

J A N E E Y R E

devised by the Company
based on the novel by Charlotte Brontë

Cast

Musician..... Benji Bower
Musician..... Will Bower
Mr Brocklehurst / Pilot / Mason.....
..... Craig Edwards
**Helen Burns / Adele / St John / Grace
Poole / Abbot**..... Laura Elphinstone
Rochester..... Felix Hayes
Musician..... Phil King
Bertha Mason..... Melanie Marshall
Bessie / Blanche Ingram / Diana Rivers..
..... Simone Saunders
Mrs Reed / Mrs Fairfax..... Maggie Tagney
Jane Eyre..... Madeleine Worrall

Other parts played by members
of the company

Creative Team

Director..... Sally Cookson
Set Designer..... Michael Vale
Costume Designer..... Katie Sykes
Lighting Designer..... Aideen Malone
Music/ Music Director..... Benji Bower
Sound Designers.....
..... Mike Beer & Dominic Bilkey
Movement Director..... Dan Canham
Fight Director..... Renny Krupinski
Dramaturg..... Mike Akers
Company Voice Work..... Richard Ryder
Staff Director..... Ellen Havard



Running time: 3 hours,
with a very short interval



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In 2019 we had

26,426

screenings around the world.



Introducing National Theatre at Home

We're all about experiencing theatre together. At a time when many theatre fans around the world aren't able to visit National Theatre Live venues or local theatres, we're excited to bring you *Jane Eyre* via National Theatre at Home.

Each week a different production will be made available to watch for free via the National Theatre's YouTube channel on Thursdays at 7pm UK-time and will then be available on demand for seven days.

Connect with us

Explore

Go behind the scenes of *Jane Eyre* and learn more about how our broadcasts happen on our website.



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Use **#JaneEyre** and be a part of the conversation online.



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Watch

If you loved the show, explore our YouTube channel and watch interviews, behind the scenes videos and our favourite clips.



[youtube.com/ntdiscovertheatre](https://www.youtube.com/ntdiscovertheatre)

Sally Cookson on devising *Jane Eyre*

Adapting a novel for the stage is a challenging prospect – especially when that novel is cited as many people’s favourite of all time. The book has taken on legendary status – the title is famous throughout the world, most people have heard of the central character and have a notion of what the story is about, regardless of whether they have read the book.

It is always daunting when you’re working on a story which everyone knows so well, because you want to surprise and maybe challenge people’s expectations, without losing any of the things which make them like the story in the first place. Our job has been to turn it from a book into a piece of

theatre. Essentially that means creating something new – the experience of reading a book is very different to watching a play. Rather than approach the novel as a piece of costume drama, I was keen to explore the themes and get to the heart of the story and characters in a theatrical way.

The devising process involved us as a company responding to the book. On that first day of rehearsal, there was no script, no read-through, just us as a company taking a deep breath together, making a leap into the unknown.

Extract from Sally Cookson’s introduction in the digital programme for Jane Eyre

Bristol Old Vic

At Bristol Old Vic, we aim to create a programme which engages with, and reflects, the vitality, variety and vibrancy of our extraordinary city. Bristol, quite simply, is incredible; rich in history, heritage, cyclists, cider, endless invention and a bursting brook of rule-breaking artistic and cultural wonderfulness.

We hope to contribute to all of the above by building relationships and working with artists, audiences, spaces and places to create world class theatre and performance that a city like Bristol deserves.

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National Theatre Live shares the best of British theatre direct from the stage to cinema screens around the world.

Working with the best theatres and producers, we simultaneously broadcast live theatre to cinemas across the UK, Europe and sometimes North America, as well as capturing the live performance for encore screenings in other countries.

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Donate

We know it’s a tough time for everyone at the moment but as you enjoy National Theatre at Home, it would mean a lot if you would consider a donation to support the National Theatre and Bristol Old Vic. Donate at **nationaltheatre.org.uk** and **bristololdvic.org.uk/support-us/donate**

Coming soon

Find more information at nationaltheatre.org.uk

TREASURE ISLAND

by Robert Louis Stevenson
adapted by Bryony Lavery
a National Theatre production

**Streaming from 7pm
on Thursday 16 April.
Available until 23 April.**

Robert Louis Stevenson's story of murder, money and mutiny is brought to life in this thrilling stage adaptation. Cast includes Arthur Darvill as Long John Silver.



**'Spectacular. Daring. Fun for all
the family'**

Time Out

TWELFTH NIGHT

by William Shakespeare
a National Theatre production

**Streaming from 7pm
on Thursday 23 April.
Available until 30 April.**

Where music is the food of love, and nobody is quite what they seem, anything proves possible in Shakespeare's classic comedy. Cast includes Tamsin Greig as Malvolia.



'Tamsin Greig is brilliant'

Evening Standard