

# National Theatre home

## Jane Eyre

Exploring the Play at Home



If you are watching *Jane Eyre* at home and would like to find out more about the production, there are a number of different resources that you can explore.

The version of the play that is currently available to watch on YouTube was originally broadcast to cinemas around the world by National Theatre Live.

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## About the Production

*Jane Eyre* was performed at the National Theatre in 2015, in a co-production with the Bristol Old Vic. The production was directed by Sally Cookson.

Based on Charlotte Brontë's novel, this stage production was devised by Sally Cookson and the Company.

You can find full details of the cast and production team below:

## Cast, in alphabetical order

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 **Melanie Marshall**

Bessie / Blanche Ingram / Diana Rivers **Simone Saunders**

Mrs Reed / Mrs Fairfax **Maggie Tagney**

Jane Eyre **Madeleine Worrall**

All other characters are played by members of the Company

## Production team

Director **Sally Cookson**

Set Designer **Michael Vale**

Costume Designer **Katie Sykes**

Lighting Designer **Aideen Malone**

Music and Music Director **Benji Bower**

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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**

You might like to use the internet to research some of these artists to find out more about their careers.

If you would like to find out about careers in the theatre, there's lots of useful information on the [Discover Creative Careers website](#).

## Exploring the Production in More Depth

If you would like to find out more about how the company adapted Charlotte Brontë's novel for the stage, you can watch this series of short films. You will hear from the director, actors and members of the production team about how they worked together to create the production.

- [Devising](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Movement](#)
- [Costume](#)
- [Set Design](#)

You can also listen to a podcast featuring actors Nadia Clifford and Tim Delap discussing the challenges and rewards of playing Jane Eyre and Rochester in the 2017 production of the play [here](#).

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## Reviewing the Production

You might like to write a theatre review when you have watched the production. All students studying drama and theatre for GCSE and A-Level will have to do this for productions that they see as part of their course.

If you choose to write a review, you might like to consider some of the following:

- The form and style of the production
- The artistic choices which have been made, including sound, lighting, set and costume design choices
- Your own critical appreciation of design elements and performance skills
- What you think the production team's intentions were in staging the production
- Significant moments in the production where you notice a specific performance skill being used or think a particular directorial decision has been made
- Your own response to the overall effectiveness of the piece as an audience member
- You could sketch the set and/or some costumes from the production as you watch.

## National Theatre Collection

The National Theatre Collection makes the best of British Theatre available worldwide to libraries, schools, universities and the wider education sector.

In light of the Coronavirus pandemic, the National Theatre Collection is currently available for students in UK state-funded schools to access at home. Find out more at [nationaltheatre.org.uk/ntcollection](https://nationaltheatre.org.uk/ntcollection)

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