

# ALMEIDA THEATRE

Press release: 1 August 2018

The Almeida Theatre today announces a new production of Henrik Ibsen's *The Wild Duck*, in a new version created by Almeida Associate Director Robert Icke.

It is Icke's first show at the Almeida since *Hamlet* in 2017 and follows his previously acclaimed productions of *Mary Stuart*, *Oresteia*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Mr Burns* and *1984*. It opens on Tuesday 23 October, with previews from Monday 15 October, and runs until Saturday 1 December. Casting to be announced.

Also announced today is a one-day **Almeida For Free** festival taking place on Saturday 27 October, following the previous success of Almeida For Free during the runs of *Summer and Smoke* and *Hamlet*. The event includes a matinee performance made exclusively free to 25s and under, a Q&A with Robert Icke and workshops run by theatre practitioners. Full details to be announced soon.

## THE WILD DUCK

after **Henrik Ibsen**

in a new version created by **Robert Icke**

Design: **Bunny Christie**; Light: **Elliot Griggs**

Sound: **Tom Gibbons**; Casting: **Julia Horan**

Monday 15 October – Saturday 1 December 2018

**Press night: Tuesday 23 October 7pm**

*verb.* to duck

1. a quick lowering of the head (to avoid a blow or so as not to be seen)
2. depart quickly
3. avoid

*noun.* wild duck (more commonly known as mallard duck or *anas platyrhynchos*) – an undomesticated duck.

*note.* Due to its beautiful feathers, the mallard duck is one of the most popular ducks for hunters. When injured or threatened, ducks have been alleged to commit suicide, by diving to the bottom of the water, never returning to the surface.

Almeida Associate Director Robert Icke stages a new version of *The Wild Duck*, Ibsen's masterpiece about the nature of truth.

**Henrik Ibsen** (1828 – 1906) was a Norwegian playwright, director and poet. His plays include *Hedda Gabler*, *A Doll's House*, *Ghosts*, *Peer Gynt*, *The Lady from the Sea*, *The Master Builder*, *Emperor and Galilean* and *Little Eyolf*.

**Robert Icke** is Associate Director at the Almeida where his work includes adapting and directing *Mary Stuart* (also West End), *Uncle Vanya*, *Oresteia* (also West End) and *1984* (co-created with Duncan Macmillan, also Broadway, West End, national and international tours). As director, his other Almeida productions include *Hamlet* (also West End and BBC2), *The Fever*, and *Mr Burns*. Elsewhere, his recent work includes a new adaptation of *Oedipus* (Toneelgroep Amsterdam) and his future work includes *The Crucible* (Theater Basel) and *Oresteia* (Schauspiel Stuttgart). His other credits include *Boys* and *Romeo and Juliet* (Headlong). He has won the UK Theatre Award, the Critics' Circle Award and the Evening Standard Theatre Award for Best Director, and is the youngest ever winner of the Olivier Award for Best Director.

***The Wild Duck* is supported by the Ruddock Foundation for the Arts.**

**ENDS**

**For all press enquiries and images, contact Alexander Milward, Press and Media Relations Manager, on 020 7288 4911 or [amilward@almeida.co.uk](mailto:amilward@almeida.co.uk)**

**Tickets for *The Wild Duck* go on sale to the public on Thursday 16 August.**

**Priority Booking will open to Bronze Friends and above on Tuesday 7 August and for Almeida Friends on Thursday 9 August.**

## **ALMEIDA LISTINGS INFORMATION**

Monday 15 October – Saturday 1 December 2018

### ***The Wild Duck***

after **Henrik Ibsen**

in a new version created by **Robert Icke**

**Press night: Tuesday 23 October 7pm**

<b>Address</b>	Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London, N1 1TA
<b>Café Bar</b>	The Almeida Café Bar is open from 11.00am -11.00pm, Monday to Saturday
<b>Box Office</b>	<b>Online</b> <a href="http://almeida.co.uk">almeida.co.uk</a> <b>Phone</b> 020 7359 4404 (10am – 7.30pm, Monday – Saturday) <b>In person</b> 10am – 7.30pm, Monday – Saturday <b>Nearest Tube:</b> Angel / Highbury & Islington
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://almeida.co.uk">almeida.co.uk</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	@AlmeidaTheatre
<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://facebook.com/almeidatheatre">facebook.com/almeidatheatre</a>
<b>Instagram</b>	@almeida_theatre
<b>Access</b>	Captioned performance: Tuesday 20 November 7:30pm Audio Described performance: Saturday 24 November 2:30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)
<b>Talkback</b>	Post-show discussion with members of the company Free to same day ticket holders Monday 12 November
<b>Almeida Questions</b>	An eclectic programme of pre-show discussions, which consider some of the questions raised by the work on our stage Monday 19 November 6pm – Liar Liar

## ABOUT THE ALMEIDA

The Almeida Theatre makes brave new work that asks big questions: of plays, of theatre and of the world around us. It 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. The Almeida makes argument for theatre as an essential force in an increasingly fragmented society.

Since 2013, the Almeida has been led by Artistic Director Rupert Goold. During his tenure, notable productions have included *American Psycho: a new musical thriller* (transferred to Broadway); *Ghosts* (transferred to the West End and won three Olivier Awards); *Chimerica* (transferred to the West End and won five Olivier Awards); *1984* (transferred to West End, Broadway and Australia); *King Charles III* (transferred to the West End, won the Olivier Award for Best New Play, transferred to Broadway, toured the UK and Sydney, and was adapted for BBC television) and *Oresteia* (transferred to the West End and won the Olivier Award for Best Director). Recently, there have been West End transfers for Robert Icke's productions of *Hamlet* (also screened on the BBC) and *Mary Stuart, Ink*, directed by Goold, and Rebecca Frecknall's production *Summer & Smoke* transfers to the Duke of York's Theatre in November 2018. The Almeida was named London Theatre of the Year at the 2018 Stage Awards.

3000 £5 tickets are available to audiences aged 25 and under each year for Almeida productions.

The Almeida Theatre is a registered charity and is dependent on the support of individuals, companies, trusts and foundations. The small auditorium, even when sold out, only provides 40% of the funding we need to operate. Therefore, more than £2m each year needs to be raised in order to realise our artistic ambitions, reach new audiences, and secure the financial future of the theatre.

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](http://www.aspen.co)

The Almeida is grateful for the support of Arts Council England.