

PRESS

PRESS RELEASE
04 OCTOBER 2018

AT THE OLD VIC

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

In a version by **Jack Thorne**
Directed by **Matthew Warchus**
Starring **Stephen Tompkinson**

Previews from 24 November, press night 5 December

Matthew Warchus' big-hearted, smash hit production of Charles Dickens' immortal classic **A Christmas Carol** returns to The Old Vic opening on 5 December, with previews from 24 November, joyously adapted for the stage by **Jack Thorne** (*Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*) and starring **Stephen Tompkinson** ('ART' – West End, *Spamalot* – West End, *Brassed Off* and *Drop the Dead Donkey*) as Ebenezer Scrooge.

The cast will also include **Rosanna Bates, Ava Brennan, Jamie Cameron, Peter Caulfield, Oliver Evans, Nicola Hughes, Eugene McCoy, Myra McFadyen, Frances McNamee, Alastair Parker, Michael Rouse, Tim van Eyken** and **Witney White**. **Leo Lake, Lara Mehmet, Luke Petrovik** and **Lenny Rush** share the role of Tiny Tim.

Filling the auditorium to the brim with mince pies, music and merriment, a unique staging immerses the audience in this uplifting story for everyone aged 8+.

'Matthew Warchus's production is a love song to Christmas, to the redeeming power of theatre and, not least, to The Old Vic itself' The Observer ★★★★★

'Jack Thorne's superb retelling mines the ghosts of Scrooge's past in a timely production brimming with love and affection' The Guardian ★★★★★

'Matthew Warchus's magnificent staging provides everything you might want from a theatrical adaptation of Dickens's timeless (and never more timely) morality tale' The Independent ★★★★★

'It's a magical night.' The Times ★★★★★

'Dare I suggest it, it could even rival that obvious pinnacle of Dickens' adaptations The Muppet Christmas Carol' Radio Times ★★★★★

**GENEROUSLY
SUPPORTED BY**

Waitrose

Adapted by	Jack Thorne
Director	Matthew Warchus
Set and Costume Designer	Rob Howell
Composer and Arranger	Christopher Nightingale
Lighting	Hugh Vanstone
Sound	Simon Baker
Casting	Jessica Ronane CDG
Movement	Lizzi Gee
Voice Coach	Charlie Hughes D'Aeth
Associate Director	Jamie Manton

Matthew Warchus is a director of theatre, opera and film who has directed award-winning productions for many of the major British theatre companies. He was an Associate Director at the West Yorkshire Playhouse and was an Artistic Associate at The Old Vic before being appointed in 2014 as Artistic Director of the theatre. Matthew's extensive theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol*, 'ART', *Groundhog Day* (Olivier Award for Best New Musical), *The Master Builder*, *The Caretaker* and *Future Conditional* (The Old Vic); *Matilda The Musical* (RSC, West End and Broadway, 7 Olivier Awards, including Best Director and Best New Musical, and 4 Tony Awards); *Ghost: The Musical* and *La Bête* (West End and Broadway); *Deathtrap* (West End); *The Norman Conquests* (The Old Vic, West End and Broadway, Tony Award for Best Revival of a Play); *God of Carnage* (West End and Broadway, Tony Award for Best Play and Best Direction of a Play); *Boeing Boeing* (West End, Broadway and UK tour, Tony Award for Best Revival of a play and Olivier nomination for Best Revival of a Play); *Speed-the-Plow* (The Old Vic); the theatrical adaptation of *The Lord of the Rings* (also co-writer, West End); *Buried Child* (National Theatre); *Endgame* (Albery Theatre); *Our House* (Cambridge Theatre, Olivier Award for Best Musical), *Follies* (Broadway), *Life x 3* (National Theatre, The Old Vic and Broadway), *True West* (Donmar Warehouse and Broadway, Tony nominations for Best Director and Best Play); *The Unexpected Man* (RSC, West End and Broadway); *Art* (Broadway, West End, Los Angeles, Olivier and Tony Awards for Best Play); *Hamlet* and *Henry V* (RSC); *Volpone* (National Theatre, Evening Standard Award for Best Director); *Much Ado About Nothing* (West End); *Betrayal*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Plough and the Stars*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Who's afraid of Virginia Woolf* (West Yorkshire Playhouse).

Opera credits include *Falstaff* and *Così Fan Tutte* (ENO) and *The Rake's Progress* (ROH and WNO). Matthew directed feature films *Pride* (2014, BIFA Best British Independent Film, BAFTA and Golden Globe nominated) and *Simpatico* (1999).

Stephen Tompkinson (Ebenezer Scrooge). Theatre credits include *Cloaca* (The Old Vic); *Arsenic and Old Lace* (West End); 'ART' (West End/UK tour); *Rattle of a Simple Man*, *Spamalot* (West End); *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Women Laughing*, *The Revengers Tragedy* (Manchester Royal Exchange); *Sign of the Times*, *Tartuffe* (UK tour); *No-One Sees the Video* (Royal Court); *Across the Ferry* (Bush Theatre); *The End of the Food Chain* (Stephen Joseph Theatre); *Absent Friends* (Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich); *Charley's Aunt* (Theatre Royal, Bath/UK tour); *Faith & Cold Reading* (Live Theatre, Newcastle); *The Red Lion* (Live Theatre, Newcastle/Trafalgar Studios/West End). Film credits include *Walk Like a Panther*, *Hector*, *Harrigan*, *Tabloid*, *Hotel Splendide*, and *Brassed Off*. TV credits include *The Split*, *Eric*, *Ernie & Me*, *DCI Banks*, *Trollied*, *Semi Detached*, *Truckers*, *Wild at Heart*, *Prime Suspect: The Final Act*, *Dalziel & Pascoe*, *New Tricks*, *Shakespeare Retold: The Taming of the Shrew*, *Marian*, *Again*, *The Last Detective*, *A Survivor's Guide to Love*, *In Denial of Murder*, *Marple: Murder at the Vicarage*, *My Dad's the Prime Minister*, *In Deep*, *Lucky Jim*, *Ted & Alice*, *Bedtime*, *Black Cab*, *Mr Charity*, *Grafters*, *The Flint Street Nativity*, *Drop the Dead Donkey* (winner of the British Comedy Award for Best TV Comedy Actor), *Ballykissangel*, *First Signs of Madness*, *Oktober*, *The Vicar of Dibley*, and *Father Ted*.

Rosanna Bates (Jess). Theatre credits include *The Wind in the Willows* (London Palladium); *MAMMA MIA!* (Novello Theatre); *Les Misérables* (Queen's Theatre); *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (West Yorkshire Playhouse/Tour); *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre) and *Cinderella* (Lighthouse, Poole).

Ava Brennan (Mrs Cratchitt). Theatre credits include *The Lion King* (Lyceum Theatre/UK Tour); *The Count Of Monte Cristo* and *Hairspray* (Theater St Gallen) and *Aida* (German Tour). Film and TV credits include *Beauty and the Beast*, *MAMMA MIA!*, *Here We Go Again*, *Hellboy*, *Rocketman* and *BBC2 West Side Stories: Making Of a Classic*.

Jamie Cameron (Young Ebenezer/George). Theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol* (The Old Vic); *Once The Musical* (West End); *#WEAREARRESTED*, *Day Of The Living*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (RSC) and *Carmen Disruption* (Almeida). Film credits include *Anna Karenina*.

Peter Caulfield (Bob Cratchitt). Theatre credits include *Aladdin* (The Old Vic); *One Man Two Guvnors*, *Our House* (West End); *Enron* (West End); *Elegies (a song cycle by William Finn)* (Arts Theatre); *Into The Woods* (Royal Opera House); *Jerusalem* (Watermill); *Wild Duck* (Donmar); *The Tempest* (Southwark Playhouse); *Man of Mode*, *Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* (National Theatre); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); *Obamology*, *Lark Rise to Candleford – Parts 1 and 2* (Finborough); *White Liars* (Etcetera); *Cinderella* (Lyric Hammersmith); *Eric's* (Liverpool Everyman); *Peter Pan* (Birmingham Rep). Film and TV credits include *Strange Ways Here We Come*, *After The End*, *Absentia*, *Modus*, *Doctor Who*, *Cucumber* and *Banana*.

Oliver Evans (Ferdy). Theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol* (The Old Vic); *Wicked* (Apollo Victoria/UK Tour); *The Little Beasts* (Other Palace); *Three Witches* (Belgrade); *The Most Wonderful Time of Year* (Jermyn Street); *Clinton the Musical* (King's Head); *Vice*, *a Jazz Opera* (Arcola/Soho Theatre). Film credits include *The Battle of the Somme*, *Flobos*, *Closely Watched Trains*, *59* and *Handle With Care*.

Nicola Hughes (Ghost of Christmas Present/Mrs Fezziwig). Theatre credits include *Porgy & Bess* (Savoy Theatre); *Fosse* (Prince of Wales Theatre); *Chicago*, *Damn Yankees* (Adelphi Theatre); *Tommy* (Shaftesbury Theatre); *Crazy for You* (Prince Edward Theatre); *Allelujah!* (The Bridge Theatre); *Yellowman*, *Simply Heavenly* (Young Vic); *Caroline*,

or *Change* (Chichester Festival Theatre); *The El. Train* (Hoxton Hall); *The Color Purple* (Menier Chocolate Factory); *The Hot Mikado* (Watermill Theatre); *Ain't Misbehavin* (Derby Playhouse); *Blues in the Night* (Birmingham Repertory Theatre) and *The Goodbye Girl* (Albery Theatre). TV credits include *Mount Pleasant*, *Doctors*, *The Royal Bodyguard*, *Parents of the Band*, *Rock Rivals*, *EastEnders*, *Jonathan Creek*, *Heartburn Hotel* and *Trial & Retribution*.

Eugene McCoy (Fred). Theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol*, *Groundhog Day* (The Old Vic); *Jersey Boys*, *Guys and Dolls*, *MAMMA MIA!* (West End); *The Pajama Game* (West End/Chichester); *American Psycho* (Almeida); *Cinderella* (Watford Palace); *They're Playing Our Song*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Menier Chocolate Factory); *Oklahoma!* (Chichester); *Hollywood Symphonic* (EC1 International). Film and TV credits include *Paddington 2*, *Doctors* and *Little Crackers*.

Myra McFadyen (Ghost of Christmas Past). Theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol* (The Old Vic); *MAMMA MIA!* (West End); *Rhinoceros* (Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh); *Hay Fever*, *The Choir* (Citizens); *I Am Thomas*, *Glasgow Girls*, *Macbeth* (National Theatre of Scotland); *Interiors* (Vanishing Point/Napoli Festival). Film and TV credits include *The Kid Who Would Be King*, *MAMMA MIA!: Here We Go Again*, *MAMMA MIA!*, *Made Of Honor*, *Rob Roy*, *Dracula*, *Wedding Belles*, *Rose and Maloney*, *Teachers*, *Monarch Of The Glen VI*, *Jonathon Creek*, *Mr Charity* and *Inspector Rebus – Dead Souls*.

Frances McNamee (Belle). Theatre credits include *20th Anniversary Gala Performance of Les Miserables* (West End); *The Last Ship* (UK Tour); *Big Fish* (The Other Palace); *Love's Labour's Lost/Love's Labour's Won*, *Christmas Truce*, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, *The Rover* (RSC); *The Mother* (Tricycle); *A Lady of Little Sense/Punishment Without Revenge* (Ustinov/Arcola); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Royal & Derngate); *Bronte* (Shared Experience/Tricycle /UK/ Broadway). TV credits include web series *Stigma*.

Alastair Parker (Fezziwig). Theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol* (The Old Vic); *Treasure Island*, *People, NT: 50 Years on Stage*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Honk!*, *The Villains Opera* (National Theatre); *Matilda The Musical* (RSC/West End); *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (National Theatre/West End/Edinburgh Festival/BAC); *Oliver!* (West End); *BBC Proms - Sondheim at 80* (Royal Albert Hall); *Two Women for One Ghost*, *Cymbeline*, *Twelfth Night*, *HMS Pinafore* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); *Bed & Sofa* (Finborough); *Jonah Boy* (Stephen Joseph); *Is There Life After High School* (Bridewell). Film and TV credits include *The Hitman & Her*, *London Road*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Hell for Leather*, *Doctor Who*, *Synchronicity*, *White Teeth*, *The Vice* and *Spooks*.

Michael Rouse (Father/Marley). Theatre credits include *The Superhero* (Southwark Playhouse); *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Harlequinade* (Garrick Theatre, Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company); *Three Men in a Boat* (UK Tour); *The Bodyguard* (West End); *Carousel* (Opera North/Barbican); *West Side Story* (DUCTAC); *Matilda: The Musical*, *The Secret Garden* (Royal Shakespeare Company); *Oklahoma!* (Chichester); *Lord of the Rings* (Kevin Wallace Productions); *A Christmas Carol* (Hidden Heart Productions); *The Boyfriend* (Regent's Park Open Air); *Once in a Lifetime*, *The Mandate*, *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum* (National Theatre); *Donna Roster: The Spinster* (Orange Tree); *Sweeney Todd* (The Courtyard) and *A Winter's Tale* (Oxford Shakespeare Company). Film and TV credits include *Artemis Fowl*, *Murder On The Orient Express*, *Alien Autopsy*, *The Man Who Knew Too Little*, *24: Live Another Day*, *Mary Queen of Scots* and *The Windsors: Royal Wedding Special*.

Tim van Eyken (Nicholas). Theatre credits include *A Christmas Carol*, *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead* (The Old Vic); *Shakespeare in Love* (West End); *The Little Match Girl* (Sadler's Wells); *Easter Rising & Thereafter* (Jermyn Street); *Birdsong* (UK tour); *The Ballad of Little Musgrove* (Aldeburgh Music); *Ballroom of Joys and Sorrow* (Watford Palace); *Good* (Royal Exchange, Manchester); *The Long Goodbye* (Hampstead), *War Horse* (National Theatre). Film credits include *The Imitation Game*. TV credits include *Foyle's War*. In 2007 Tim won the BBC Young Folk Award for Best Traditional Track.

Witney White (Little Fan). Theatre credits include *SYLVIA* (The Old Vic); *A Monster Calls* (Bristol Old Vic/The Old Vic); *Loserville* (West Yorkshire Playhouse/Garrick Theatre); *Wonder.Land* (National Theatre); *Dusty* (Charing Cross Theatre); *Room* (Stratford East/Dundee Rep/Abbey Theatre). TV credits include *Doctors*, *Clean Break*.

Jack Thorne's recent work includes *A Christmas Carol*, *Woyzeck* (The Old Vic); *Junkyard* (Bristol Old Vic); *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (SFP Productions / Harry Potter West End Theatrical, Evening Standard, WhatsOnstage, South Bank Show and Olivier Award 2016-7); *The Solid Life Of Sugar Water* (Graeae Theatre Company, Edinburgh Festival & UK Tour); *Hope* (Royal Court); *Let The Right One In* (Dundee Rep / Royal Court, NTS / Marla Rubin Ltd.); *The Borough* (Punchdrunk / Aldeburgh Festival); *Stuart: A Life Backwards* (adapt. Hightide / Sheffield Theatres - Edinburgh Festival & UK tour), *Mydidae* (Drywrite - Soho Theatre / Trafalgar Studios); *The Physicists* (adapt. Donmar Warehouse); *Bunny* (nabokov - UK tour / New York); *Red Car Blue Car*, *Two Cigarettes*, *When You Cure Me* (Bush Theatre); *Greenland* (National Theatre); *2nd May 1997* (Bush / nabokov); *Burying Your Brother in the Pavement* (NT Connections); *Stacy* (Tron / Arcola / Trafalgar Studios) and *Fanny and Faggot*

(Pleasance Edinburgh / Finborough / Trafalgar Studios). Television work includes *Kiri* (Channel 4); *National Treasure* (Best Mini Series - BAFTA 2017, Royal Television Society Award 2017); *The Last Panthers, Don't Take My Baby* (Best Single – BAFTA 2016); *Glue, The Fades* (Best Drama Series – BAFTA 2012); *This Is England '90* (Best Serial – BAFTA 2016, Royal Television Society Award 2016); *This Is England '88* (Best Mini-Series – BAFTA 2012) and *This is England '86, Cast-Offs* and episodes of *Skins* and *Shameless*. Films include *Wonder, War Book, A Long Way Down* and *The Scouting Book for Boys*, which premiered at the 2010 London Film Festival and won the Best British Newcomer Award.

PRESS CONTACTS

For production press enquiries:

Jo Allan | E jo@joallanpr.com | M 07889 905 850 | T 020 7520 9392
Kitty Greenleaf | E kitty@joallanpr.com | M 07545 131 539 | T 020 7520 9392
Freya Edgeworth | E freya@joallanpr.com | M 07982 078 885 | T 020 7520 9392

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

Box Office 0844 871 7628 | oldvictheatre.com
Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | YouTube
@oldvictheatre

The Old Vic, The Cut, London SE1 8NB

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

24 Nov 2018 – 19 Jan 2019

Mon – Sat: 7:30pm; Sat: 2:30pm

7pm – 5, 6, 11, 12, 18 & 19 Dec; 1pm - 12 & 19 Dec.

Additional matinee performances 7, 12, 16, 19, 23, 27, 28, 30, 31 Dec & 2 Jan. (no mat Sat 29 Dec)

See our website for the full performance schedule.

Press night: 5 Dec 2018

Audio Described Performance: Tuesday 8 Jan 7.30pm (touch tour at 6pm)

Captioned Performance: Thursday 10 Jan 7.30pm

Open Performance: Saturday 12 Jan 2:30pm

Recommended age 8+

Running time: Approximately 2 hours 5 minutes including 20min interval

TICKETS: £12, £16, £21, £30/£35, £55/£57.50 £65/£67.50

For information regarding Premium Seats please call the box office

School Groups 10+: **£12.50** for Mon-Wed eves & mid-week matinees – Off Peak (7 – 19 Jan)

Group 10+: **£45** bands A & B, £20 band C Mon-Thu performances – Off Peak (24 Nov–13 Dec, 7–19 Jan)

Group 20+: **£35** bands A & B, £15 band C Mon-Thu performances –Off Peak (24 Nov–13 Dec, 7–19 Jan)

Disabled Patrons: £21 for all performances

Senior Rate: £30 for Matinees and last two weeks of run

Under 16s: 50% off price Bands **A - C** Mon-Thu excluding premium weeks

Discounts available on all performances during Jan

PwC £10 Previews

Half of all seats priced at £10 for the first 5 previews, released 5 weeks in advance

PARTNERSHIPS

The Old Vic is an independent, not for profit theatre that has been a beacon of creativity and daring during its 200 year life. The Old Vic receives no regular subsidy and is reliant on box office receipts, philanthropic donations and support from businesses to sustain its work both on and off the stage. That is why working in partnership with companies like RBC, PwC and Bloomberg Philanthropies is so vital.

About Royal Bank of Canada

Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) is one of the largest banks in the world and is Canada's largest bank by market capitalisation. It employs approximately 80,000 full- and part-time employees who serve more than 16 million personal, business, public sector and institutional clients in 37 countries.

RBC has a long history in Europe and has operated in the region since 1910 to serve corporate, institutional and high-net worth clients. Today, it provides a wide array of financial products and services, which are delivered by over 5,300 employees from offices in the UK, the Channel Islands, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Spain. RBC delivers financial products and services in Europe under the global brands RBC Capital Markets, RBC Wealth Management, RBC Investor & Treasury Services, RBC Global Asset Management and BlueBay Asset Management.

For more information, please visit www.rbc.com/Europe RBC helps communities prosper, supporting a broad range of community initiatives through donations, community investments and employee volunteer activities. For more information please see: www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/

About PwC

At PwC, our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. PwC is a network of firms in 158 countries with more than 236,000 people who are committed to delivering quality in assurance, advisory and tax services. Find out more and tell us what matters to you by visiting us at www.pwc.co.uk

About Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in nearly 480 cities in more than 120 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's charitable activities, including his corporate, foundation and personal giving. In 2017, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$702 million. For more information, please visit www.bloomberg.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Snapchat](#), and [Twitter](#).

About Waitrose

Waitrose has 353 shops in England, Scotland, Wales and the Channel Islands, including 65 convenience branches, and another 27 shop operating under franchise at Welcome Break locations. It combines the convenience of a supermarket with the expertise of a specialist shop - dedicated to offering quality food that has been responsibly sourced, combined with high standards of customer service. Waitrose also exports its products to more than 50 countries worldwide and has nine shops which operate under licence in the Middle East. Waitrose's omnichannel business includes the online grocery service, Waitrose.com, as well as specialist online shops including waitrosecellar.com for wine.

**PREVIEWS
PARTNER**



**PRODUCTIONS
PARTNER**

THE
PUBLIC FUND

**IN ASSOCIATION
WITH**

Bloomberg
Philanthropies

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Royal Bank of Canada