multi-award winning *King Charles III* (Olivier Award - Best New Play) which premiered at the Almeida before West End and Broadway transfers, and a UK and international tour. Mike's television adaptation of the play was broadcast on BBC earlier this year. Other plays include *Wild* at Hampstead Theatre; *An Intervention* for Paines Plough and Watford Palace; *Bull* for Sheffield Theatres, Off Broadway and the Young Vic (Olivier Award – Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre); *Medea* for Headlong, at the Glasgow

Citizens, Watford Palace and Warwick Arts Centre; *Chariots of Fire* at Hampstead Theatre and at the Gielgud Theatre, West End; *13* at the National Theatre; *Decade* (co-writer) for Headlong; *Earthquakes in London* for Headlong and the National Theatre; *Love, Love, Love* for Paines Plough, the Plymouth Theatre Royal, the Royal Court, and the Roundabout Theatre Company, New York (Theatre Award UK – Best New Play); *Cock* (Olivier Award - Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre), *Contractions*, and *My Child* for the Royal Court; and *Artefacts* for the Bush Theatre and Nabokov. Plays for the radio include: *King Charles III*, *Cock*, *Heart*, *The Core*, *Family Man*, and *Love Contract* for BBC Radio 4; and *The Steps and Not Talking* for BBC Radio 3. As Director: *Medea* (Headlong/Glasgow Citizens/Watford/Warwick) and *Honest* for the Theatre Royal Northampton. Television includes *King Charles III*; *Doctor Foster*; and *The Town*.

Rupert Goold is the Almeida's Artistic Director where he has previously directed *Ink*, *Richard III* (which was broadcast live to cinemas around the world in July 2016), *Medea*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *King Charles III* and *American Psycho*, which opened on Broadway in April 2016. He was Artistic Director of Headlong from 2005 until 2013 where his work included *The Effect*, *ENRON*, *Earthquakes in London* and *Decade*. Other theatre credits include *Made in Dagenham* in the West End; *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* at the Almeida; *Macbeth* at Chichester Festival Theatre, in the West End and on Broadway; and *No Man's Land* at The Gate, Dublin and in the West End. He has twice been the recipient of the Laurence Olivier, Critics' Circle and Evening Standard Awards for Best Director. He was Associate Director at the Royal Shakespeare Company from 2009 to 2012 and was Artistic Director of Northampton Theatres from 2002 to 2005. On film he directed the BAFTA nominated *Richard II*, part of *The Hollow Crown*, and *Macbeth* for the BBC, feature *True Story*, starring James Franco and Jonah Hill, and a television adaptation of his production of Mike Bartlett's *King Charles III* for BBC Two. Rupert was awarded a CBE for services to drama in the 2017 New Year's Honours.

Tuesday 5 December 2017 – Saturday 27 January 2018

World Premiere

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

based on stories by Rod Serling, Charles Beaumont and Richard Matheson

adapted by Anne Washburn

directed by Richard Jones

Press night: Tuesday 12 December at 7pm

Between light and shadow, science and superstition, fear and knowledge is a dimension of imagination. An area which we call the Twilight Zone.

Adapted by **Anne Washburn** (*Mr Burns*) and directed by Olivier Award-winner **Richard Jones**, this world premiere production of the acclaimed CBS television series *The Twilight Zone* lands on stage

for the first time in its history. Or its present. Or its future.

Stage magic and fantasy unite as the ordinary becomes extraordinary.

The Twilight Zone is based on stories by **Rod Serling**, **Charles Beaumont** and **Richard Matheson** from the CBS television series. Casting to be announced.

One of television's most revered and influential science-fiction fantasy series, ***The Twilight Zone*** ran on American network CBS from 1959 to 1964, winning 3 Emmy Awards during its 156 episode run. Its incisive parables explore humanity's hopes, despairs, prides and prejudices. The programme has had a seminal influence on popular culture; from Stephen King to Lin-Manuel Miranda, *Breaking Bad* creator Vince Gilligan to Steven Spielberg, *The Simpsons* to *Black Mirror*.

Anne Washburn's plays include *Mr Burns: A Post Electric Play*, which received its European premiere at the Almeida in 2014. Other plays include *10 out of 12* (Premiere at Soho Rep, NYC), *Antlia Pneumatica* (Premiere: Playwrights Horizons, NYC), *The Communist Dracula Pageant* (Premiere: ART, Boston), *A Devil at Noon* (Premiere: Actors Theater of Louisville, Kentucky), *I Have Loved Strangers* (Premiere: Clubbed Thumb Summerworks, NYC), *The Internationalist* (Premiere: 13P, NYC), *The Ladies* (Premiere: The Civilians, NYC), *The Small* (Premiere: Clubbed Thumb Summerworks, NYC), and trans adaptations of Euripides' *Orestes* (Premiere: The Folger, Washington D.C.), and *Iphigenia In Aulis* (Premiere: Classic Stage Company, NYC). Awards include a Guggenheim, an Alpert, and a Laura Pels for an artist in mid career. Anne is an associated artist with The Civilians, Clubbed Thumb, New Georges, and is an alumna of New Dramatists and 13P.

Richard Jones (Director) has directed theatre at the at the Young Vic, The Old Vic, the National Theatre, in the West End, for the Royal Court/Ambassadors, for the RSC, in New York at the Public Theatre and three times on Broadway. He has directed opera at the Royal Opera House, the ENO, Aix en Provence, Paris, Amsterdam, Glyndebourne, la Scala, Frankfurt, Munich, Berlin and at the Met in New York. In theatre he has been awarded Olivier Awards for *Too Clever by Half* (The Old Vic) and *Into the Woods* (Phoenix Theatre - West End), the Evening Standard Award as best director for *The Illusion* (The Old Vic). He was nominated for a Tony Award for *La Bête* on Broadway. He has been awarded 3 Olivier Awards in opera - for *Hansel and Gretel* (WNO), *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* (ROH) and for *The Mastersingers of Nuremberg* (ENO) - this production was also awarded a South Bank Show Award. He was given the Evening Standard Award for outstanding artistic achievement for his production of Wagner's *Ring* at the Royal Opera House. This year the recent Old Vic production of *The Hairy Ape* played at the New York Park Armory and was nominated for 6 Drama Desk nominations. He was appointed CBE in the 2015 New Year's Honours list.

Saturday 24 February – Saturday 7 April 2018

SUMMER AND SMOKE

by Tennessee Williams

directed by Rebecca Frecknall

Press night: Wednesday 7 March at 7pm

The girl who said 'no' — she doesn't exist anymore, she died last summer — suffocated in smoke from something on fire inside her.

In the heat of summer – under the wings of an angel – Alma meets John.

Trapped between desire and fear in a life of obligation, her world turns upside down in the search for salvation.

Featuring an ensemble cast led by **Patsy Ferran**, **Rebecca Frecknall** directs *Summer and Smoke*, **Tennessee Williams'** intoxicating classic about love, loneliness and self-destruction. *Summer and Smoke* is designed by **Tom Scutt**. Further casting to be announced.

Patsy Ferran's theatre credits include *Speech and Debate* at Trafalgar Studios; *As You Like It* and *Treasure Island* at the National Theatre; *The Merchant Of Venice* at the RSC; *The Angry Brigade* at Paines Plough; *Blithe Spirit* at the Gielgud Theatre. Patsy's television credits include *Guerrilla*; *Jamestown* (series regular). Film credits include *Darkest Hour*; *God's Own Country*; *Tulip Fever*; *The National Phobia*; *Association's Day Out*. Patsy won a Critics' Circle Theatre Award for Most Promising Newcomer in 2014, and was nominated for an Emerging Talent Award at the Evening Standard Theatre Awards in 2015.

Tennessee Williams, whose classics include *The Glass Menagerie* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*, transformed the American stage through his poetic writing and provocative subject matters. Awarded two Pulitzer Prizes and Tony Awards, three Drama Critic Circle Awards and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Williams' success is unequivocal and he is arguably one of the best playwrights of the 20th century. *Summer and Smoke* explores the complex nature of body and soul, religion and indulgence versus sacrifice. The play was first performed on Broadway in 1948, and made its West End stage debut in 2006.

Rebecca Frecknall (Director) is supported at the Almeida Theatre by the Eranda Rothschild Resident Director scheme. She was previously Resident Director at Northern Stage from 2015-2016 after winning the acclaimed RTYDS bursary. During this time she directed *Idomeneus*; *What Are They Like?*, *Educating Rita* (for Durham Gala) and *Julie* by Zinnie Harris, her final production for the company. Before taking up this role, Rebecca worked as a freelance Director in London and was involved in various projects at the National Theatre, RSC and Young Vic. She was the 2012 recipient

of the National Theatre Studio's Resident Director Bursary and was awarded one of the Young Vic's Jerwood Assistant Director Bursaries in 2011.

FIGURES OF SPEECH

A divided politics, a divided country, a divided people.

We've never needed leaders more.

Figures of Speech, our provocative anthology of digital films exploring the voices behind of visionary leadership, continues with a second series of films to be released later this summer following the great success of the first series.

Following Ashley Waters, Nicola Walker, Lucian Msamati, Fiona Shaw and Ian McKellen, **Derek Jacobi, Noma Dumezweni, Russell Tovey, Pearl Mackie** and **John Heffernan** add their dynamic voices to the project as we use the power of performance to explore controversial political and social ideas from our past to illuminate our troubling present.

Alongside this growing anthology of surprising speeches, inspiring young leaders aged 15 - 25 from across London will continue to add their voices to the project with their own speeches as part of the Almeida's extensive Participation programme.

The films are available to be viewed for free through a dedicated microsite: speech.almeida.co.uk.

Figures of Speech is directed by **Anthony Almeida**.

The first series of *Figures of Speech* films had a combined total of 140,000 views, from both clips on the Almeida's social media channels and the full-length speeches on YouTube, with over 24,000 views of the website and content related to the speeches. Overall the Almeida reached over 650,000 people through its social channels alone, with total impressions on Twitter for the project reaching over 110 Million. Over 60% of the conversation online about the project has been from outside of the UK.

Jamie Flatters' speech about being too young to vote, released in the week of the General Election, has had over 10,000 views through social media and YouTube and Ian McKellen's reading of Harvey Milk's 'Hope Speech' has had over 66,000 views through social media and YouTube.

Figures of Speech has engaged with many different organisations that have all supported the project, including the Huffington Post, The Royal Society of Literature, Pride in London, Women's March London, National AIDs Trust, Shout Out UK, and London Libraries.

Anthony Almeida is currently the Link Artist of the Royal Opera House. In 2015 he was the Resident Director of the Almeida where his work as associate director included: *The Odyssey*; *The Iliad*; *Oresteia* (also West End); and *Game*.

Figures of Speech is funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and a number of generous Almeida Supporters.

Priority Booking will open to Almeida Members at Designers' Circle level and above on Wednesday 19 July.

Booking for Friends opens on Friday 21 July.

Tickets for the new season go on public sale on Thursday 27 July.

Box Office: 020 7359 4404 (10am – 7.30pm)

Online: almeida.co.uk

Memberships start from £50.

ALMEIDA ELSEWHERE

INK AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE, WEST END

INK

by James Graham

directed by Rupert Goold

Duke of York's Theatre

Saturday 9 September 2017 – Saturday 6 January 2018

Opening night: Tuesday 19 September

Tickets go on sale on Monday 17 July at 10am

★★★★★

'A play for today. The blazingly talented James Graham has penned a super, soaraway smash.'

The Daily Telegraph

Fleet Street. 1969. The Sun rises. A young and rebellious Rupert Murdoch asks the impossible and launches The Sun's first editor's quest: to give the people what they want. No matter the cost.

Following a sell-out season at the Almeida, **ink**, written by **James Graham** (*This House*) and directed by **Rupert Goold** (*King Charles III*), transfers to the Duke of York's Theatre for a strictly limited season. With a cast featuring **Bertie Carvel** (*Doctor Foster*, *Matilda*) and **Richard Coyle** (*The Associate*, *The Lover*), this ruthless, red-topped new play leads with the birth of this country's most influential newspaper.

Ink is produced by **Sonia Friedman Productions** and the **Almeida Theatre**.

HAMLET AT THE HAROLD PINTER THEATRE, WEST END

HAMLET

by William Shakespeare

directed by Robert Icke

Harold Pinter Theatre

Until Saturday 2 September 2017

Following a critically acclaimed run at the Almeida theatre, **HAMLET**, starring **Andrew Scott** in the title role, directed by Almeida Associate Director **Robert Icke**, is now playing at the Harold Pinter Theatre in the West End for a limited run until 2 September.

★★★★★

'Moving seamlessly from the Almeida to the West End, Robert Icke's production of Hamlet remains extraordinarily, heartbreakingly beautiful'

Time Out

The cast is **Barry Aird** (Francisco / Gravedigger), **Madeline Appiah** (Guildenstern), **Derbhle Crotty** (Gertrude), **Marty Cruickshank** (Player Queen), **Jessica Brown Findlay** (Ophelia), **Calum Finlay** (Rosencrantz), **Joshua Higgott** (Horatio), **Daniel Rabin** (Reynaldo), **David Rintoul** (Ghost/Player King), **Andrew Scott** (Hamlet), **Maanuv Thiara** (Marcellus), **Luke Thompson** (Laertes), **Peter Wight** (Polonius), **Angus Wright** (Claudius) and **Matthew Wynn** (Bernardo/Player 3/Priest).

Hamlet has design by **Hildegard Bechtler**, with lighting by **Natasha Chivers**, sound by **Tom Gibbons**, and video design by **Tal Yarden**. The Associate Director is **Daniel Raggett**. Casting is by **Julia Horan**. *Hamlet* is produced by **Ambassador Theatre Group**, **Sonia Friedman Productions** and the **Almeida Theatre**.

MARY STUART AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE, WEST END

MARY STUART

by Friedrich Schiller

a new adaptation created by Robert Icke

Duke of York's Theatre

Saturday 13 January – Saturday 31 March 2018

Press Night: Thursday 25 January

The Almeida's critically acclaimed production of **MARY STUART** by Friedrich Schiller, in a new adaptation created by Robert Icke, will open in the West End on 25 January 2018, with Juliet Stevenson and Lia Williams reprising their roles.

The production will then visit **Theatre Royal Bath** from Wednesday 4 – Saturday 14 April, **Salford Lowry** from Tuesday 17 – Saturday 21 April and **Cambridge Arts Theatre** from Monday 23 –

Saturday 28 April 2018.

Schiller's political tragedy takes us behind the scenes of some of British history's most crucial days. Playing both Elizabeth I and Mary Stuart, **Juliet Stevenson** (*Hamlet*) and **Lia Williams** (*Oresteia*) trade the play's central roles, decided at each performance by the toss of a coin.

★★★★★ *Time Out, Observer, Mail on Sunday, The Stage* ★★★★★ *Sunday Times, The Times, Independent, Evening Standard, Daily Mail*

For every performance of *Mary Stuart* in the West End, 25 top price tickets will be available at £25 for those aged 25 and under. These will be available to buy in person at the Box Office and via the TodayTix app.

Mary Stuart is adapted and directed by **Robert Icke**, with set and costume design by **Hildegard Bechtler**, lighting by **Jackie Shemesh**, sound by **Paul Arditti**, and video by **Tim Reid**. Casting is by **Julia Horan CDG**. Further casting to be announced. *Mary Stuart* is presented by **Fiery Angel**, the **Almeida Theatre**, **Gavin Kalin Productions** and **Howard Panter**.

ALMEIDA PARTICIPATION

AGAINST ALL ODDS

The Almeida Theatre in partnership with Arsenal in the Community and Islington Borough Council's *Crossing the Threshold* present **AGAINST ALL ODDS**, a summer-long writing and performance project written by **Charlotte Josephine** and directed by **Beth Shouler**. *Against All Odds* is supported by the Arsenal Foundation.

Building on the success of *Play On*, a project run in partnership with Arsenal in the Community in response to the Almeida's production of *Boy*, a team of playwrights and directors will work with 80 young people and adult community groups to create theatre in response to Christopher Shinn's *Against* through a series of workshops which will be performed on the set of the play by professional actors and 20 community performers who helped shape the work. The piece will be performed on Friday 25 August.

The creative team includes director Alex Brown, writer Emma Dennis-Edwards, director Paul Edwards, writer Charlotte Josephine, poet Deanna Roger and director Beth Shouler.

Against All Odds is part of an Islington project, *Crossing the Threshold*, a pilot 12 month initiative engaging Islington council estate residents in a range of high quality arts activities. Through an innovative partnership between the Council Arts and Housing Service: emerging and established

Islington arts providers will transform and enhance the spectrum of creative opportunities for residents who find it difficult to access mainstream arts provision.

Charlotte Josephine is a writer and actress whose plays include *Bitch Boxer* (Soho Young Writers Award 2012), *Blue* (Bolton Octagon's Octagon Prize) and *Blush* (The Stage Edinburgh Award). Charlotte is under commission to Boundless Theatre. She recently won the inaugural BBC Screenplay First Award and is currently developing a script with BBC Films. In March 2017 she was named on the BBC New Talent Hotlist. Charlotte is co-artistic director of Snuff Box theatre.

Beth Shouler is a director and writer from the East Midlands. She was Staff Director at Theatre Royal Plymouth and Young Company Director for the Tricycle Theatre and Lakeside Arts Centre. She has been an assistant director for Nottingham Playhouse and Lakeside Arts Centre. She co-founded Plymouth Fringe Festival, The Party Somewhere Else Collective, and Junk Shop Theatre. Most recently she was part of the Royal Court Writers' Group and is currently a Breakthrough Artist at Curve. She has directed several productions including: *Bait, Stacked* (Almeida); *Big Sister Little Brother, The Crossing* (Spark Arts); *Plunge, Are You There?* (Theatre West); *Brexit: The Write Club Response* (Nottingham Playhouse); *The Dissidents, The Endless Night, Gargantua* (The Tricycle); *Hardworking People* (Junk Shop); *Love and Information, Epiphany, Ailie and the Alien, Girls Like That, Platform 13* and *Pronoun* (Theatre Royal Plymouth).

Monday 7 – Thursday 10 August, 7.30pm – 8.30pm, Shoreditch Town Hall

Monday 14 – Sunday 27 August, 2 – 3pm, Assembly Roxy, Edinburgh

FROM THE GROUND UP AT THE EDINBURGH FRINGE

written by Joeri Smet

directed by Christopher Elmer-Gorry

created by the Almeida Theatre Young Company

The Almeida Theatre Young Company presents **FROM THE GROUND UP** at Shoreditch Town Hall and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this August.

From the Ground Up is a thrilling and provocative interactive show that unites and divides the audience through a series of challenging questions, stories and dilemmas, both political and personal. It examines political identity, the battle between public and private personas and the human need to belong.

From the Ground Up is created by the Almeida Theatre Young Company, written by Joeri Smet - founding member of Belgian theatre collective Ontroerend Goed - and directed by Christopher Elmer-Gorry, Artistic Director of Warts and All Theatre and former Participation Associate at the Almeida.

Every element of this original immersive production has been worked on in collaboration with young people aged 16 - 25. Every professional, from creative to production has mentored at least one young person, working together to develop the production, increasing their learning, skills and connections with peers and industry professionals.

Supported by Shoreditch Town Hall.

ENDS

For all press enquiries and images, contact Georgie Robinson at Emma Holland PR:
georgie@emmahollandpr.com / 0751 211 2776 or Emma Holland:
emma@emmahollandpr.com

ALMEIDA LISTINGS INFORMATION

Address Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London, N1 1TA

Café Bar The Almeida Café Bar is open from 11.30am -11.00pm, Monday to Saturday

Box Office **Online** almeida.co.uk

Phone 020 7359 4404 (10am – 7.30pm, Monday – Saturday)

In person 10am – 7.30pm, Monday – Saturday

Nearest Tube: Angel / Highbury & Islington

Wednesday and Saturday Matinees at 2.30pm

Evening performances at 7.30pm

*Press night performances at 7.00pm

Website almeida.co.uk
Twitter @AlmeidaTheatre
Facebook [facebook.com/almeidatheatre](https://www.facebook.com/almeidatheatre)
Instagram @almeida_theatre

PRODUCTIONS Until Saturday 5 August
INK
by James Graham
directed by Rupert Goold

Sunday 23 July at 7pm
1972: THE FUTURE OF SEX
by *The Wardrobe Ensemble*
co-directed by Tom Brennan and Jesse Jones

Saturday 12 August – Saturday 30 September
AGAINST
by Christopher Shinn
directed by Ian Rickson
Press night: Friday 18 August at 7pm

Tuesday 10 October – Friday 24 November 2017

ALBION

by Mike Bartlett
directed by Rupert Goold

Press night: Tuesday 17 October at 7pm

Wednesday matinees from 25 October

Saturday matinees from 21 October

Tuesday 5 December 2017 – Saturday 27 January 2018

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

based on stories by Rod Serling, Charles Beaumont and Richard Matheson
adapted by Anne Washburn

directed by Richard Jones

Press night: Tuesday 12 December at 7pm

Thursday matinees from 14 December

Saturday matinees from 16 December

Saturday 24 February – Saturday 7 April 2018

SUMMER AND SMOKE

by Tennessee Williams
directed by Rebecca Frecknall

Press night: Wednesday 7 March at 7pm

Wednesday matinees from 14 March

Saturday matinees from 3 March

Saturday 9 September 2017 – Saturday 6 January 2018

INK AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE

by James Graham
directed by Rupert Goold

Duke of York's Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4BG

Opening night: Tuesday 19 September at 7pm

Box Office: 0844 871 7623

Calls are charged at 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Website: InkThePlay.com

Performances:

Monday – Saturday: 7.30pm

Thursday and Saturday matinees: 2.30pm

Until 2 September

HAMLET AT THE HAROLD PINTER THEATRE

by William Shakespeare
directed by Robert Icke

Harold Pinter Theatre, Panton Street, London SW1Y 4DN

Box Office: 0844 871 7623

Calls are charged at 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Website: hamletwestend.com

Performances:

Monday – Saturday evening: 7pm

Saturday matinee: 1.30pm

Saturday 13 January 2018 – Saturday 31 March 2018

MARY STUART AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE

by Friedrich Schiller

directed by Robert Icke

Duke of York's Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4BG

Box Office: 0844 871 7623

Calls are charged at 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Website: MaryStuartPlay.com

Performances:

Monday – Saturday: 7.30pm

Wednesday and Saturday matinees: 2pm

Wednesday 4 April 2018 – Saturday 14 April 2018

Theatre Royal Bath

Sawclose

Bath BA1 1ET

Box Office: 01225 448844

Website: theatreroyal.org.uk

Performance Times: Wednesday 4 to Saturday 7 April: 7.30pm, Thursday and Saturday: 2.30pm; Monday 9 to Saturday 14 April: 7.30pm, Wednesday and Saturday: 2pm

Tuesday 17 April 2018 – Saturday 21 April 2018

Salford Lowry

Pier 8, The Quays

Salford, M50 3AZ

Box Office: 0843 208 6000

Website: thelowry.com

Performance Times: Tuesday to Saturday: 7.30pm, Wednesday and Saturday: 2pm

Monday 23 April 2018 – Saturday 28 April 2018

Cambridge Arts Theatre

Box Office: 01223 503333

Website: cambridgeartstheatre.com

Performance Times: Monday to Saturday: 7.45pm, Wednesday and Saturday: 2.30pm

Access

Ink Audio Described performance:

Saturday 15 July at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)

Ink Captioned performance:

Thursday 27 July at 7.30pm

Against Audio Described performance:

Saturday 16 September at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)

Against Captioned performance:

Thursday 14 September at 7.30pm

Albion Audio Described performance:

Saturday 11 November at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)

Albion Captioned performance: Thursday 9 November at 7.30pm

The Twilight Zone Audio Described performance:

Saturday 13 January at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)

The Twilight Zone Captioned performance: Friday 5 January at 7.30pm

Summer and Smoke Audio Described performance:
Saturday 24 March at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)
Summer and Smoke Captioned performance: Monday 26 March at 7.30pm

Almeida Questions An eclectic programme of pre-show discussions, which consider some of the questions raised by the work on our stage

Ink – ‘In conversation – Rupert Goold and James Graham’
Monday 17 July at 6pm

Ink – ‘Fake News’ – Thursday 20 July at 6pm

Against – ‘Brutal Truths’ – Thursday 7 September at 6pm

Talkback Post-show discussion with members of the company
Free to same day ticket holders

Ink Monday 24 July 2017

Against Thursday 21 September 2017

Albion Thursday 26 October 2017

The Twilight Zone Thursday 11 January 2018

Summer and Smoke Monday 26 March 2018

Notes to Editors

ABOUT THE ALMEIDA THEATRE

The Almeida Theatre exists to launch the next generation of British artists onto the world stage. A small room with an international reputation, the Almeida began life as a literary and scientific society – complete with library, lecture theatre and laboratory. From the beginning, the building existed to investigate the world. Today, the Almeida makes brave new work that asks big questions: of plays, of theatre and of the world around us.

The Almeida brings together the most exciting artists to take risks; to provoke, inspire and surprise audiences; to interrogate the present, dig up the past and imagine the future. Whether new work or reinvigorated classic, whether in the theatre, on the road or online, the Almeida makes live art to excite, enliven and entertain. The Almeida makes argument for theatre as an essential force in an increasingly fragmented society.

Founded by Pierre Audi in 1980, his successors were Jonathan Kent and Ian McDiarmid in 1990, and Michael Attenborough in 2002. Productions including *Hamlet* with Ralph Fiennes, Rufus Norris' *Festen*, *Ruined* by Lynn Nottage and most recently *Chimerica*, *Ghosts* and *King Charles III* have given the theatre international renown.

In summer 2013, Rupert Goold joined the Almeida as Artistic Director. His first production was *American Psycho: a new musical thriller*, which transferred to Broadway in 2016. In 2014 the Almeida productions of *Ghosts* and *Chimerica* won eight Olivier Awards including Best Actress, Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Best New Play, Best Director and Best Revival and enjoyed transfers to the West End and Broadway respectively. This was followed by *King Charles III*, which transferred to the West End at the Wyndham's Theatre and won the Olivier Award for Best New Play in 2015, transferred to Broadway, and toured the UK and to Sydney. Other notable productions as Artistic Director include *Ink*, which will transfer to the West End in September 2017, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Medea* and *Richard III*, which in July 2016 was broadcast to cinemas around the world via Almeida Theatre Live.

In summer 2015, the Almeida presented *Almeida Greeks*, which included three major new productions of *Oresteia*, *Bakkhai* and *Medea*, the latter of which was directed by Goold, with a festival of events, performances, talks and readings running alongside.

He co-directed *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* with Almeida Associate Director Robert Icke. Involving more than 60 readers, *The Iliad* reached an audience of over 50,000 people across the world, watching online, or in person at the British Museum and the Almeida Theatre. *The Odyssey* followed the huge success of *The Iliad*, and involved an army of artists in various locations around London. As with *The Iliad*, both theatrical events were live streamed throughout and achieved ground-breaking levels of online engagement.

In May 2017, the Almeida launched *Figures of Speech*, a major digital film project interrogating the vitality of speech and rhetoric, and what visionary leadership sounds like. *Figures of Speech* is supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and a number of generous individuals.

At least 500 £5 tickets are available to audiences aged 25 and under per production at the Almeida. Audiences aged 30 and under have access to 450 £15 tickets per production.

The Almeida is grateful to its Principal Partner Aspen, in its third term as the Almeida's most significant corporate supporter. Aspen was established in 2002 and is a leading global insurance and reinsurance company.

www.aspen.co

The Almeida is supported using public funding by Arts Council England.

ABOUT ALMEIDA PARTICIPATION

The Almeida aims to give people of all ages opportunities to participate in creative projects and to have their voices heard. Projects respond to the plays on the stage, enabling communities to contribute to the debate and the issues raised, and to tell their own stories in response.

The Young Artists programme gives young people the opportunity to create theatre with some of the most exciting artists working in the industry, whether through the Young Actors Company, Young Producers group, extensive schools programme or one of our many holiday projects.

Young Audiences can access tickets for £5 or less, be part of a Young Critics group or take part in an Answers Back panel event, which are led by young people for young people.

Almeida Participation aims to work with over 3,000 people a year in structured programmes to inspire, challenge and engage them as audience members, participants and theatre makers; creating opportunities that work to increase confidence, communication and team-work. The Almeida aims to ensure that we are reaching everyone – not just those who are already keen and committed, and that our work is accessible for a diverse range of young people.

In April 2017 Almeida Participation produced *Hamlet For Free*, a free festival of events and performances for anyone aged 25 and under. Across the week, 1500 young people saw *Hamlet* for free and 800 young people took part in masterclasses, workshops, talks and events. 70% of people who experienced *Hamlet For Free* were new to the Almeida.