

ALMEIDA THEATRE

Press Release: 5 May 2017

The full cast is announced for *INK*, a new play by James Graham, directed by Almeida Artistic Director Rupert Goold

***Ink* explores the birth of this country's most influential paper, *The Sun*, and the mythical world of Fleet Street in the 1960s**

Bertie Carvel plays Rupert Murdoch and Richard Coyle plays Larry Lamb

Saturday 17 June – Saturday 5 August

INK

a new play by James Graham

directed by Rupert Goold

Press night: Tuesday 27 June at 7pm

Fleet Street. 1969. The Sun rises.

James Graham's ruthless, red-topped new play leads with the birth of this country's most influential newspaper – when a young and rebellious Rupert Murdoch asked the impossible and launched its first editor's quest, against all odds, to give the people what they want.

Bertie Carvel will play Rupert Murdoch and **Richard Coyle** will play Larry Lamb. The full company is **Oliver Birch, Rachel Caffrey, Bertie Carvel, Pearl Chanda, Richard Coyle, Geoffrey Freshwater, Jack Holden, Justin Salinger, David Schofield, Sophie Stanton, Tim Steed, Tony Turner and Rene Zagger**. *Ink* will be designed by **Bunny Christie**, with lighting by **Neil Austin**. Casting is by **Anne McNulty**.

Ink is **James Graham's** Almeida debut. His work for theatre, television and film includes *This House*, which had two sell-out runs at the National Theatre, was broadcast to cinemas internationally by NT Live, and is currently playing at the Garrick Theatre in the West End; *Finding Neverland* (book) on Broadway; *Privacy* and *The Vote* (broadcast live on television on election night 2015) at the Donmar Warehouse; *Coalition* for Channel 4; *Monster Raving Loony* for Theatre Royal Plymouth and Soho Theatre, and *The Whisky Taster* at the Bush Theatre. He remains the writer in residence at the Finborough Theatre. His first feature film *X+Y* for BBC Films was selected for the Toronto International Film Festival and the London Film Festival before an international cinema release in Spring 2015. James has been commissioned to write a TV drama set around the events of the 2016 Referendum, and a film adaptation of *1984*.

Rupert Goold is the Almeida's Artistic Director where he has previously directed *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 an adaptation of his production of Mike Bartlett's *King Charles III* for BBC Two, which will air later this year. Rupert was awarded a CBE for services to drama in the 2017 New Year's Honours.

ENDS

For all press enquiries and images, contact **Susie Newbery**, Press and Media Relations Manager, on 020 7288 4911 or snewbery@almeida.co.uk

ALMEIDA LISTINGS INFORMATION

Saturday 17 June – Saturday 5 August

INK

by James Graham

directed by Rupert Goold

Press night: Tuesday 27 June, 7pm

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 – 7pm Monday – Saturday)

In person 10am – 7pm, Monday – Saturday

Nearest Tube: Angel / Highbury & Islington

Website almeida.co.uk

Twitter @AlmeidaTheatre

Facebook [facebook.com/almeidatheatre](https://www.facebook.com/almeidatheatre)

Instagram @almeida_theatre

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

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

Fake News This Almeida Questions panel comes together on the Almeida stage to debate the power of the press and the future of ink. **Sheila Burnett**, former photographer/ employee of *The Sun* and **Dan Sabbagh**, Head of National News at *The Guardian*, join a discussion chaired by **Charlotte Higgins**, Chief Culture Writer at *The Guardian*.

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

Ink Monday 24 July

Notes to Editors

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Oliver Birch's theatre credits include *Treasure Island* and *There Is A War* at the National Theatre; *Image of an Unknown Woman* at the Gate Theatre; *The Cabinet of Dr Caligari*, *Moby Dick* and *The Four Stages of Cruelty* at the Arcola; *Jack and the Beanstalk* at West Yorkshire Playhouse; *66 Books* at the Bush Theatre; *Macbeth* at Chichester Festival Theatre, in the West End and on Broadway; *Twelfth Night* at Chichester Festival Theatre. Film includes *Macbeth* (directed by Rupert Goold) and television includes *Doc Martin* and *In The Flesh*.

Rachel Caffrey's theatre credits include *The Karaoke Theatre Company*, *Consuming Passions*, *Time of My Life* and *Arrivals and Departures*, all by Alan Ayckbourn for Stephen Joseph Theatre; *Refugee Boy* and *Angus, Thongs and Even More Snogging* for West Yorkshire Playhouse; and *Galka Matacka* and *Doctor Faustus* for Manchester Royal Exchange. Television credits include *DCI Banks*, *Casualty* and *Doctors*. Film credits include *The Rochdale Pioneers* for Film 4.

Bertie Carvel returns to the Almeida stage, having previously performed in *Bakkhai*, as part of the Almeida Greeks season, and *Rope*. He created the role of Miss Trunchbull in Dennis Kelly and Tim Minchin's *Matilda, The Musical* at the RSC, on West End and Broadway (Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Musical, Drama Desk Award and a Tony nomination). His other theatre credits include *The Hairy Ape* at The Old Vic; *The Pride* at the Royal Court; *Parade* at the Donmar Warehouse; *Damned by Despair*; *The Man of Mode*, *The Life of Galileo* and *Coram Boy* at the National Theatre; and *Doctor Dee* at Manchester International Festival. Television credits include James Graham's *Coalition*; *Doctor Foster*; *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell*; *The Wrong Mans*; *Babylon*; *Restless*; *Hidden*; *Sherlock*; *Just William*; *The Crimson Petal and The White*; *John Adams*; *Doctor Who*; *John Adams* and *Hawking*. Film credits include *Les Misérables*.

Pearl Chanda's theatre credits include *Julie* at Northern Stage Theatre; *The Glass Menagerie* at Nuffield Theatre; *The Angry Brigade* at the Bush Theatre; *Crave* and *4.48 Psychosis* at Sheffield Crucible Theatre; *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the RSC; *Godchild* at Hampstead Theatre; and *The Seagull* for Headlong Theatre. Television credits include *Endeavour*; *Arthur and George*; and *Holby City*. Film includes *The Final Haunting* and *Mr Turner*.

Richard Coyle's theatre credits include *Macbeth* at the Park Avenue Armoury NYC; *Polar Bears*, *After Miss Julie* and *Proof* at the Donmar Warehouse; *The Lover and The Collection* at the Comedy Theatre; *Don Carlos* at the Sheffield Crucible and in the West End; *Look Back In Anger* at the Theatre Royal, Bath; and *The York Realist* at the Royal Court and in the West End. Television includes *Hard Sun*; *Born To Kill*; *The Collection*; *The Fall*; *AD*; *Crossbones*; *Covert Affairs*; *Going Postal*; *Whistleblowers*; *The History of Mr Polly*; *Othello*; *Strange*; *Lorna Doone*; *Sword of Honour*; *Wives and Daughters* and *Coupling*. Film includes *Pusher*; *Grabbers*; *W.E.*; *5 Days of War*; *Prince of Persia*; *Franklyn*; *A Good Year*; *The Libertine*; *Happy Now*; *Human Traffic* and *Topsy-Turvy*.

Geoffrey Freshwater has previously appeared in *Filumena* at the Almeida. Other theatre includes *Noises Off*; *Old Money*; *The Tempest*; *The Way of the World*; *Dracula*; and *Arsenic And Old Lace* at Chichester Festival Theatre; *The Faery Queen* at Aix-en-Provence; *The Invisible Man* at Theatre Royal Stratford East; *The Churchill Play*; and *The Alchemist* at the National Theatre; *Once In A Lifetime* at the Piccadilly Theatre; *Piaf* at the Wyndhams Theatre; *Toad of Toad Hall* at Birmingham Rep; *The Real Inspector Hound* for the Donmar Warehouse in the West End. For the RSC, where he is an Associate Artist, he has appeared in *Jew of Malta*; *The Witch of Edmonton*; *Arden of Faversham*; *The Roaring Girl*; *Love's Sacrifice*; *Volpone*; *As You Like It*; *King Lear*; *The Taming of the Shrew*; *Julius Caesar*; *The Merchant of Venice*; *The Changeling*; *Softcops*; *Coriolanus*; *Happy End*; *The Odyssey*; *Much Ado About Nothing* (RSC USA / European tour); *Richard III* (RSC Australian tour); *Travesties* (RSC / Savoy Theatre); *The Winter's Tale*; *The Lion The Witch And The Wardrobe*; *King John*; *The Malcontent*; *Eastwood Ho!* (RSC / Gielgud); *Sejanus: His Fall*. Television includes *Will*; *Law & Order*; *Poirot*; *Peak Practice*; *The Bill*; *EastEnders*; *Trial & Retribution VII*; *Foyle's War*; *The Commander*; *The Government Inspector*; *Doctors*. Film includes *The Program*; *Invisible Woman*; *Sabotage*; *The Leading Man*; *A Bridge Too Far*.

Jack Holden's theatre credit include *What the Butler Saw* at the Leicester Curve; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Oppenheimer* (also West End) and *The Shoemakers Holiday* for the RSC; *She Stoops to Conquer* at Theatre Royal, Bath; *Awkward Conversations with Animals I've F*cked* at the Underbelly, Edinburgh Fringe Festival; *Johnny Got His Gun* at Southwark Playhouse; *Minotaur* at Bristol Old Vic; *Fiesta: The Sun Also Rises*, and *The Aliens* at Trafalgar Studios; and *War Horse* (West End). Television includes *Carnage*; *Outlander*, and *Lewis*, and film includes *Journey's End*; and *The Levelling*.

Justin Salinger has previously appeared in *Medea*, *Through a Glass Darkly*, and *Dona Rosita the Spinster* at the Almeida. Other theatre includes *Hansel and Gretel*; *Beauty and the Beast*; *Our Class*; *The Seagull*; *Pillars of the Community*; *The Cat in the Hat*; *The UN Inspector*; *A Dream Play*; *Iphigenia at Aulis* (also Abbey Theatre, Dublin); *Peter Pan*; *Chips with Everything*; and *Dealer's Choice* at the National Theatre; *Love and Information*; *Bliss*; *The Food Chain*; *Under the Blue Sky* (Royal Court); *The Physicists*; and *Privates on Parade* at the Donmar Warehouse; *The Homecoming* for the

RSC; *Nocturnal*; and *Candide* at the Gate Theatre; *The Birthday Party* at Lyric Hammersmith; *King of Hearts* for Out of Joint; and *Much Ado About Nothing* for Cheek by Jowl. Television includes *Doctor Who*; *The Windsors*; *Rillington Place*; *The Mill*; *Ripper Street*; *Dracula*; *The 7:39*; *Being Human*; *New Tricks*; *He Kills Coppers*; *Doc Martin*; *Whistleblowers*; *Empathy*; *Beau Brummell*; *Line of Beauty*; and *Hitler: The Rise of Evil*; Film includes *Brimstone*; *Crowhurst*; *Everest*; *We Are Monster*; *Creature*; *Heartless*; *The Calling*; *Daylight Robbery*; *Enduring Love*; *The Revenger's Tragedy*; *Peaches*; and *Velvet Goldmine*.

David Schofield's theatre credits include *The Entertainer*, *Blues for Mr Charlie*, and *Winding the Ball* at the Manchester Royal Exchange; *Afterlife*, *Angels In America*, *The American Clock*, *The Elephant Man*, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* at the National Theatre; *The Glee Club* at The Duchess Theatre and The Bush; *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens* at the Queens Theatre; *The Merchant of Venice*; *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* at Birmingham Rep; *City of Angels*; and *Me and My Girl* in the West End; *Julius Caesar*; and *Measure for Measure* for the RSC. Film includes *Mindhorn*; *All Things To All Men*; *Last Passenger*; *Lord of Tears*; *Devil's Bridge*; *Ghosted*; *Super Tanker*; *Burke and Hare*; *Wolfman*; *Valkyrie*; *Pirates of the Caribbean Parts II & III*; *King Tut*; *The Incredible Mrs Richie*; *From Hell*; *Superstition*; *Anna Karenina*; *The Last of the Mohicans*; *Gladiator*; *An American Werewolf in London*; and *The Dogs of War*. Television includes *Safe House*; *Da Vinci's Demons*; *The Great Fire*; *Demons*; *Shameless*; *Injustice*; *The Shadowline*; *Land Girls*; *Merlin*; *Lighting Strikes*; *The Fixer*; *The Take*; *Freebird*; *Waking the Dead*; *John White*; *The Street*; *Beethoven*; *Footballer's Wives*; *Blue Murder*; *Lock, Stock, The Vice*; *Cleopatra*; *Amongst Women*; *Our Mutual Friend*; *Real Women*; *Kavanagh QC*; *Tangier Cop*; *Our Friends in the North*; *Band of Gold*; *The Famous Five*; *Mr Wroe's Virgins*; *Taggart*; *The Secret Agent*; *Van Der Valk*; *Zorro*; *Shadow of the Moose*; *Rockliffe's Babies*; *A Killing on the Exchange*; *Bergerac*; *Boogie Outlaws*; *Mozart, His Life With Music*; *Manmade Music*; *Shackleton*; *Funny Man*; and *Band of Gold*.

Sophie Stanton has previously appeared in *The Knot of the Heart*, *Cloud Nine*, and *Dying for It* at the Almeida. Other theatre includes *The Shakespeare Trilogy* for the Donmar Warehouse; *Made in Dagenham* in the West End; *Nut*; *Market Boy*; and *England People Very Nice* at the National Theatre; *Ding Dong the Wicked* at the Royal Court Theatre; *Mercury Fur* for Paines Plough; *Breeze Block Park* at Liverpool Playhouse; *Bright* at Soho Theatre; and *Beautiful Thing* at the Donmar Warehouse and Bush Theatre. Television includes *Harry Price: Ghost Hunter*; *The Job Lot*; *Walter, My Mad Fat Diary*; *The Smoke*; *New Tricks*; *Mayday*; *The Silent and the Damned*; *One Night*; *Casualty*; *EastEnders*; *Lewis*; *Ashes to Ashes*; *Fingersmith*; and *Wallander*. Film includes *Blackbird*; *Me Before You*; *How I Live Now*; *Cheerful Weather For the Wedding*; *Grow Your Own*; *Hidden City*; *Closer*; *Shadowlands*; and *Beautiful Thing*.

Tim Steed previously appeared in *The Merchant of Venice* at the Almeida. Other theatre includes *The Crucible* at the Royal Exchange, Manchester; *80 Days Around The World* at the St James Theatre; *Crossing Play*; *Hero*; and *Pride* at the Royal Court; *Rocket to the Moon* at the National

Theatre; *Salome* for Headlong; *Volpone* and *The Duchess of Malfi* at Greenwich Theatre; *Much Ado About Nothing* at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre; *All My Sons* at the Playhouse Theatre, Liverpool; *Silverland* at the Arcola Theatre; *Cigarettes and Chocolate*; and *Hang Up* at the King's Head Theatre; *Mere Mortals* at the Old Red Lion; *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Theatre Royal, Northampton; *Amoeba Project* for Out Of Joint; *An Inspector Calls* at the Garrick Theatre; *The Cows Are Mad*; and *Election Night at the Courtyard* for BAC and The Red Room; and *Threepenny Opera* at City Centre Theatre, New York. Television includes *The Crown*; *Little Boy Blue*; *Wolf Hall*; *The Great Fire*; *Laid*; *Fresh Meat*; *London Irish*; *The Town*; *Twenty Twelve*; *A Young Doctor's Notebook*; *Garrow's Law*; *The Bill*; *Peep Show*; *Diary of a Somebody*; *Rhona*; *Happy Birthday Shakespeare*; *Poirot*; and *Blonde Bombshell*. Film includes *The Current War*; *Dead in a Week*; *Death of Stalin*; *The Imitation Game*; *Franklyn*.

Tony Turner previously appeared in *Big White Fog*, *Measure for Measure* and *Enemies* at the Almeida. Other theatre includes *The Damned United* at West Yorkshire Playhouse; *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*; *This House* (also West End); *Burnt By The Sun*; *Her Naked Skin*; *Present Laughter*; *Playing With Fire*; and *The UN Inspector* for the National Theatre; *The School For Scheming* at the Orange Tree Theatre; *Journey's End* UK Tour and West End; *Personal Enemy* for Brits Off Broadway; *The Madness of George III* at West Yorkshire Playhouse; and *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* at Salisbury Playhouse. Television includes *Delicious*; *WPC 56*; *Call the Midwife*; *Downton Abbey*; *Loving Miss Hatto*; *Silk*; *New Tricks*; *Party Animals*; *Gavin & Stacey*; *Trial and Retribution XIII*; *Foyle's War*; *Derailed*; *Eyes Down*; *Red Cap*; *Heartbeat*; *Always & Everyone*; *Coronation Street*; *The Lakes*.

Rene Zagger's theatre credits include *Made in Dagenham* at the Adelphi Theatre; *Hope* at Liverpool Royal Court; *The Comedy of Errors* at the National Theatre; *Arabian Nights* for the RSC; and *Aunt Dan & Lemon* at the Royal Court. Television credits include *Cardinal Burns*; *Rome*; and *Grange Hill*.

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 in 2005, 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 Wyndham's Theatre and won the Olivier Award for Best New Play in 2015, transferred to Broadway, and toured the UK and Sydney. Other notable productions as Artistic Director include *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.

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, going in to 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

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