

EMMA HOLLAND PR

FULL CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR RICHARD III
INCLUDING GINA MCKEE
WHO JOINS MARTIN FREEMAN

IN JAMIE LLOYD'S OPENING PRODUCTION
OF HIS SECOND TRAFALGAR TRANSFORMED SEASON

RUNNING FROM 1 JULY – 27 SEPTEMBER 2014

Gina McKee (*Di & Viv & Rose, King Lear, Ivanov, Our Friends In The North, Notting Hill*) will play **Queen Elizabeth**, alongside the previously announced **Martin Freeman** (*Clybourne Park, The Hobbit, Sherlock, Fargo*) as **Richard III** in Jamie Lloyd's first production of his second season at Trafalgar Transformed, *Richard III*, running from 1 July to 27 September, with press night on 8 July.

In the aftermath of civil war, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, makes a hateful resolution to claw his way to political power at any cost. A master of manipulation, subtle wit and beguiling charm, he orchestrates his unlawful ascent by spinning a ruthless web of deceit and betrayal. His staunch ambition soon begins to weigh heavy, as the new ruler finds himself utterly alone and steeped in dread, forced to answer for his bloody deeds and face the horrifying consequences.

Additional casting includes **Alasdair Buchan** (Ensemble), **Simon Coombs** (Tyrrel), **Philip Cumbus** (Richmond), **Madeleine Harland** (Ensemble), **Julie Jupp** (Ensemble), **Gerald Kyd** (Catesby), **Joshua Lacey** (Rivers), **Paul Leonard** (Stanley), **Gabrielle Lloyd** (Duchess of York), **Forbes Masson** (Hastings), **Paul McEwan** (King Edward IV/Bishop of Ely), **Mark Meadows** (Clarence/Lord Mayor), **Vinta Morgan** (Edward of Lancaster/Ensemble), **Lauren O'Neil** (Lady Anne), **Maggie Steed** (Queen Margaret) and **Jo Stone-Fewings** (Buckingham).

Design is by award-winning **Soutra Gilmour**, who previously collaborated with Jamie Lloyd on the first Trafalgar Transformed season. Lighting design is by **Charles Balfour**, with sound & music by **Ben** and **Max Ringham** and fights by **Kate Waters**.

Once again, the Trafalgar Transformed season will offer £15 Monday tickets for all productions, applicable on all seating within the theatre, further encouraging first-time theatregoers to experience the exciting programming at the venue. The production will be accompanied by a programme of Traf Extras, including fiery debates, post-show Q&As and rehearsed readings.

Martin Freeman was last on stage in 2010 in the critically acclaimed *Clybourne Park* at the Royal Court, directed by Dominic Cooke. Other stage credits include Kathy

Burke's *Kosher Harry*, also at the Royal Court, and *Blue Eyes and Heels* by Toby Whithouse at Soho Theatre. On television, Martin played *Tim* in the original UK Comedy *The Office* for the BBC. He went on to play Dr Watson in the multi award-winning global smash hit series *Sherlock*, also for the BBC. Currently on Channel 4, Martin plays the lead role of Lester Nygaard, alongside Billy Bob Thornton, in the television adaptation of *Fargo*. On film, Martin has most recently played Bilbo Baggins in *The Hobbit* trilogy for Peter Jackson and was also in last year's highly successful *World's End* for Edgar Wright and Sean Pegg. Other film credits include; *Shaun of the Dead*, *Hot Fuzz*, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* and Richard Curtis' world-wide hit, *Love Actually*.

Gina McKee was last on stage in *Di and Viv and Rose* at the Hampstead Theatre. Gina has previously worked with Jamie Lloyd on the critically-acclaimed production of *The Lover* and *The Collection* at the Comedy Theatre in 2008. Other stage credits include her Olivier-nominated performance as Goneril in Michael Grandage's revival of *King Lear* at the Donmar Warehouse, alongside Derek Jacobi, *Old Times*, also at the Donmar Warehouse, *Separate Tables* at the Chichester Festival Theatre, *Ivanov* at the Wyndhams Theatre (for the Donmar Warehouse), *The Exonerated* at Riverside Studios, *Aristocrats* at the National Theatre, *Five Kinds of Silence* at the Lyric Hammersmith and *Hammett's Apprentice* at the Royal Court Upstairs. On television, Gina has received numerous BAFTA nominations for her roles in *The Street 2*, *The Lost Prince*, and *Our Friends in the North*, for which she won the Best Actress BAFTA. On film, Gina is best known for her portrayal of Bella in *Notting Hill*, alongside Hugh Grant and Julia Roberts. Additional screen credits include *Jimmy Picard*, *Atonement*, *Hebburn*, *Line of Duty*, *By Any Means*, *The Forsythe Saga*, *The Borgias*, and *Wonderland*, for which she was nominated for Best Actress in the 1999 British Independent Film Awards.

Trafalgar Transformed Artistic Director, **Jamie Lloyd**, curates another season of powerhouse plays in the reconfigured Trafalgar Studios. This is the second season of work by **Jamie Lloyd Productions**, a partnership between acclaimed director Jamie Lloyd and **Ambassador Theatre Group**.

Jamie Lloyd's theatre credits include *The Pride*, *The Hothouse* and *Macbeth* (Olivier nomination for Best Revival), all for Trafalgar Transformed, *Urinetown* (St James Theatre), *The Commitments* (Palace Theatre), *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Roundabout Theatre Company; American Airlines Theatre, Broadway); *The Duchess of Malfi* (Old Vic); *She Stoops to Conquer* (National, Olivier; Whatsonstage nomination for Best Revival); *The Faith Machine*, *The Pride* (Royal Court; Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre for *The Pride*), *Inadmissible Evidence*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Passion*, *Polar Bears* (Donmar; Evening Standard Award for Best Musical for *Passion*), *Piaf* (Donmar, also Vaudeville/Teatro Linceo, Buenos Aires/Nuevo Teatro Alcala, Madrid; Olivier nomination for Best Musical Revival, Hugo Award for Best Director, Clarin Award for Best Musical Production, ADEET Award for Best Production); *The Little Dog Laughed* (Garrick), *Three Days of Rain* (Apollo; Olivier nomination for Best Revival, Whatsonstage nomination for Best Revival), *The Lover* and *The Collection* (Comedy) and *Elegies: a Song Cycle* (Arts) in

the West End; *The School for Scandal* (Theatre Royal, Bath); *Salome* (Headlong); *Eric's* (Liverpool Everyman) and *The Caretaker* (Sheffield Crucible and Tricycle). He has also directed plays as a part of the Old Vic 24 Hour Plays and the Royal Court International Residencies. Jamie was Associate Director of the Donmar from 2008 to 2011 and Associate Artist of Headlong. Jamie will direct and co-write *Back to The Future – The Musical* in 2015.

LISTINGS

RICHARD III

TRAFALGAR TRANSFORMED SEASON TWO

PRODUCTION ONE

1 JULY – 27 SEPTEMBER 2014

For priority information and seat releases follow us on:

Twitter @traftansformed

Facebook /traftransformed

Performances: Monday – Saturday at 7.30pm
Thursday & Saturday at 2.30pm
Press Night on 8 July
(Reviews embargoed until 10 July)
Gala Night on 9 July

Ticket prices: £15 - £52.50
Premium Seats Available

All tickets will be £15 on Mondays. Half of these will be made available through a special outreach scheme, targeted towards schools and first-time theatregoers. The other half will be released monthly to the public on the first day of each month, starting on 1 July 2014, and will be available online or at Trafalgar Studios box office.

Address: Trafalgar Studios, 14 Whitehall,
Westminster, SW1A 2DY

Box Office: 0844 871 7632

Website: www.trafalgartransformed.com

Facebook www.facebook.com/traftransformed

Twitter @traftransformed

PRESS CONTACT: EMMA HOLLAND PR

Emma Holland

E: emma@emmahollandpr.com

M: 0791 709 4203

W: www.emmahollandpr.com

Georgie Robinson

E: georgie@emmahollandpr.com

M: 0751 211 2776

W: www.emmahollandpr.com