



Park Avenue Armory Presents North American Premiere of
Robert Icke's Award-Winning Drama

The Doctor

Juliet Stevenson Returns to the New York Stage for the First Time in Two Decades to Reprise Her
Critically Acclaimed "Role of a Lifetime"

Performed in the Armory's Wade Thompson Drill Hall June 3 – August 19, 2023



Juliet Stevenson in Robert Icke's *The Doctor* at the Almeida Theatre.
Photo Manuel Harlan

New York, NY – March 16, 2023 – This summer, Park Avenue Armory will stage the North American premiere of **Robert Icke's** multi-award-winning West End hit, ***The Doctor***. The production, which will run for 12 weeks this summer in the Armory's Wade Thompson Drill Hall, marks acclaimed theater and film actor **Juliet Stevenson's** first appearance on the New York stage in 20 years in what she calls the "role of a lifetime." Stevenson leads the cast, reprising her award-winning performance as Dr. Ruth Wolff, a medical leader whose decision in the field ignites public debate that grips a divided nation. Based on Arthur Schnitzler's *Professor Bernhardi*, written in 1912, Icke breathes fresh life into what was revolutionary and controversial in its time for addressing pressing topics including antisemitism and abortion. Now on stage in New York, Icke reimagines the story and its moral arguments in a contemporary context, challenging the audience to question their presumptions of faith, race, gender, scientific reason—and the characters themselves.

"Stevenson's revelatory performance is shockingly relevant in a time when public debate often devolves into bedlam. *The Doctor* uses the medium of theater at its utmost capacity to insight dialogue and argument, drawing audiences into an enthralling moral dilemma sparked by the collision of race, religion, science, and gender identity," said **Pierre Audi, the Armory's Marina Kellen French Artistic Director**.

"Robert Icke has created a compelling work that traces how the collision of personal beliefs reverberates into public conflict in a polarized society. It's a story of our times drawn from one written over 100 years ago," added **Rebecca Robertson, the Adam R. Flatto Founding President and Executive Producer of Park Avenue Armory**. "Rob is one of Britain's most celebrated contemporary directors, and we couldn't be more

excited to invite him back to build upon the fantastic productions he's brought to the Armory over the past two seasons."

Following a premiere at the Almeida Theatre, which won Stevenson the Critics' Circle Theatre Award for Best Actress and Icke the Evening Standard Award for Best Director, *The Doctor* opened on the West End in the fall of 2022 to further critical praise. The production headlined the Adelaide Festival and was translated in Dutch and German for premieres in Amsterdam and Vienna.

The Doctor is part of Park Avenue Armory's full 2023 season. Additional upcoming Drill Hall programming at the Armory includes: the world premiere of *Doppelganger*, a theatrical staging of Schubert's *Schwanengesang* performed by renowned tenor **Jonas Kaufmann** and directed by acclaimed German opera director **Claus Guth**; *Mutant;Destrudo*, a world premiere, multidisciplinary commission from groundbreaking pop sensation **Arca**; and a restaging of Pina Bausch's iconic *The Rite of Spring*, performed by an ensemble of dancers from across Africa and paired with *common ground[s]*, a new work by **Germaine Acogny** and **Malou Airaud**.

Previous theatrical productions at the Armory include Robert Icke's repertory productions of *Hamlet* and *Oresteia*, as well as his interactive adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's classic morality tale *Enemy of the People*; Sam Mendes' hit production of *The Lehman Trilogy* which transferred to Broadway (2022 Tony Award recipient for Best Play) and has toured internationally, adapted by Ben Power and starring Adam Godley, Ben Miles, and Simon Russell Beale; *Antigone*, an acclaimed production that flooded the Drill Hall with water as it mixed the foundational principles of Greek tragedy, Japanese Noh theater, Indonesian shadow play, and Buddhist philosophy to tell the classic Greek tale; *Macbeth*, directed by Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh, and starring Branagh and Alex Kingston for which the Wade Thompson Drill Hall was transformed into a bloody, rainy Scottish heath; Ivo van Hove's chilling staging of *The Damned*; Simon Stone's critically acclaimed, Obie Award-winning, and four-time Drama Desk-nominated production *Yerma*, starring Billie Piper and performed within a glass encasement intersecting the audience; Obie Award-winning and eight-time Drama Desk-nominated play *The Hairy Ape*, directed by Richard Jones and starring Bobby Cannavale in a production where the audience was surrounded by a massive revolving stage; Christopher Shinn's adaptation of *Judgment Day*, directed by Richard Jones and starring Emmy Award-winning actor Luke Kirby; Obie Award-winning *A Room in India* (*Une chambre en Inde*) with Le Théâtre du Soleil under the direction of Ariane Mnouchkine; and the unprecedented residency of the **Royal Shakespeare Company** with five productions in repertory over six weeks in association with Lincoln Center Festival.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

The Doctor

June 3 – August 19, 2023
North American Premiere

Originally produced by the Almeida Theatre and produced in the West End by Ambassador Theatre Group Productions

Very Freely Adapted from Arthur Schnitzler's *Professor Bernhardt*
Adaptation and Direction **Robert Icke**
Set and Costume Design **Hildegard Bechtler**
Lighting Design **Natasha Chivers**
Sound Design and Composition **Tom Gibbons**

Previews: June 3 – June 12, 2023

Performances: June 13 – August 19, 2023

Monday – Thursday at 7:00pm
Friday at 8:00pm
Saturday at 2:00pm and 8:00pm

TICKETS

Tickets start at \$30 (plus fees) for previews and \$45 (plus fees) for performances and can be purchased at armoryonpark.org / (212) 933-5812

Park Avenue Armory
643 Park Avenue at 67th Street, New York, NY

ARTIST TALK: THE DOCTOR

Thursday, June 29 at 5:30pm
Tickets: \$20 (plus fees)

SPONSORSHIP

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Armory's 2023 Season Sponsor. Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by the Charina Endowment Fund, the Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, the Leon Levy Foundation, the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Gregory Annenberg Weingarten, GRoW @ Annenberg, the Richenthal Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Armory's Artistic Council.

The Doctor is made possible by a generous grant from The Roy Cockrum Foundation.

ABOUT ROBERT ICKE

Robert Icke is a writer and director. His recent productions include *Judas*, *Children of Nora*, and *Oedipus* at Internationaal Theater Amsterdam, where he is Ibsen Artist in Residence; *Enemy of the People* (Park Avenue Armory); *Animal Farm* (Children's Theatre Partnership, UK Tour); *Ivanov* (Schauspiel Stuttgart); and *The Doctor* (Adelaide Festival, Almeida and West End, Burgtheater, Vienna). His work while Associate Director at the Almeida included adapting and directing *The Wild Duck*, *Mary Stuart* (also West End and national tour), *Uncle Vanya*, *Oresteia* (also West End and Park Avenue Armory), and *1984* (co-created with Duncan Macmillan, also Broadway, West End, national and international tours). As a director, his productions included *Hamlet* (also West End, BBC2, and Park Avenue Armory), *The Fever*, and *Mr Burns*. His awards include two Evening Standard "Best Director" Awards, the Critics' Circle Award, the Kurt Hübner Award for his debut production in Germany, and the Olivier Award for "Best Director" for *Oresteia*, of which he is the youngest ever winner. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

ABOUT JULIET STEVENSON

Juliet Stevenson trained at RADA and has been nominated for many Olivier and BAFTA awards. Her stage work includes: *The Doctor* (Almeida, West End), for which she has been nominated for an Olivier Award; *Mary Stuart* (Almeida, West End); *Hamlet* (Almeida, West End); *Wings* (Young Vic); *Happy Days* (Young Vic); *Duet For One* (Almeida, West End); *The Heretic* (Royal Court); *A Little Night Music* (Lincoln Center); *Beckett Shorts* (RSC Stratford/Europe); *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*; *As You Like It*; *Troilus and Cressida*; *Measure For Measure*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *The Witch of Edmonton*; *Money* (RSC Stratford/Barbican); *Henry IV, Parts I & II* (RSC Stratford Tour); *Once In A Lifetime*; *The White Guard* (RSC Aldwych); *Hippolytus*; *Antony and Cleopatra*; *The Churchill Play*; *The Taming of the Shrew*; *The Tempest* (RSC Stratford); *Alice Trilogy*; *The Country*; *Other Worlds* (Royal Court); *The Seagull*; *Private Lives*; *Hedda Gabler*; *Yerma* (National Theatre); *We Happy Few* (Gielgud Theatre); *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (National Theatre/Complicité); *The Duchess of Malfi* (Greenwich, West End); *Scenes from*

an Execution (Mark Taper Forum, LA); *Death and the Maiden* (Royal Court, West End); *Burn This* (Hampstead, West End); *On the Verge* (Sadler's Wells); *The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus* (National Theatre Studio).

Stevenson's television work includes: *Wolf* (BBC1); *The Man Who Fell to Earth* (CBS); *Death in Paradise* (BBC); *The Long Call* (ITV); *Out of her Mind* (BBC); *Riviera* (Season 2, Sky); *Atlantis*; *One of Us*; *The Village*; *The Enfield Haunting*; *The Accused*; *The Hour*; *White Heat*; *Dustbin Baby*; *Place of Execution*; *Hear the Silence*; *The Pact*; *Trial by Fire*; *Cider with Rosie*; *Stone, Scissors, Paper*; *The Politician's Wife*; *Out of Love*; *Stanley*; *A Doll's House*; *Life Story*; *Antigone*; *Freud*; *Bazaar and Rummage*; *The Mallens*; *Maybury*; *Great Journeys: Isabelle Eberhardt*; *Oedipus At Colonus*.

Film work includes: *The Last Planet*; *Let Me Go*; *Love is Thicker than Water*; *Departure*; *Diana*; *Desert Flower*; *The Secret of Moonacre*; *And When Did You Last See Your Father?*; *Breaking and Entering*; *Pierpoint*; *The Snow Queen*; *A Previous Engagement*; *Every Word is True*; *Red Mercury*; *Being Julia*; *Mona Lisa Smile*; *Nicholas Nickleby*; *Food of Love*; *Bend It Like Beckham*; *The Search for John Gissing*; *The Road From Coorain*; *Play* (Samuel Beckett); *Emma*; *The Secret Rapture*; *Who Dealt?*; *The Trial*; *Truly, Madly, Deeply*; *Drowning by Numbers*.

ABOUT PARK AVENUE ARMORY

Part palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory supports unconventional works in the performing and visual arts that cannot be fully realized in a traditional proscenium theater, concert hall, or white wall gallery. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19th-century European train stations—and an array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory provides a platform for artists to push the boundaries of their practice, collaborate across disciplines, and create new work in dialogue with the historic building. Across its grand and intimate spaces, the Armory enables a diverse range of artists to create, students to explore, and audiences to experience epic, adventurous, relevant work that cannot be done elsewhere in New York.

The Armory both commissions and presents performances and installations in the grand Drill Hall and offers more intimate programming through its acclaimed *Recital Series*, which showcases musical talent from across the globe within the salon setting of the Board of Officers Room; its *Artists Studio* series curated by Jason Moran in the restored Veterans Room; *Making Space at the Armory*, a public programming series that brings together a discipline-spanning group of artists and cultural thought-leaders around the important issues of our time; and the *Malkin Lecture Series* that features presentations by scholars and writers on topics related to Park Avenue Armory and its history. In addition, the Armory also has a year-round Artists-in-Residence program, providing space and support for artists to create new work and expand their practices.

The Armory's creativity-based arts education programs provide access to the arts to thousands of students from underserved New York City public schools, engaging them with the institution's artistic programming and outside-the-box creative processes. Through its education initiatives, the Armory provides access to all Drill Hall performances, workshops taught by Master Teaching Artists, and in-depth residencies that support the schools' curriculum. Youth Corps, the Armory's year-round paid internship program, begins in high school and continues into the critical post-high school years, providing interns with mentored employment, job training, and skill development, as well as a network of peers and mentors to support their individual college and career goals.

The Armory is undergoing a multi-phase renovation and restoration of its historic building led by architects Herzog & de Meuron, with Platt Byard Dovell White as Executive Architects.

www.armoryonpark.org

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