

# Young Vic

Press Release – Thursday 7 December 2023

Images available [here](#)

## INITIAL CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR UK PREMIERE OF *NACHTLAND*

- Romola Garai, Jane Horrocks, John Heffernan, Angus Wright and Jenna Augen announced in the UK premiere of *Nachtland* at the Young Vic Theatre
- Tony Award-winner Patrick Marber directs a jagged new satire from one of Germany's leading playwrights Marius von Mayenburg
- *Nachtland* runs in the Main House from 20 February to 20 April 2024 with opening night for press on 27 February. Tickets at [www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

Casting is announced today for the UK premiere of *Nachtland*, a jagged new satire by **Marius von Mayenburg**, translated by **Maja Zade**, directed by Tony Award-winning director **Patrick Marber**. It will run in the **Young Vic Theatre** Main House from **20 February to 20 April 2024** with press night on 27 February. Tickets are available at [www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

BAFTA and Golden Globe nominated actress, writer and director **Romola Garai** (*Atonement*, *The Hour*, *Queen Anne*) will play Nicola; Olivier, Golden Globe and BAFTA nominated actress **Jane Horrocks** (*Little Voice*, *Cabaret*, *Absolutely Fabulous*) will play Evamaria; **John Heffernan** (*Much Ado About Nothing*, *Edward II*, *Dracula*) plays Philipp, **Angus Wright** (*Flowers*, *Peep Show*, *Oresteia*) plays Kahl; and **Jenna Augen** (*Leopoldstadt*, *Bad Jews*, *The Comedy About A Bank Robbery*) plays Judith. Further casting will be announced in due course.

*Nachtland*\* is a mordant satire about marriage, legacy, and the rise of the new right, directed by **Patrick Marber** (*Closer*, *Travesties*, *Don Juan in Soho*, *Dealer's Choice*) who recently received the 2023 Tony Award for Best Direction of a Play and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Director of a Play for *Leopoldstadt*.

Modern day Germany. Nicola and Philipp argue as they clear out their late father's house. When they find an old painting stashed in the attic, things get savage. The painting is a quaint street scene from 1920s Vienna; the work of a failed artist who abandoned his original vocation for Nazism... Nicola wants to sell it. Philipp wants to keep it. His wife Judith wants to burn it.

*\*Nachtland is an invented German word. It suggests a place of eternal darkness*

**Marius von Mayenburg** is one of Germany's foremost playwrights whose plays include *Fireface*, *Plastic* and *The Ugly One*.

**Maja Zade**'s previous translations include works by Lars von Trier, Roland Schimmelpfennig and Lars Norén.

Design is by **Anna Fleischle**, lighting design by **Richard Howell**, composition and sound design by **Adam Cork**, movement direction by **EJ Boyle**, casting by **Amy Ball** CDG.

**Romola Garai** (Nicola) is a BAFTA and Golden Globe nominated actress, writer and director. She is well known for playing Briony in the Oscar-nominated film *Atonement*, her Golden Globe nominated title role of *Emma*, *The Crimson Petal and the White* for which she received a BAFTA Best Actress nomination, *The Hour* and *The Miniaturist*. Recent TV includes *The Following Events are Based on a Pack of Lies*, *Becoming Elizabeth* and *Vigil* Series 2. Theatre includes *Queen Anne* (RSC), *The Writer* (Almeida), *Measure for Measure* (Young Vic). Film includes *One Life*, *The Critic*. Director and writer credits include feature films *Amulet* and the upcoming *Monstrous Beauty*.

**Jane Horrocks** (Evamaria) received an Olivier Award Best Actress nomination for *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* (National Theatre and West End) and further BAFTA and Golden Globe nominations in the film adaptation *Little Voice*. Previous notable roles also include Bubble in *Absolutely Fabulous*, Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* (Donmar) and Lady Macbeth (Greenwich Theatre). She returns to the Young Vic where she previously performed in the title role in *Annie Get Your Gun*, *If You Kiss Me, Kiss Me* and *The Good Soul of Szechuan*. Other theatre includes: *The Room* and *Family Voices* (West End), *End Game*, *King Lear* (Old Vic).

**John Heffernan** (Philipp) performed as Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* at the National Theatre where he also played the title role in *Edward II* and appeared in *She Stoops to Conquer*. Previous theatre includes: *The Inquiry* (Chichester Festival Theatre), *What If Only* & *Maryland* (Royal Court), *A Slight Ache* (West End), *Macbeth* (Young Vic), *Oppenheimer* (RSC / West End), *The Hothouse* (Trafalgar Studios), *Richard II* (Shakespeare at The Tobacco Factory). Television includes *A Gentleman in Moscow*, *This Town*, *Becoming Elizabeth*, *The Pursuit of Love* & *Dracula*. Film includes: *The Duke* & *Misbehaviour*.

**Angus Wright** (Kahl) has appeared across stage, television and film. His many television credits include George in the Channel 4 series *Flowers*, Angus in *Peep Show*, upcoming as Sir David Graham in *Mary & George* and previously *The Capture*, *The Witchfinder*, *His Dark Materials*, *Succession*, *Endeavour*, *Cursed* and *The Crown* among others. He last appeared at the Young Vic in *The Cherry Orchard*. Other theatre includes *Hamlet*, *Oresteia* (Almeida & West End), *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (Donmar), *The Master and Margarita* (Complicite). Film credits includes: *The Bank of Dave*, *See How They Run*, *Catherine Called Birdy*, *The Courier*, *Official Secrets*.

**Jenna Augen** (Judith) most recently played Wilma/Rosa in the Olivier- and Tony-Award-winning *Leopoldstadt* on Broadway after originating the role of Rosa in the West End. She won a UK Theatre Award for her performance as Daphna in the UK premiere of *Bad Jews* (Theatre Royal Bath, / St. James Theatre / Arts Theatre-West End). Other theatre includes: *Bartholomew Fair* (Shakespeare's Globe), *The Comedy About A Bank Robbery* (Criterion Theatre-West End), *The Way of the World* (Chichester Festival Theatre), Rufus Norris' *Sleeping Beauty* (Birmingham Rep) and *Chicken Soup with Barley* (Royal Court). TV credits include *Episodes*, *The Night Watch*.

This production is supported by Scott Delman and Sonia Friedman

Relaxed Performances: Mon 11 March, 7.30pm & Sat 6 April 2.30pm  
Captioned Performances: Thu 14 March, 7.30pm & Mon 8 April, 7.30pm  
Audio Described Performances: Fri 15 March, 7.30pm & Tue 16 April, 7.30pm  
BSL Performance: Fri 22 March, 7.30pm  
Sensory Adapted Performance: Fri 12 April, 7.30pm

**-ENDS-**

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**Images:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yd53wpgowy6jbtz/AABzimqGklInY8lwXq6Oz-Mla?dl=0>

**About the Young Vic Theatre**

Founded in 1970 as a space for world-premiere productions as well as innovative and unexpected takes on classic plays, boldly conceived, that speak urgently to our present, the Young Vic Theatre has been one of London's leading theatres for more than fifty years. We foster future artists and collaborate with some of the world's finest directors, performers and creatives; creating award-winning productions which engage with the world we live in.

Built upon the principles of access, innovation, and community, the Young Vic stands out for balancing commercial success, drive and artistic flair with genuine grassroots social impact change in our neighbourhood.

Recent productions in the West End and on Broadway include: *Best of Enemies* at the Noël Coward Theatre and *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!* at Wyndham's Theatre; and on Broadway, *Death of a Salesman* at the Hudson Theatre and *The Collaboration* at Manhattan Theatre Club's Samuel J. Friedman Theatre. Bringing together artists and audiences on a global scale and using the power of stories to change our world, the Young Vic extends well beyond the boundaries of its walls.

**Artistic Director: Kwame Kwei-Armah**

**Executive Director: Lucy Davies**

[www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

**The Young Vic's annual activities are made possible with public funding from Arts Council England.**

**Additional support is provided by The Black Heart Foundation and the Genesis Foundation.**

**We gratefully acknowledge Ian Burford and Alec Cannell for generously supporting the Young Vic's mission.**

***Nachtland* is supported by Scott Delman and Sonia Friedman.**