

Embargoed until: 8.30am Tuesday 18 September

THE ACCLAIMED NATIONAL THEATRE PRODUCTION OF *THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME* WILL RETURN TO THE WEST END FOR A STRICTLY LIMITED SEASON

The National Theatre announces today that *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, adapted by **Simon Stephens** from the novel by **Mark Haddon**, and directed by **Marianne Elliott** (*War Horse*, *Angels in America*, *Company*) will return to the West End in November 2018 for a limited season. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* begins previews at the **Piccadilly Theatre** on 29 November, with an opening night on 11 December.

Tickets for *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* at the Piccadilly Theatre go on sale to the general public on Friday 21 September at 9.30am. Casting to be announced.

Curious Incident, which has now been seen by more than three million people worldwide, transferred to London's West End following a sold-out run at the National Theatre's Cottesloe Theatre in September 2012. It is the recipient of seven 2013 Olivier Awards, including Best New Play, Best Director, Best Design, Best Lighting Design and Best Sound Design – more Olivier's than any other play in the history of London's West End at that time.

Following its New York premiere in September 2014, *Curious Incident* became the longest-running play on Broadway in over a decade, winning five Tony Awards® including Best Play, six Drama Desk Awards including Outstanding Play, five Outer Critics Circle Awards including Outstanding New Broadway Play and the Drama League Award for Outstanding Production of a Broadway or Off Broadway Play.

The show recently completed a 30 date tour of the USA, and a second 25 city tour of the UK and Ireland ended in September 2017. An international tour visited Amsterdam, Toronto, Hong Kong, Singapore, Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra, Sydney and Perth from 2017 – 18. A schools tour, taking a specially staged in-the-round 90 minute version of the play into 60 schools around the country runs until December.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time at the Piccadilly Theatre is a co-production with the Ambassador Theatre Group.

Simon Stephens said: *“I am stunned and inspired by the return of Curious Incident to the West End. It is a story that means the world to me. Mark Haddon's exquisite imagination twisted into shape and infused with life by Marianne Elliott and her incredible team. After travelling the country and seeing the world Christopher Boone is coming back home. I'm mainly thrilled because I get to see it again.”*

Lisa Burger, National Theatre Executive Director said: *“We always felt that there were many more performances of Curious Incident in the West End left to give, and many more audiences who were yet to connect with Christopher Boone and his extraordinary story. We're absolutely thrilled to be joining with ATG to bring Curious Incident - with its stellar creative team - back to the West End and we can't wait to share this beautiful and inventive show with a new generation of audiences.”*

The show tells the story of Christopher John Francis Boone, who is fifteen years old. He stands besides Mrs Shears' dead dog, which has been speared with a garden fork, it is seven minutes after midnight and Christopher is under suspicion. He records each fact in a book he is writing to solve the mystery of who killed Wellington. He has an extraordinary brain, and is exceptional at maths while ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched and distrusts strangers. But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a frightening journey that upturns his world.

The production is designed by **Bunny Christie**, with lighting designer **Paule Constable**, and video design by **Finn Ross**. Movement is by **Scott Graham** and **Steven Hoggett** for Frantic Assembly, music by **Adrian Sutton** and sound by **Ian Dickinson** for Autograph.

Mark Haddon's novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* was published in 2003 and was the winner of more than 17 literary awards, including prizes in the US, Japan, Holland and Italy, as well as the prestigious Whitbread Book of the Year Award in the UK in 2004. The novel has been translated into 44 languages and sold more than 5.5 million copies world-wide.

Marianne Elliott, who was recently awarded an OBE for her services to theatre, is the Artistic Director of Elliott & Harper Productions, a company she recently set up with producer Chris Harper. Their latest production is Stephen Sondheim and George Furth's musical comedy, *Company*, which opens at The Gielgud Theatre in London on 26 September 2018. Directed by Marianne Elliott and designed by Bunny Christie, the cast includes Rosalie Craig as Bobbie, Patti LuPone as Joanne, Mel Giedroyc as Sarah and Jonathan Bailey as Jamie.

Marianne was an Associate Director of the National Theatre for 10 years, where her work includes Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* (which transferred to Broadway in February 2018 and won three Tony® Awards including Best Revival of a Play), *War Horse* (Tony® Award for best director, alongside co-director Tom Morris), *Rules for Living*, *The Light Princess*, *Port*, *Season's Greetings*, *All's Well that Ends Well*, *Harper Regan*, *Saint Joan* (Olivier Award for Best Revival, South Bank Show Award for Theatre),

and *Pillars of the Community* (Evening Standard Award for Best Director). Marianne was consultant director on *The Elephantom* for the National Theatre and directed *Sweet Bird of Youth* for the Old Vic with Kim Cattrall. Elliott & Harper;s previous productions are: *Heisenberg: The Uncertainty Principle*, co-producer of *Angels in America* in New York and *The Lion the Witch at the Wardrobe* (directed by Sally Cookson) at Leeds Playhouse.

Mark Haddon is an author, illustrator and screenwriter who has written fifteen books for children and won two BAFTAs. His bestselling novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, was published simultaneously by Jonathan Cape and David Fickling in 2003. It won seventeen literary prizes, including the Whitbread Award. His poetry collection, *The Talking Horse and the Sad Girl and the Village Under the Sea*, was published by Picador in 2005, and his last novel, *The Red House*, was published by Jonathan Cape in 2012. His latest book is *The Pier Falls*, a collection of stories. He lives in Oxford.

Simon Stephens' plays for the National Theatre include a new translation of *The Threepenny Opera, Port* (originally produced at the Royal Exchange and directed by Marianne Elliott), *Harper Regan* (which was also produced at Canadian Stage) and *On the Shore of the Wide World* (co-production with Royal Exchange, Manchester: Olivier Award for Best New Play). His many other plays include *Carmen Disruption, Heisenberg: The Uncertainty Principle* (Broadway and West End), *Birdland, Blindsided, Three Kingdoms, Wastwater, Punk Rock, Seawall, Pornography, Country Music, Christmas, Herons*, and *A Thousand Stars Explode in the Sky* (co-written with Robert Holman and David Eldridge), an adaptation of Jon Fosse's *I Am the Wind* and *Motortown*. His version of *A Doll's House* for the Young Vic transferred to the West End and then New York in 2014. Simon is an Associate at the Lyric, Hammersmith and the Royal Court Theatre. Simon's book – *Simon Stephens, A working Diary* was published in 2016.

ENDS

For further information contact Susie Newbery, National Theatre Productions on 020 7452 3155 or snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Box office details

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
Piccadilly Theatre, 16 Denman St, Soho, London W1D 7DY
Thursday 29 November 2018 – Saturday 23 February 2019
Media night: Tuesday 11 December

Tickets from £18

Book via nationaltheatre.org.uk / 020 7452 3000 or via ATG on 0844 871 7630*
*Calls cost 7p per minute, plus your phone company's access charge.

Notes to Editors

- For production photos of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, [click here](#).
- Tickets for *Company* are also available via the National Theatre website at nationaltheatre.org.uk

About the National Theatre

At the National Theatre, we make world-class theatre that is entertaining, challenging and inspiring. And we make it for everyone.

We aim to create work for the widest possible audiences with new plays, musicals, re-imagined classics and new work for young audiences. Our productions are seen in the West End, on tour throughout the UK, on Broadway, internationally, and in collaborations and co-productions with partners around the world. Through NT Live, we broadcast some of the best of British theatre to over 2,500 venues in 65 countries.

In 2017-2018, we opened 20 productions in our three theatres on London's South Bank. On top of that, we toured more work across the UK than at any other point in our history, with 10 productions visiting 52 venues in 44 towns and cities. Worldwide, 3.3 million people bought tickets to our award-winning productions, and a further 4.7 million people engaged with us through our free work, learning and participation activity, and in-depth digital content.

Our extensive learning and participation programme opens up theatre to adults, families and young people across the UK. We support drama and creative education in schools through our performance and writing programmes like Connections, New Views and Let's Play. Over 58% of UK state secondary schools have signed up to our free streaming service, On Demand In Schools since launching in 2015. Public Acts, our new initiative to create extraordinary acts of theatre and community, launched in 2017 in partnership with eight visionary community organisations and the Queen's Theatre Hornchurch.

The National Theatre is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

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About ATG

ATG Productions' current work includes *King Lear* starring Ian McKellen to the Duke of York's Theatre, the upcoming West End transfer of *Caroline, or Change* (both Chichester Festival Theatre productions), the Jamie Lloyd Company's unprecedented season of Pinter's short plays at the theatre that bares his name – and Dolly Parton's *9 to 5 the Musical* (opening at the Savoy Theatre from January 2019).

Recent work includes *Glengarry Glen Ross* at the Playhouse Theatre, starring Christian Slater; *Sunday in the Park with George* starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Annaleigh Ashford at the newly restored Hudson Theatre on Broadway; the West End transfer of Robert Icke's *Hamlet*, starring Andrew Scott and *Oresteia* starring Jessica Brown Findlay and Lia Williams in co-productions with the Almeida Theatre and Sonia Friedman Productions; and the London production of Tony Award-winning play by JT Rogers, *Oslo*, starring Toby Stephens and Lydia Leonard which opened at the National Theatre and then transferred directly to the Harold Pinter Theatre last year. Other recent productions in the UK have consisted of a series of collaborations with the New Group including Sam Shepard's gothic masterpiece *Buried Child*, starring Ed Harris in an Olivier Award-nominated performance; acerbic new comedy, *The Spoils*, written by and starring BAFTA, Golden Globe and Academy Award-nominated Jesse Eisenberg; as well as the playwriting debut of internationally acclaimed actor Matthew Perry (*Friends*, *The Odd Couple*) in the world premiere of *The End of Longing*.

ATG Productions also presented the phenomenally successful Jamie Lloyd Company (JLC) series at Trafalgar Studios and the Duke of York's Theatre, which combined pertinent programming and accessible pricing with the aim of developing a new, more diverse theatrical audience. The radical reworking of classic works that were central to this season included *Doctor Faustus* (Duke of York's) starring Kit Harington; *The Maids* starring Uzo Aduba, Zawe Ashton and Laura Carmichael; *The Homecoming* starring John Simm, Gary Kemp and Keith Allen; *The Ruling Class* and *Macbeth* starring James McAvo; *East Is East* starring Jane Horrocks; *Richard III* starring Martin Freeman; *The Pride* starring Hayley Atwell; and *The Hothouse* starring Simon Russell Beale and John Simm (Trafalgar Studios).

West End musical productions have included the musical adaptation of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Savoy Theatre and UK tour), directed by award-winning choreographer Jerry Mitchell, with book and lyrics by David Yazbek and Jeffrey Lane, starring Robert Lindsay and Katherine Kingsley. ATG Productions reunited with Lane and Yazbek in 2015 on the stage adaptation of *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* (Playhouse Theatre), Pedro Almodóvar's 1988 film of the same name starring Tamsin Greig and Haydn Gwynne.

ATG Productions has a commitment to bringing high quality musicals to the regions. Recent productions and co-productions include *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, Monty Python's *Spamalot*, *Jersey Boys*, Dolly Parton's *9 to 5 the Musical* and the multi-Olivier Award-winning musical, *Sunny Afternoon*, with music and lyrics by Ray Davies, book by Joe Penhall and direction by Edward Hall. Recent touring plays include *Strangers On A Train*, Victorian thriller *Gaslight*, starring Kara Tointon, Keith Allen and Rupert Young, Noël Coward's comedy *Private Lives*, starring Tom Chambers and Charlotte Ritchie and *East Is East* starring Pauline McLynn.