National Theatre Live broadcasts Terence Rattigan’s devastating masterpiece

**THE DEEP BLUE SEA**

from the Lyttelton stage to cinemas across the globe from 1 September

★★★★★
‘This production is a stand-out. Helen McCrory is fantastic. Carrie Cracknell directs with total assurance’
The Times

★★★★
‘Stunning. Exquisitely sad. Beautifully judged’
Time Out

★★★★
‘Intoxicating. Splendid new production. Tom Burke is excellent.’
Daily Telegraph

★★★★
‘Helen McCrory floors you’
Sunday Times

Carrie Cracknell’s acclaimed National Theatre production of Terence Rattigan’s, **THE DEEP BLUE SEA** will be broadcast live to cinemas around the world from the National’s Lyttelton Theatre on 1 September at 7pm.

*The Deep Blue Sea* directed by Carrie Cracknell production designed by Tom Scutt, lighting by Guy Hoare, music by Stuart Earl, sound by Peter Rice and movement direction by Polly Bennett. Helen McCrory plays Hester Collyer; the full cast is James Alper, Marion Bailey, Katy Brittian, Tom Burke (Freddie Page), Hubert Burton, Adetomiwa Edun, Elsie Fallon, Nick Figgis, Nick Fletcher, Yolanda Kettle, Andrew Lewis, and Peter Sullivan.

A flat in Ladbroke Grove, West London. 1952. When Hester Collyer is found by her neighbours in the aftermath of a failed suicide attempt, the story of her tempestuous affair with Freddie Page, a former RAF pilot and the breakdown of her marriage to a High Court Judge begins to emerge. With it comes a portrait of need, loneliness and long-repressed passion. Behind the fragile veneer of post-war civility burns a brutal sense of loss and longing.

Terence Rattigan was one of the most influential playwrights of the mid-20th century. His plays included *The Winslow Boy*, *The Browning Version*, *Separate Tables*, *Flare Path* and *After the Dance* which was produced at the NT in 2011 (Olivier award for best revival). He is still the only playwright who has had two straight plays run for over a thousand performances in London’s West End simultaneously.

Helen McCrory and Carrie Cracknell reunite following the acclaimed *Medea* in 2014. Helen McCrory’s other theatre work includes, *The Last of the Haussmans*, *Blood Wedding* and *The Seagull* for the NT;
The Late Middle Classes, Old Times, Twelfth Night and Uncle Vanya (Donmar Warehouse) and As You Like It (West End). Her extensive film and television work includes Skyfall, Hugo, Leaving, A Little Chaos, Peaky Blinders, Penny Dreadful, The Queen, Harry Potter, Street Life (RTS and Monte Carlo Best Actress Awards), Anna Karenina, The Jury and North Square (Critics' Circle Award).

Carrie Cracknell’s recent work includes Medea and Blurred Lines (NT), Macbeth and A Doll’s House (Young Vic, West End and New York) and Wozzeck (ENO). She is Associate Director at the Royal Court Theatre and an Associate Artist at the Young Vic, and was previously Artistic Director of The Gate Theatre.

ENDS.

Notes to Editors

For a full list of UK and international venues and ticket information visit www.ntlive.com.

For The Deep Blue Sea images, follow this link and enter the details below: Production, rehearsal and publicity/poster images for all National Theatre productions are available to download from the National Theatre Dropbox, password ‘pressdownload’.

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NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

National Theatre Live launched in June 2009 with a broadcast of the National Theatre production of Phèdre with Helen Mirren. We’ve since broadcast more than forty other productions live, from both the National Theatre and from other theatres in the UK.

Our broadcasts have now been experienced by over 5.5 million people in over 2,000 venues around the world, including over 650 venues in the UK alone. Past broadcasts from the National Theatre have included Danny Boyle’s Frankenstein with Benedict Cumberbatch and Jonny Lee Miller; War Horse; Man and Superman with Ralph Fiennes; and Everyman with Chiwetel Ejiofor.

Broadcasts from other UK theatres include Coriolanus from the Donmar Warehouse; A View from the Bridge from the Young Vic; Macbeth from the Manchester International Festival; and Hangmen and The Audience from London’s West End. Our biggest single broadcast to date is Hamlet with Benedict Cumberbatch at the Barbican, which has been seen by over 550,000 people.

For further information about NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE please contact Mary Parker on 020 7452 3234 / mparker@nationaltheatre.org.uk or Martin Shippen on 020 7452 3233 / mshippen@nationaltheatre.org.uk