

## Press Release

### **SMALL ISLAND**

adapted by **Helen Edmundson**

based on the novel by **Andrea Levy**

Previews from 17 April, press night 1 May, in repertoire until 10 August

**Andrea Levy's** epic, Orange Prize-winning novel bursts into new life on the Olivier Stage. A company of 40 tell a story which journeys from Jamaica to Britain through the Second World War to 1948, the year the HMT *Empire Windrush* docked at Tilbury.

Adapted for the stage by **Helen Edmundson**, *Small Island* follows the intricately connected stories of two couples. Hortense yearns for a new life away from rural Jamaica, Gilbert dreams of becoming a lawyer, and Queenie longs to escape her Lincolnshire roots. Hope and humanity meet stubborn reality as the play traces the tangled history of Jamaica and the UK.

Casting includes **Leah Harvey** as Hortense, **Aisling Loftus** as Queenie and **Gershwyn Eustache Jnr** as Gilbert. They are joined by **CJ Beckford**, **Paul Bentall**, **Jacqueline Boatswain**, **Phoebe Frances Brown**, **Chereen Buckley**, **Cavan Clarke**, **Shiloh Coke**, **Beatie Edney**, **Adam Ewan**, **David Fielder**, **Amy Forrest**, **John Hastings**, **Stephanie Jacob**, **Sandra James-Young**, **CJ Johnson**, **Natey Jones**, **Trevor Laird**, **Johann Myers**, **Daniel Norford** and **Andrew Rothney**.

Directed by **Rufus Norris**, set and costume design by **Katrina Lindsay**, projection design by **Jon Driscoll**, lighting design by **Paul Anderson**, composer **Benjamin Kwasi Burrell**, sound design by **Ian Dickinson**, movement direction by **Coral Messam** and fight direction by **Kate Waters**.

Hundreds of £15 tickets available for every performance.

Broadcast as part of the NT Live Season on 27 June.

Production supported by Areté Foundation / Betsy & Ed Cohen.

**ENDS**

For further information, interview opportunities or images contact: **Susie Newbery** on 020 7452 3155 / [snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk](mailto:snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk).

## Rehearsal images

- Images can be downloaded [here](#).

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