

Wednesday 8 August 2018

THE NATIONAL THEATRE PRODUCTION OF *NETWORK* WILL TRANSFER TO BROADWAY IN NOVEMBER 2018

It is announced today that the National Theatre's critically acclaimed production of *NETWORK*, adapted by **Lee Hall** from the Academy-Award winning film by **Paddy Chayefsky**, directed by **Ivo van Hove**, and featuring **Bryan Cranston** as news anchor Howard Beale, will transfer to Broadway this autumn for a limited 18 week run.

NETWORK will begin performances at the Cort Theatre on Saturday 10 November 2018 and officially open on Thursday 6 December. Further casting will be announced shortly.

NETWORK is produced on Broadway by David Binder, the National Theatre, Patrick Myles, David Luff, Ros Povey and Lee Menzies.

Howard Beale (Bryan Cranston, in the performance that won him the 2018 Olivier Award for Best Actor in Play), news anchor-man, isn't pulling in the viewers. In his final broadcast he unravels live on screen. But when ratings soar, the network seizes on their newfound populist prophet, and Howard becomes the biggest thing on TV. *NETWORK* depicts a media landscape where opinion trumps fact. Hilarious and hair-raising by turns, the iconic film by Paddy Chayefsky won four Academy Awards in 1976.

NETWORK received its world premiere at the National Theatre on 13 November 2017. The NT's recent Broadway transfers include *ANGELS IN AMERICA*, winner of three Tony Awards including Best Revival of a Play, *THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME*, which won five Tony Awards including Best Play, *ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS*, *WAR HORSE*, the winner of six Tony Awards including Best Play, and *THE HISTORY BOYS*, winner of six Tony Awards including Best Play. *PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS* transferred to St Ann's Warehouse for a limited run in October 2017. *THE JUNGLE*, a co-production with Good Chance Theatre and the Young Vic set in the sprawling refugee camp in Calais, France, will transfer to St Ann's Warehouse in December 2018.

The original creative team will return for the Broadway run of *NETWORK*, with scenic and lighting design by **Jan Versweyveld**, video design by **Tal Yarden**, costume design by **An D'Huys**, and music and sound design by **Eric Sleichim**.

Lisa Burger, NT Executive Director said: "We're thrilled that *NETWORK* will transfer to Broadway in November, following its ground-breaking run here at the National Theatre. It's particularly exciting for the NT to continue the theatrical dialogue with audiences in New York following *Angels in America*'s recent Broadway run. We look forward to the production – and Bryan's incredible performance - astonishing and galvanising audiences in New York, just as it did in London this year."

The producers of **NETWORK** at the Cort Theatre said: "We are excited as hell to bring Ivo van Hove's brilliantly innovative and electrifying production of **NETWORK** to Broadway this fall. The incomparable Bryan Cranston brings Howard Beale to brilliant life and we are so thrilled for American audiences to have the opportunity to experience his masterful performance and this spectacular new play."

Lee Hall's credits include *Billy Elliot*, *Our Ladies of Perpetual Succour*, and *The Pitmen Painters*. **Ivo van Hove** is the Artistic Director of Toneelgroep Amsterdam. His credits include *Hedda Gabler* (National Theatre), *Lazarus*, *A View From The Bridge* and *The Crucible* on Broadway. **Bryan Cranston** previously appeared on Broadway in *All the Way*, for which he won the Tony for Best Actor, on television in *Breaking Bad* and the film *Trumbo* for which he was nominated for an Oscar.

American Express® Card Members can purchase tickets from Wednesday 5 September at 10am (EST) until Wednesday 12 September at 9.59am (EST) by visiting www.Telecharge.com or calling (00) +1 212-239-6200. Presale tickets are available to Audience Rewards members from Wednesday 12 September at 10am (EST) to Friday 14 September at 9.59am (EST) www.audincerewards.com.

Tickets will go on sale to the general public on Friday 14 September at 10am.

For more information visit www.nationaltheatre.org.uk or www.NetworkBroadway.com
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For further information or images, contact Susie Newbery on 020 7452 3155 / snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

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 led by Rufus Norris, Director and Lisa Burger, Executive Director.

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

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Biographies

BRYAN CRANSTON (Howard Beale) made his debut in *Network* in 2017 at the National Theatre. His performance garnered him the 2018 Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Play. In 2014 he made his Broadway debut as President Lyndon B Johnson in *All the Way* at the Neil Simon Theatre, for which he received a Tony Award, as well as a Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Theater World Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play. Cranston's work in television includes: *Breaking Bad* (Emmy, SAG, Golden Globe, Critics' Choice, PGA Awards and DGA nomination), *Curb Your Enthusiasm* (2018 Emmy nomination), *All the Way* (SAG Award and Golden Globe, Emmy and Critics' Choice nominations), *Malcolm in the Middle* (Emmy and Golden Globe nominations), *Seinfeld*, among many others. Film credits include: *Trumbo* (Academy Award, Golden Globe, SAG, BAFTA and Critics' Choice nominations), *Argo* (SAG Award), *Isle of Dogs*, *Last Flag Flying*, *Why Him?*, *The Infiltrator*, *Godzilla*, *Wakefield*, *Drive*, *Rock of Ages*, *Contagion*, *The Lincoln Lawyer*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Saving Private Ryan* and *The Upside* (forthcoming).

IVO VAN HOVE (Director) began his career in 1981 and has been director of Toneelgroep Amsterdam since 2001. He has also been director of Het Zuidelijk Toneel. From 1998 to 2004, he managed the Holland Festival, annually presenting his selection of international theatre, music, opera and dance. Until 2010 he was one of the artistic leaders of the Dramatic Arts department in Antwerp. Ivo van Hove's production work in theatre includes *Hedda Gabler* at the National Theatre; *A View from the Bridge* at Young Vic, West End and Broadway; *The Crucible* on Broadway; *Lazarus* in New York and London; and Visconti's *The Damned* at La Comédie-Française. Ivo van Hove's work as director for theatre includes *Angels in America*, *Roman Tragedies*, *Kings of War*, *Opening Night*, *Obsession*, *Antonioni*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Scenes from a Marriage*, *After the Rehearsal/Persona*, *The Human Voice*, *Othello*, *Children of the Sun*, *The Miser*, *Mourning Becomes Electra*, *Long Day's Journey into Night* and *The Fountainhead* at Toneelgroep Amsterdam. His work for musicals includes *Rent* and David Bowie and Enda Walsh's *Lazarus*. His work for opera includes *Lulu*; the entire *Ring des Nibelungen*; *The Makropulos Affair* and *Salome*, at the Dutch National Opera; and the world premiere of the opera *Brokeback Mountain* in Madrid. His film and TV work includes *Home Front* and *Amsterdam*. Ivo van Hove has been recognized for his work with several awards, including two Olivier awards and two Tony awards for *A View from the Bridge*; an Amsterdam Oeuvre Award; two Obie Awards for *More Stately Mansions* and *Hedda Gabler*; the Archangel Award at the Edinburgh Festival; the Critics' Circle Award; a Molière Award for best production in France; and a Dutch Oeuvre Award, together with Jan Versweyveld. He has also received an honorary doctorate for general merit

from the University of Antwerp and the Flemish Culture Prize for Overall Cultural Merit from the Flemish Government. Ivo van Hove is Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in France and King Filip of Belgium awarded him Commander of the Order of the Crown.

LEE HALL (Playwright) studied English literature at Cambridge University and has been writer in residence at the RSC and Live Theatre, Newcastle upon Tyne. His work in theatre includes *Our Ladies of Perpetual Succour* (Olivier Award for Best Comedy) for the National Theatre of Scotland, Live Theatre and the National Theatre, on tour and in the West End; *The Pitmen Painters* (Evening Standard Award, Best Play and TMA Award, Best New Play) for the National Theatre and Live Theatre and on Broadway, in the West End, and on UK tour; *Billy Elliot – the Musical* (Olivier Award, Best Musical and nine Tony awards including Best Book) in the West End and on Broadway; and *Cooking with Elvis* at Live and the West End. Adaptations include *The Good Hope* at the National; *Shakespeare in Love* at the Noël Coward; *The Barber of Seville* at Bristol Old Vic; *Mother Courage* for Shared Experience and at the Ambassadors; *The Adventures of Pinocchio* at the Lyric Hammersmith; *A Servant to Two Masters* at the RSC and Young Vic; *Mr Puntilla and his Man Matti* at the Almeida; and *Leonce and Lena* at the Gate, London. Opera includes the English adaptation of *Pagliacci* for ENO. TV includes *Toast*, *The Wind in the Willows*, *A Prince of Hearts* and *Spoonface Steinberg*. Film includes *Victoria and Abdul*, *War Horse* and *Billy Elliot* (Oscar nomination, Best Screenplay). Radio includes *I Luv U Jimmy Spud* (Writers' Guild and Gold Sony awards for Best New Play; Alfred Bradley Award; and Society of Authors Award), *Spoonface Steinberg*, *The Love Letters of Ragie Patel*, *The Sorrows of Sandra Saint*, *Blood Sugar*, *Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter*, *Gristle*, *Child of the Snow* and *Child of the Rain*.

PADDY CHAYEFISKY (Screenwriter), born Sidney Aaron Chayefsky on January 29th, 1923, was one of the seminal dramatists of the 20th century. Emerging as a powerful voice from the "Golden Age" of American television, Chayefsky went on to achieve success as a playwright, screenwriter and novelist – winning three Academy Awards, a record for a solo screenwriter. He grew up in The Bronx and graduated from City College of New York in 1943 with a Bachelor of Special Studies and later studied languages at Fordham University. Originally intending to become a comedian, he turned to writing while recovering from injuries sustained from a land mine as a soldier in World War II. After the war, he wrote short stories, radio scripts and gags for personalities like Robert Q. Lewis, and episodes for early TV shows like "Danger" and "Manhunt". In the 1950s, he started to achieve national prominence for his teleplays which were broadcast live on The Goodyear-Philco Television Playhouse, including "Holiday Song" (1952), "Printer's Measure" (1953), "Marty" (1953), "The Bachelor Party" (1953), "The Mother" (1954), "Middle of the Night" (1954), "The Catered Affair" (1955), and "The Great American Hoax" (1956) among others. His films include an adaptation of his teleplay *Marty* (1955, Oscar for Best Screenplay and Best Picture); *The Goddess* (1958, nominated Oscar for Best Screenplay); *Middle of the Night* (1959); *The Americanization of Emily* (1964); *The Hospital* (1971, Oscar for Best Screenplay) *Network* (1976, Oscar for Best Screenplay), and *Altered States* (1980, adapted from his novel). His plays include *Middle of the Night* (1956), *The Tenth Man* (1959, Tony Award nominee Best Play), *Gideon* (1961, Tony Award nominee Best Play), *The Passion of Josef D.* (1964, also director) and *The Latent Heterosexual* (1967). He passed away August 1, 1981.

JAN VERSWEYVELD (*Scenic and Lighting Design*) is a scenographer and lighting designer. He trained at the Sint-Lucas Institute in Brussels and at the Royal Academy in Antwerp, Belgium. Jan Versweyveld became the regular scenographer of the Zuidelijk Toneel theatre group and joined Toneelgroep Amsterdam in 2001, as head of the design department and the group's regular scenographer and photographer. He has worked on numerous productions as set and light designer in Europe the UK and the United States. Among other internationally known directors he

has worked on all of Ivo van Hove's theatre and opera productions and on numerous dance productions by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker for Rosas Dance Company. Jan Versweyveld has received numerous awards for his light and set designs. He has been a teacher at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam and was one of the co-founders of the scenography training programme in Antwerp. Recent works in the UK include *A View from the Bridge*, *Lazarus*, *Hedda Gabler* and *Obsession*.

TAL YARDEN (*Video Design*) is an international Video and Projection Designer for stage. He is a long-time collaborator with director Ivo van Hove and they have worked on over 40 productions together including the recent production of *The Damned* at the Park Avenue Armory. His recent work includes: BROADWAY: *Indecent*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *The Crucible*, OFF-BROADWAY & REGIONAL: *Frost/Nixon* (Bay Street), *A Walk On The Moon* (A.C.T.), *Passing Strange* (Wilma), *Between the World and Me* (Apollo), *The Undertaking* (BAM), *Lazarus* (New York Theater Workshop, London), *Indecent* (Vineyard, La Jolla), *King Lear* (Shakespeare in the Park), *Distracted* (Roundabout), OPERA: *Boris Godunov* (Paris Opera), *The Exterminating Angel* (Salzburg, ROH, Metropolitan Opera, Copenhagen), *170 Days* (Nanjing Opera), *Between Worlds* (ENO), *Salome*, *Der Schatzgräber* (DNO), *Mazeppa*, *La Clemenza de Tito*, *Idomeneo* (La Monnaie), *Brokeback Mountain* (Teatro Real), INTERNATIONAL: *Network* (National Theater), *Obsession* and *Antigone* (Barbican), *Hamlet* (Almeida), *The Damned* (Comedie Francaise), *Oedipus*, *Kings of War*, *The Fountainhead*, (Tonnelgroep Amsterdam), *Edward II*, *Misanthrope* (Schaubuhne). Tal has also designed events, video installations and directed films for many clients including Rick Owens, Demna Gvasalia, Balenciaga, Armani, Timberland, United Nations, Microsoft, New York Times, Quin Hotel, Smart Car, Puma, Levis, Coca Cola, CFDA, Heineken, Red Cross and Ford Thunderbird. He has also directed live video and VJ'd concerts with Annie Lennox, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Alicia Keys, Snoop Dogg, James Brown, Garbage, Wyclef Jean, Peaches, Patti Smith, and Moby. Born in Jerusalem, Tal Yarden lives with his son in New York City and is a graduate of Bard College.

AN D'HUYS (*Costume Design*) studied fashion at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp and worked as a designer for fashion house Ann Demeulemeester for over 11 years. Recent work includes: *Così fan tutte*, *Boris Godonov* (Paris Opera), *Network*, *Hedda Gabler* (National Theatre) *Obsession* (London, Paris, Luxembourg) *Lazarus* (London and New York Theatre Workshop), *The Damned* (Comédie-Française), *Husbands and Wives*, *The Things that Pass*, *Othello*, *Opening Night*, *Medea*, *The Fountainhead*, *Antigone* and *Kings of War* (Toneelgroep Amsterdam) *A View from the Bridge* (the Young Vic, West End and Broadway) *The Three Sisters*, *Poquelin*, *Summerfolk* and *The Cherry Orchard* (TG STAN Antwerp) *The Misanthrope* (Schaubühne Berlin), *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung* (Flanders Opera) and *Quartet*, *Bitches Brew* and *Cassandra* (Rosas Brussels). An has also designed costumes for several film productions including *Toto le héros* (Jaco van Dormael) and *Rosie* (Patrice Toye).

ERIC SLEICHIM (*Music and Sound Design*) is a composer and saxophone player of international repute. He is known for his idiosyncratic playing and writing style for both soloists and orchestras. He is a composer in residence at Muziektheater Transparant and the dedicated composer for the Museum aan de Stroom, Antwerp. In 1988, Sleichim founded BLINDMAN, a unique ensemble that includes a saxophone, string, percussion, brass and vocal quartet. He has developed new playing techniques and expanded the repertoire, by combining traditional line-ups with other art disciplines. He has also made recordings on Universal and Warner Classics CDs that includes the organ-works of J S Bach, the vocal music of Josquin des Prez, Ockeghem, Schütz, Buxtehude and Mozart and the orchestral work of Handel. Sleichim has also worked with visual artists, choreographers, writers and theater-makers to develop multi-media performances and has

provided the live music for silent films by directors such as Buster Keaton, Jean Epstein, Georg Pabst and Alexander Dovzhenko. He has worked with internationally acclaimed artists including Jan Fabre, Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, Heiner Goebbels, Wim Vandekeybus, Meg Stuart, Johan Simons and Ivo van Hove. He has worked with Ivo van Hove since 2007 on productions which include *Roman Tragedies*, *Teorema*, *Ludwig II*, *The Fountainhead*, *Kings of War*, *The Damned* and *Obsession*.

DAVID BINDER (*Producer*) is a Tony Award-winning producer whose credits include Broadway, Off-Broadway, and festivals. David has been recently appointed as BAM's next Artistic Director, where he will succeed Executive Producer Joseph V. Melillo in January 2019. This year, David was the Guest Artistic Director of LIFT, the London International Festival of Theatre, which featured artists from around the world including Back to Back, Taylor Mac, Anna Deavere Smith, the National Theatre of Korea and Duke Riley's *Fly by Night*, among many others. On Broadway, David produced *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, which won four Tony Awards including Best Revival. *Hedwig* also played a US national tour. He is the original producer of *Hedwig*, having mounted the original production in 1997. David produced the record-breaking production of John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, starring James Franco and Chris O'Dowd, which was the first Broadway show to be filmed by NT Live. Other credits include *A Raisin in the Sun* starring Sean Combs, Phylicia Rashad, and Audra McDonald; Moisés Kaufman's *33 Variations* starring Jane Fonda on Broadway and subsequently in Los Angeles with Center Theatre Group; *De La Guarda*; and *Fuerza Bruta*. In New York, David produced the High Line Festival, curated by David Bowie. He also produced the Dutch New Island Festival on New York's Governors Island, 10 days of site-specific performance, music, theater, and dance from the Netherlands. At the Sydney Opera House, David produced *This Is Our Youth* with Michael Cera and Kieran Culkin. He has been a teaching fellow at Princeton University and was on the faculty at the Yale School of Drama for six years. David's TED talk, "The Arts Festival Revolution," has been seen online by more than a half million people and was chosen by *The Guardian* as one of the best talks about theater on the web.

PATRICK MYLES (*Producer*) trained at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Producing credits in the West End include *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* (Wyndham's) with Audra McDonald, *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Apollo) with Jonathan Pryce and Aidan Gillen, and *Orwell: A Celebration* (Trafalgar Studios). Off West End productions include *The Lady's Not for Burning* (Finborough), *The Spanish Tragedy* and *A Family Affair* (Arcola), and *The Revenger's Tragedy* (Southwark Playhouse). International tours include *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Tempest*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *As You Like It*. As a writer/director he has made seven short films, most recently an award-winning adaptation of Nikolai Gogol's *The Overcoat*, with Jason Watkins, Tim Key, Alex Macqueen and Vicki Pepperdine, *A Pornographer Woos*, adapted from Bernard MacLaverty's short story, with Michael Smiley, *Santa's Blotto* with Brian Blessed and is developing his first feature *Trojan Force*.

DAVID LUFF (*Producer*) began his producing career in London's Arcola Theatre and is currently resident producer at Soho Theatre. Producing credits include: *Touch* and *The One* by Vicky Jones, the revival and world tour of *Fleabag* by Phoebe Waller-Bridge, *Girls*, *First Love is the Revolution* and premieres from Bryony Kimmings, Kim Noble and Lucy McCormick (all Soho); *Herding Cats* (Hampstead); *Thyestes*, *The Spanish Tragedy*, *Carver*, *Tartuffe* (all Arcola); *Orwell: A Celebration* (Trafalgar Studios); and *No Idea* (Young Vic). His work has toured extensively in the UK and played festivals in New York, Edinburgh, Berlin, Seoul, Damascus, Cairo and throughout India and Australia supported by Arts Council England and the British Council. His

short film *Santa's Blotto* for New Division Films was official selection in the London Film Festival.

ROS POVEY (*Producer*) started her career in 2004 at the Old Vic Theatre and as associate producer on the multi award-winning *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Since then she has produced and general managed extensively in the West End and on tour. Highlights include *Three Days of Rain* starring James McAvoy and *Well* by Lisa Kron (both Apollo), *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* and *Di and Viv and Rose* (both Vaudeville), the Olivier-nominated *Love Story the Musical* (Duchess), the Olivier award-winning *Crazy for You* (Novello), *The Man Jesus* by Matthew Hurt starring Simon Callow (UK tour) and a major revival of *Lionel Bart's Fings Ain't Wot They Used T'be* (Theatre Royal Stratford East). She is a member of SOLT, sits on the Stage One Bursary Panel and the board of Musical Theatre Network. As Managing Director for Act Productions, credits include: *The Height of the Storm* by Florian Zeller, the UK premiere of *Guards at the Taj* by Rajiv Joseph (Bush), the world premiere of *A Room with a View* (Theatre Royal Bath and tour) and the recent revival of David Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross* at the Playhouse Theatre.

LEE MENZIES (*Producer*) has produced over 80 productions including 4 plays for the Peter Hall company and the 3 plays written by Jeffrey Archer. Musicals include *Kat and The Kings* (Vaudeville theatre London and Cort theatre New York), *Top Hat* (Aldwych Theatre London and 2 UK tours), the UK tour of *Shrek* and the second tour of *Shrek* opening in December. He has presented 2 Russian theatre companies in London, the Sovremennik theatre company and Andrei Konchalovky's company. He was in Peter Halls' company for *The Wars of the Roses* at the RSC in 1963 and is the recipient of 3 Laurence Olivier Awards.