

National Theatre

Thursday 15 April 2021

NATIONAL THEATRE LAUNCHES NEW INTERVIEW SERIES
LIFE IN STAGES
FEATURING LEADING NAMES IN BRITISH THEATRE



The National Theatre today announces a new interview series ***Life in Stages***, profiling some of the biggest names in British theatre. The series, which will be free to watch, will launch on the National Theatre's [YouTube](#) channel on **Thursday 22 April at 7pm BST** with each new episode added at the same time every Thursday.

The first episode is a conversation between Academy Award-winning actor **Olivia Colman** and Director and Joint Chief Executive of the National Theatre **Rufus Norris**, who last worked together at the National Theatre in 2017 on Lucy Kirkwood's play *Mosquitoes*.

The second episode on **Thursday 29 April** will feature co-stars of the NT's critically acclaimed film *Romeo & Juliet* - filmed in the Lyttelton theatre over 17 days during lockdown - **Josh O'Connor** and **Jessie Buckley**. On **Thursday 6 May** the third episode of the series will see a discussion between actor and director **Adrian Lester** and writer, comedian and actor **Meera Syal**. Details of further episodes from this series will be announced later this month.

Filmed on the empty Lyttelton stage each pre-recorded episode sees the artists reflect on their theatre careers, and reveal the funny, personal and poignant stories behind everything from their earliest theatre memory to their biggest professional highs and lows.

Rufus Norris, director of the National Theatre, says: “*We are thrilled that as we look ahead to our reopening in June, we are able to launch Life in Stages. The interview series has been a fantastic way to take a moment and reflect; to explore the careers of some of the leading figures within our industry, and to consider how the world around us will shape the work we create as we move forwards. We are so grateful for the time generously given by the artists involved and to Charles Stanley for their support.*”

The series is supported by Charles Stanley Wealth Management. Speaking about Life in Stages **Paul Abberley**, Chief Executive at Charles Stanley said: “*At Charles Stanley we understand the significance of conversation. We spend time getting to know our clients at every stage of life’s journey to help them achieve their personal and financial goals. Much like Life in Stages, we discuss everything from careers to retirement, lifestyle to responsibilities, family and the wider community. After a tumultuous year for the arts, we are delighted to partner with the National Theatre to celebrate the art of conversation and to have had so many wonderful British Artists join this fantastic and timely series.*”

ENDS

Dates:

For more information and images contact Sophie Wilkinson, Senior Press Manager:
sowilkinson@nationaltheatre.org.uk

For images from the first three episodes [click here](#)

To watch the trailer please [click here](#)

Notes to Editors

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre’s mission is to make world class theatre that’s entertaining, challenging and inspiring – and to make it for everyone. It aims to reach the widest possible audience and to be as inclusive, diverse and national as possible with a broad range of productions that play in London, on tour around the UK, on Broadway and across the globe. The National Theatre’s extensive UK-wide learning and participation programme supports young people and schools through performance and writing programmes like Connections, New Views and Let’s Play, while Public Acts creates ambitious new works of participatory theatre in sustained partnership with theatres and community organisations around the country. The National Theatre extends its reach through digital programmes including NT Live, which broadcasts some of the best of British theatre to over 2,500 venues in 65 countries, the

National Theatre Collection, which makes recordings of shows available to UK schools and the global education sector, and now National Theatre at Home. The National Theatre invests in the future of theatre by developing talent, creating bold new work and building audiences, partnering with a range of UK theatres and theatre companies. For more information, please visit nationaltheatre.org.uk

Charles Stanley

Charles Stanley is one of the UK's leading wealth managers, with £25.3 billion of client funds under management and administration (at 31 December 2019). Its origins trace back to 1792, making it one of the oldest firms on the London Stock Exchange. It provides holistic wealth management services direct to private clients, charities, trusts and professional institutions. It also works with financial advisers, legal, accountancy and other professional services firms, supporting them with their client objectives.

It is committed to providing clients with the convenience of having all their wealth needs taken care of under one roof. As well as managing bespoke investment portfolios for individuals, its financial planning team help clients plan for a lifestyle they can look forward to. Its Asset Management division provides a full suite of model portfolios for financial advisers and leading-edge solutions for pension schemes. And for those who are looking to manage their investments online, Charles Stanley Direct offers a low cost, easy-to-use solution. Find out more at: www.charles-stanley.co.uk