**THE SMASH HIT, SELL OUT ALMEIDA THEATRE PRODUCTION**

**OF MULTI AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR**

**ROBERT ICKE’S**

***THE DOCTOR***

**STARRING THE CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED JULIET STEVENSON**

**TRANSFERS TO THE WEST END IN APRIL 2020**

**WRITTEN BY ROBERT ICKE**

**VERY FREELY ADAPTED FROM *PROFESSOR BERNHARDI* BY ARTHUR SCHNITZLER**

★★★★★

*The Guardian, The Telegraph, Financial Times, The Sunday Times, WhatsOnStage*

★★★★

*The Times, Evening Standard, The Observer, Independent, The Stage, Metro*

**PRESENTED BY THE ALMEIDA THEATRE &**

**AMBASSADOR THEATRE GROUP**

**AND**

**BENJAMIN LOWY, FIERY ANGEL, GLASS HALF FULL PRODUCTIONS, SCOTT RUDIN AND SONIA FRIEDMAN PRODUCTIONS**

**Robert Icke**’s (*The* *Wild Duck, Hamlet, Mary Stuart, Oresteia, 1984*) sold-out, five-star Almeida Theatre production, ***The Doctor***, will transfer to the **Duke of York’s Theatre** from **20 April – 11 July 2020**, with press night on **Wednesday 29 April**. Olivier Award winner, **Juliet Stevenson**, ***‘****delivering one of the peak performances of the theatrical year’* (The Guardian), will reprise her role as Professor Ruth Wolff.

Throughout the West End run of ***The Doctor*** there will be 150 seats per performance for under £30. These include over 4000 great seats in the stalls and dress circle across the run which are exclusively available to under 30s, key workers and those receiving JSA or other government benefits.

*The Doctor*, by **Robert Icke**, very freely adapted from *Professor Bernhardi* by **Arthur Schnitzler**, has been critically lauded since its opening at the Almeida in August 2019. The production has designs by **Hildegard Bechtler**, lighting by **Natasha Chivers**, sound and composition by **Tom Gibbons** and casting by **Julia Horan**. Further casting to be announced in due course.

This is the third West End transfer for Robert Icke and Juliet Stevenson in as many years, following the critical and commercial smash-hit productions of *Mary Stuart* and *Hamlet*.

\*\*\*

*First, do no harm.*

*On an ordinary day, at a private hospital, a young woman fights for her life. A priest arrives to save her soul. Her doctor refuses him entry.*

*In a divisive time, in a divided nation, a society takes sides.*

The latest smash-hit by “Britain’s best director” (*Telegraph*) is a "provocative, wonderfully upsetting" (*Independent*) whirlwind of gender, race and identity politics, and a "devastating play for today" (*Financial Times*).

\*\*\*

The productioncompletes its run at the Almeida Theatre on 28 September 2019.

**Juliet Stevenson** said “I am beyond thrilled that *The Doctor* is transferring to the West End. We have been blown away by the extraordinary response it has had at the Almeida. I think the play speaks to our current times with eloquence, complexity, humour and compassion - and I am so delighted it will have a future life and reach new audiences.  It is a joy to be part of, and I am so grateful to Robert Icke, the company, and to those who are making it possible for us to keep it alive and kicking into 2020.”

**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* at the Young Vic. Her films include *Let Me Go; Truly, Madly, Deeply; Bend it Like Beckham; When Did You Last See Your Father?; Being Julia; Pierrepoint; 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.

*The Doctor* was **Robert Icke**’s final production as Associate Director at the Almeida Theatre. 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 screened on BBC2), *The Fever* and *Mr Burns*. Elsewhere, his recent work includes *The Crucible* (Theater Basel), *Oedipus* (Toneelgroep Amsterdam and Edinburgh International Festival) and *Orestie* (Schauspiel Stuttgart, awarded the Kurt-Hübner-Regiepreis). His future work includes *Ivanov* (Schauspiel Stuttgart) and *Children of Nora* (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.*

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**ABOUT THE ALMEIDA THEATRE**

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) and Rebecca Frecknall’s production of *Summer and Smoke* (winner of Best Play Revival and Best Actress at the 2019 Olivier Awards). 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. We therefore need to raise more than £2m each year to realise our artistic ambitions, reach new audiences, and secure the financial future of the theatre. Find out more about supporting here: almeida.co.uk/support-us.

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.

**AMBASSADOR THEATRE GROUP PRODUCTIONS**

**AMBASSADOR THEATRE GROUP PRODUCTIONS** is the general management and producing arm of Ambassador Theatre Group. The company has presented high-quality musicals and plays across the West End, Broadway and UK regions.

Recent productions and co-productions in London and the West End include *The Lehman Trilogy* (Piccadilly Theatre); *Betrayal* starring Tom Hiddleston (Harold Pinter Theatre); *9 to 5 the Musical* (Savoy Theatre); *The Curious Incident of The Dog in the Night-Time* (Piccadilly Theatre); *Caroline or Change* (Playhouse Theatre); the *Pinter at the Pinter* season presented by the Jamie Lloyd Company (Harold Pinter Theatre); *King Lear* starring Ian McKellen (Duke of York’s Theatre); the Tony Award-winning play *Oslo* (Harold Pinter Theatre); *Glengarry Glen Ross* starring Christian Slater (Playhouse Theatre); *Buried Child* featuring Ed Harris in an Olivier Award-nominated performance(Trafalgar Studios); *Big Fish* starring Kelsey Grammer (The Other Palace); *Hamlet* starring Andrew Scott (Harold Pinter Theatre); the Jamie Lloyd company season of *The Maids* and *The Homecoming* (Trafalgar Studios) and *Doctor Faustus* (Duke of York’s Theatre); the Olivier Award-winning *Oresteia* (Trafalgar Studios) and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Savoy Theatre and UK Tour).

On Broadway productions and co-productions include *Betrayal* starring Tom Hiddleston (Bernard B. Jacobs Theater); *Sea Wall/A Life* starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Tom Sturridge (Hudson Theatre); *Pretty Woman* (Nederlander Theater) and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Hudson Theatre) which starred Jake Gyllenhaal and Annaleigh Ashford.

ATG Productions is committed to bringing high quality shows to the regions.  ATG Productions is producing and general managing Ian McKellen’s 80 date tour of the UK. Recent touring productions and co-productions include *Abigail’s Party* starring Jodie Prenger; *Glengarry* *Glen Ross* starring Nigel Harman and Mark Benton; *Strangers on a Train* based on Patricia Highsmith’s novel; the Victorian thriller *Gaslight* starring Kara Tointon, Keith Allen and Rupert Young; Noël Coward’s comedy *Private Lives*, starring Tom Chambers and Charlotte Ritchie and the multi-Olivier Award-winning musical *Sunny Afternoon*.

Current productions and co-productions include *9 to 5 the Musical* (Savoy Theatre and UK Tour), *Ian McKellen On Stage* (UK Tour and Harold Pinter Theatre) and *Betrayal* starring Tom Hiddleston (Jacobs Theater, Broadway). Upcoming productions on the West End include *Ghost Stories*, *Touching the Void, Sunday in the Park with George* and *Pretty Woman.*

**LISTINGS**

***THE DOCTOR***

**20 APRIL - 11 JULY 2020**

DUKE OF YORK’S

VERY FREELY ADAPTED BY ROBERT ICKE, FROM *PROFESSOR BERNHARDI* BY ARTHUR SCHNITZLER  
DIRECTED BY ROBERT ICKE

PRODUCED BY THE ALMEIDA THEATRE & AMBASSADOR THEATRE GROUP

AND BENJAMIN LOWY, FIERY ANGEL, GLASS HALF FULL PRODUCTIONS, SCOTT RUDIN AND SONIA FRIEDMAN PRODUCTIONS

**General On Sale:**

Monday 23 Sept for ATG TheatreCard Members/Almeida Members from 12pm

Monday 23 Sept for ATG General/Almeida General from 4pm

Tuesday 24 Sept Full On Sale

**Press Night:** Wednesday 29 April at 7pm

**Performances:**

Monday – Saturday Evenings – 7.30pm

Thursday and Saturday Matinees – 2.30pm

**Ticket Prices:** From £15.00

**Running Time:** Approx. 2 hours 45 minutes including a 20-minute interval

**Age Recommendation**: *The Doctor* includes the discussion of suicide and the description of suicide methods. We recommend an age recommendation of 14+

**Address:** Duke Of York’s Theatre, St. Martin’s Lane, London, WC2N 4BG

**Box Office**: 08448717623\*

**Group Bookings:** 02072061174\*

**Access Booking Line:** 08009126971

\*Calls are charged at 7p per minute, plus your phone company’s access charge

**Website:**

atgtickets.com

almeida.co.uk

**Twitter/Facebook:**

@doctorwestend

**Instagram:**

@doctorwestend

**Production Artwork:** Available to download[**HERE**](https://we.tl/t-2wppCPVbAh)

**Past Production Images:** Available to download [**HERE**](https://we.tl/t-UP5telmdn7)

(Almeida Theatre, August 2019 – Photos by Manuel Harlan)

**PRESS CONTACT: EMMA HOLLAND PR (EHPR)**

[**www.emmahollandpr.com**](http://www.emmahollandpr.com)

**Emma Holland Georgie Robinson**

**E:** [**emma@emmahollandpr.com**](mailto:emma@emmahollandpr.com) **E:** [**georgie@emmahollandpr.com**](mailto:georgie@emmahollandpr.com)

**M: 0791 709 4203 M: 0751 211 2776**

**Madeleine Ralph Natasha Haddad**

**E:** [**madeleine@emmahollandpr.com**](mailto:madeleine@emmahollandpr.com) **E:** [**natasha@emmahollandpr.com**](mailto:natasha@emmahollandpr.com)

**M: 0787 289 5051 M: 07967 175 221**