

ALMEIDA THEATRE

Press release: Wednesday 26 June

The Almeida Theatre today announces the full cast for Robert Icke's new play *The Doctor*, freely adapted from Arthur Schnitzler's 1912 play *Professor Bernhardt*.

World Premiere

THE DOCTOR

very freely adapted from *Professor Bernhardt* by Arthur Schnitzler
by Robert Icke

Design: **Hildegard Bechtler**; Light: **Natasha Chivers**; Sound: **Tom Gibbons**

Casting: **Julia Horan**

Saturday 10 August – Saturday 28 September 2019

Press night: Tuesday 20 August 7pm

First, do no harm.

doctor

(noun) one who mends or repairs; in popular current use, applied to any medical practitioner. Also a traditional healer or diviner.

(verb) to treat so as to alter the appearance or character of; to falsify, tamper with, disguise.

Joining the previously announced **Juliet Stevenson** and **Ria Zmitrowicz** are **Oliver Alvin-Wilson**, **Nathalie Armin**, **Paul Higgins**, **Mariah Louca**, **Pamela Nomvete**, **Daniel Rabin**, **Joy Richardson**, **Kirsty Rider** and **Naomi Wirthner**.

The production is **Robert Icke**'s final production in his role as Associate Director of the Almeida as he departs to pursue freelance projects. His work at the Almeida includes adapting and directing *The Wild Duck*, *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 *The Crucible* (Theater Basel), *Oedipus* (Toneelgroep Amsterdam and runs at Edinburgh International Festival this summer) and *Orestie* (Schauspiel Stuttgart, awarded the Kurt-Hübner-Regiepreis). His future work includes new productions at Schauspiel Stuttgart and with Toneelgroep Amsterdam. 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.

Arthur Schnitzler (1862 – 1931) was an Austrian playwright and novelist. His plays include *La Ronde* (reworked by David Hare as *The Blue Room* at the Donmar Warehouse in 1998); *Anatol*; *Flirtation*; *Fair Game*; *Light-O-Love*; *Paracelsus*; *The Vast Domain* and *The Green Cockatoo*.

ENDS

For all press enquiries and images, contact Alexander Milward, Press and Media Relations Manager, on 020 7288 4911 or amilward@almeida.co.uk

ALMEIDA LISTINGS INFORMATION

Saturday 10 August – Saturday 28 September 2019

The Doctor

very freely adapted from ***Professor Bernhardt*** by **Arthur Schnitzler**
by **Robert Icke**

Press night: Tuesday 20 August 7pm

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

Café Bar The Almeida Café Bar is open from 11.00am -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

Website almeida.co.uk
Twitter @AlmeidaTheatre
Facebook facebook.com/almeidatheatre
Instagram @almeida_theatre

Access Captioned performance:
Thursday 19 September 7:30pm
Audio Described performance:
Saturday 21 September 2:30pm (Touch Tour at 12.45pm)

Talkback Post-show discussion with members of the company
Free to same day ticket holders
Thursday 19 September

Almeida Questions An eclectic programme of pre-show discussions, which consider some of the questions raised by the work on our stage
Monday 2 September 6pm – What Is the Jewish Experience in London today?

Notes to Editors

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Oliver Alvin-Wilson previously appeared at the Almeida in *The Twilight Zone* (also West End). His other theatre credits include *Nine Night* (National Theatre and West End); *Genesis Inc* (Hampstead Theatre); *The Red Barn*; *Blue/Orange*; *Emperor and Galilean* and *All's Well That Ends Well* (National Theatre); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Young Vic); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Henry V* and *The Merchant of Venice* (Propeller Theatre); *Antigone* (Theatre Royal Stratford East). For television, his work includes *The Rebel*; *Collateral*; *Lovesick*; *From Cradle to Grave* and *Misfits*. His film work includes *Wonder Woman* and *The Huntsman*.

Nathalie Armin previously appeared in *Machinal* at the Almeida Theatre. Her other theatre credits include *Limehouse* (Donmar Warehouse); *Anna, Another World: Losing Our Daughters to Islamic State*, *The Motherf**ker with the Hat*, *Dara* and *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* (National Theatre); *Arabian Nights* and *Othello* (RSC); *Crazyblackmuthaf**kin'self* (Royal Court). For television her recent credits include *Marcella*; *Philip K. Dick's Electric Dreams*; *Unforgotten* and *Humans*. Her film work includes *Final Score*; *Denial* and *Grow Your Own*.

Paul Higgins previously appeared at the Almeida in *Conversations after a Burial* and *Macbeth*. His other theatre credits include *Aristocrats*, *Temple* and *Luise Miller* (Donmar Warehouse); *The Seagull* (Lyric Hammersmith); *Hope* (Royal Court); *Blackbird* and *King Lear* (Citizens Theatre); *Children of the Sun* and *The White Guard* (National Theatre); *Caledonia* and *Black Watch* (National Theatre of Scotland). For television, his work includes *Line of Duty*; *Raised by Wolves*; *Utopia*; *Hope Springs*; *The Last Enemy*; *The Thick of It*. His film credits include *Apostle*; *The Party's Just Beginning*; *Victoria & Abdul*; *Couple in a Hole*; *In The Loop* and *The Red Road*.

Mariah Louca's theatre credits include *Queer Upstairs* (Royal Court); *All Mod Cons* (Lyric Theatre, Belfast); *Julius Caesar*; *Playing For Time*; *A Dream*; *The Sheffield Mysteries*; *20 Tiny Plays About Sheffield* (Crucible Theatre, Sheffield).

Pamela Nomvete previously appeared at the Almeida in *They Drink It in the Congo*. Her other theatre credits include *The Convert* (Young Vic); *Meet Me At Dawn* (Market Theatre, Johannesburg); *Teddy Ferrara* (Donmar Warehouse); *Belong*, *Truth and Reconciliation* and *Now or Later* (Royal Court); *Comedy of Errors*, *Welcome to Thebes* (National Theatre) and *Twelfth Night* (RSC). Her television work includes the forthcoming *Avenue 5*; *Motherland*; *In The Long Run*; *Wild Bill*; *Noughts and Crosses* and series regular Mandy Kamara in *Coronation Street*. For film, her work includes *The Forgiven* and *The Special Relationship*.

Daniel Rabin has previously appeared at the Almeida in *Mary Stuart* and *Hamlet* (both also West End) and also the West End transfer of the Almeida's *1984*. His other theatre credits include *King Lear* (Duke of York's Theatre), *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale*, *King John*, *Tis Pity She's a Whore*, *Anthony and Cleopatra* and *Holy Warriors* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Oedipus* (Nottingham Playhouse/Spoleto Festival); *Ignorance* (Hampstead Theatre) and *Blue Remembered Hills* (Chichester). For television, he has appeared in *Game of Thrones* and *Ambassadors*.

Joy Richardson previously appeared at the Almeida in *Mr Puntilla and His man Matti*. Her recent theatre credits include *Henry V* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); *The Winter's Tale* (Cheek By Jowl); *Shakespeare In Love* (Noel Coward Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Taming Of The Shrew* (Shakespeare's Globe tour); *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Manchester Royal Exchange); *Song Of Songs* (RSC); *Phoenix Rising* (Tara Arts); *Macbeth* (Shakespeare's Globe); *Welcome To Thebes* and *The Observer* (National Theatre). Her television work includes *The Long Song*; *Silent Witness*; *Press*; *Mrs Wilson* and *Legends of Tomorrow*. For film, her work includes *Children of Men*.

Kirsty Rider previously appeared at the Almeida in *Machinal*. Her other theatre credits include *Macbeth* (Shakespeare's Globe); *The Great Wave* and *St George and the Dragon* (National Theatre) and *Pride and Prejudice* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre and UK tour). Her television work includes *Space Pirates*.

Juliet Stevenson's previous work at the Almeida includes *Mary Stuart*, *Hamlet* and *Duet for One* (all also West End). She has worked extensively for the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre and the Royal Court, winning an Olivier award for her performance as Paulina in *Death and The Maiden* in 1991. Her other most recent theatre credits include *Wings* and *Happy Days* (Young Vic). Her films include *Let Me Go*; *Truly, Madly, Deeply*; *Bend it Like Beckham*; *When Did You Last See Your Father?*; *Being Julia*; *Pierrepont*; *Mona Lisa Smile* and *Departure*. Recent television work includes *Riviera*; *One of Us*; *The Enfield Haunting*; *Atlantis* and *The Village*. Other television work includes *Place of Execution*; *The Accused*; *The Hour* and *White Heat*. She was awarded the CBE in 1999. In addition to her Olivier award, she has been nominated a further four times and is five times BAFTA nominated for her film and television work.

Naomi Wirthner previously appeared in *Against* at the Almeida. Her other theatre credits include *An Evening at The Talkhouse*, *An Oak Tree*, *Marat Sade* and *Fair Ladies at a Game of Poem* (National Theatre); *Blood Wedding* (Metta Theatre); *Splash Hatch on the E Going Down* (Donmar Warehouse); *The Bite of the Night*, *Measure for Measure*, *Cymbeline* and *The Taming of the Shrew* (RSC). Her television work includes *Fiona's Story*; *Babyfather* and *Soldier Soldier*.

Ria Zmitrowicz's previous work at the Almeida includes *Three Sisters* and *Dance Nation*. Next year she will appear in Lucy Kirkwood's new play *The Welkin* at the National Theatre. Her other theatre work includes *Gundog*; *Bad Roads*; *X* (Royal Court); *Plastic* (Ustinov Studio); *The Crucible* (Manchester Royal Exchange); *Arcadia* (English Touring Theatre);

Four Minutes Twelve Seconds (Hampstead Theatre and Trafalgar Studios); *Chapel Street* (Bush Theatre, Edinburgh Fringe, Liverpool Everyman); *God's Property* (Soho Theatre) and *Skanky* (Arcola Theatre). Her television credits include *Through the Gates*; *Three Girls*; *Mr Selfridge*; *Youngers* and *The Midnight Beast*. For film, her work includes *Teen Spirit*; *Entebbe*; *Jellyfish*; *Kill Your Friends* and the forthcoming *Misbehaviour*.

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 (also Broadway), Rebecca Frecknall's production of *Summer & Smoke* (winner of Best Play Revival and Best Actress at the 2019 Olivier Awards), and *The Twilight Zone* which is currently running at Ambassadors Theatre. The Almeida was named London Theatre of the Year at The Stage Awards in both 2015 and 2018.

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

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