

ROSE THEATRE KINGSTON ANNOUNCES CASTING FOR TREVOR NUNN'S KING JOHN

KING JOHN

By William Shakespeare

Director: **Trevor Nunn**; Set and Costume Designer: **Mark Friend**;
Concept Set Design: **John Napier**; Lighting Designer: **Paul Pyant**; Sound Designer: **Fergus O'Hare**;
Associate Video Designer: **Miguel Ribeiro**; Composer/Arranger: **Corin Buckeridge**; Casting Director:
Ginny Schiller

14 May – 5 June

Press night: **18 May at 7pm**

Rose Theatre Kingston today announces cast for *King John*. **Trevor Nunn** returns to the Rose to direct **Jamie Ballard** as King John, **Howard Charles** as Philip the Bastard, **Lisa Dillon** as Constance and **Maggie Steed** as Queen Eleanor.

The cast is completed by **Ignatius Anthony** (Austria/Bigot), **Joe Bannister** (Lewis The Dauphin), **Burt Caesar** (Pandolph), **Tom Chapman** (Robert Faulconbridge/Prince Henry), **Elisabeth Hopper** (Blanche), **Stephen Kennedy** (Hubert), **Dominic Mafham** (Salisbury), **Chris Andrew Mellon** (Citizen), **Dale Rapley** (Philip Of France) **Miles Richardson** (Pembroke), **Carmen Rodriguez** (Lady Faulconbridge), **David Shelley** (Chatillion/ Melun), **Jon Tarcy** (Messenger/Monk), **Harry Marcus** and **Sebastian Croft** (Prince Arthur). The production marks Shakespeare's 400th anniversary and will be the penultimate play in Nunn's undertaking to direct all 37 of Shakespeare's plays. *King John* opens on 18 May at Rose Theatre Kingston, with previews from 13 May, until 5 June 2016.

Richard the Lionheart is dead. His youngest brother John has become King of England despite claims from the French that the throne should go to his nephew, Prince Arthur. As war is declared between England and France an inheritance dispute is brought before the King by Richard's illegitimate son, Philip the Bastard.

With scheming, ruthless politics and some of Shakespeare's most striking characters – this is a classic that feels contemporary in its strong parallels to modern day Britain. A unique opportunity to see this rarely performed history play brought to life on the stage.

Howard Charles plays Philip the Bastard. His theatre credits include *Blackta* (Young Vic), *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice* (RSC), *Enron* (Headlong, Royal Court, Chichester Festival Theatre, West End), *Painting a Wall* (Finborough Theatre), *The Hounding of David Olawale* (West Yorkshire Playhouse & tour), *Three Sisters* (Royal Exchange Theatre). His television credits include *The Musketeers*, *Switch*, *The Warm Up Guy*, *Candy Chops*, *Beautiful People*. His film credits include *&Me*, *Sound*, *Black Forest*, *Standing By*, *Panik*.

Jamie Ballard plays King John. His theatre credits include *The Merchant of Venice*, *Measure for Measure*, *Written on the Heart*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *King John*, *As You Like It*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Sweet Charity* (RSC), *In the Vale of Health* (Hampstead Theatre),

Macbeth (Trafalgar Studios), *Scenes from an Execution*, *Antigone*, *Emperor and Galilean*, *Some Trace of Her*, *War Horse*, *Saint Joan* (National Theatre) and *All's Well That Ends Well* (Young Vic). Television credits include *Penny Dreadful*, *Ripper Street*, *The Hollow Crown*, *Sons of Liberty*, *Father Brown*, *The Crimson Field* and *The Great Fire*. Film credits include *Suffragette*, *X & Y*, *Kittiwakes*, *A Poet in New York*, *The Comedian* and *Black Death*.

Lisa Dillon plays Constance. Her theatre credits include *Hapgood* (Hampstead Theatre), *The Roaring Girl*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Othello*, *Iphigenia* (RSC), *Birthday*, *Design for Living*, *Private Lives* (Royal Court), *Happy New* (Trafalgar Studios), *A Flea in her Ear*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *The Hour we Knew Nothing of Each Other*, *Period of Adjustment*, *Hedda Gabler* (Almeida), *Present Laughter* (National Theatre), *The Cherry Orchard*, *As You Like It* (Sheffield Crucible) and *The Master Builder* (Albery Theatre). Television credits include *Lucky Man*, *Black Work*, *Cambridge Spies*, *Hawking*, *Cranford*, *Midsomer Murders*, *Dirk Gently* and *The Jury*. Film credits include *Suffragette*, *The Beat Beneath My Feet* and *Bright Young Things*.

Maggie Steed plays Queen Eleanor. Her theatre credits include *Richard III* (Trafalgar Studios), *Birthday Party* (Royal Exchange Theatre), *Trelawney of the Wells* (Donmar Warehouse), *School for Scandal*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Waltz of the Toreadors* (Chichester Festival Theatre), *The Belle's Stratagem* (Southwark Playhouse), *24 Hour Plays / Big Bird* (The Old Vic), *Hayfever* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *The History Boys* (National Theatre/Tour), *The Heiress* (National Theatre/Tour), *The Storm* (Almeida Theatre), *Cloud Nine*, *Women Beware Women* (Royal Court), *Small Change*, *Whale*, *Game of Love & Chance* (National Theatre), *The War Plays*, *Crimes in Hot Countries*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Hamlet* and *Much Ado About Nothing* (RSC). Television credits include *Chewing Gum*, *Stella*, *32 Brinkburn Street*, *Whites*, *My Family*, *Larkrise to Candleford*, *Coco Chanel*, *Jam & Jerusalem*, *Sensitive Skin*, *French & Saunders*, *Meat Extract*, *Let Them Eat Cake*, *French & Saunders*, *Inspector Morse*, *Pie in the Sky*, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, *The Scott Enquiry*, *Shine on Harvey Moon*, *The History Man*, *Clapperclaw*, *Brideshead Revisited*, *Hard Cases*, *All Change*, *Blood Rights*, *Lovejoy*, *Gravy Train*, *Growing Rich*, *Little Richard Wrecked my Marriage* and *Red Dwarf*.

From 1968 to 1986, **Trevor Nunn** was the youngest ever Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, directing over thirty productions, including most of the Shakespeare canon, as well as *Nicholas Nickleby* and *Les Misérables*. From 1997 to 2003, he was Director of the National Theatre, where his productions included *Troilus and Cressida*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Summerfolk*, *My Fair Lady*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Anything Goes* and *Love's Labour's Lost*. He has directed the world premieres of Tom Stoppard's plays *Arcadia*, *The Coast of Utopia* and *Rock n Roll*, and of *Cats*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Starlight Express* and *Aspects of Love* by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Other theatre includes *Timon of Athens*, *Skellig* (Young Vic); *The Lady From The Sea* (Almeida); *Hamlet*, *Richard II*, *Inherit the Wind* (Old Vic), *A Little Night Music* (Menier Chocolate Factory & New York), *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Kiss Me Kate* (Chichester Festival Theatre); *Heartbreak House*, *Flare Path*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *The Tempest* (Theatre Royal, Haymarket); *Scenes from a Marriage* (Coventry & St James), *All That Fall* (Jermyn Street & New York); *A Chorus of Disapproval* and *Relative Values* (West End). He is soon to direct *Pericles* in Brooklyn (Theatre for a New Audience). Work for television includes *Antony and Cleopatra*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Macbeth*, *Three Sisters*, *Othello*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *King Lear*, and on film, *Hedda*, *Lady Jane* and *Twelfth Night*.

Listings

Rose Theatre Kingston

24-26 High Street, Kingston, KT1 1HL

www.rosetheatrekingston.org

Twitter: [@Rosetheatre](https://twitter.com/Rosetheatre) Facebook: [/RoseTheatreKingston](https://www.facebook.com/RoseTheatreKingston)

Box Office: 020 8174 0090 (bkg fee)
Monday – Saturday: 10am – 8pm (6pm non-performance days)
Sunday: one hour before the performance
No fees are payable when booking in person at the Box Office
An additional £1 per ticket booking fee and £1.60 per booking transaction fee are payable when booking online and by phone

Ticket prices: £35 £30 £25 £15 £8*

Previews: £25 £20 £15 £10 £8*

*pit cushions and extreme sides of upper circle

Premium Seats for Good Canary: £40

Discounts, available Mon-Thu evenings and all matinees:

- Season Saver – Buy 3 or more shows and get £5 off each ticket. Valid on Bands A & B only.
- Friends Loyalty Card - £10 off each ticket. Valid on Bands A & B only. No Booking Fees. To join the Friends, call the Box Office
- Concessions & Senior Citizens - £3 off all price bands except for cushions.
- Groups – Discounts available, call the Box Office for details
- Schools Rate – £12 tickets. Valid on tickets in Bands B-D.
- Under 26yrs & students (over 26) – £5 tickets. Bookable by phone or in person; proof of age ID required on collection from Box Office. Valid on Bands B-D.

The Rose is only 25 minutes from Waterloo. See rosetheatrekingston.org/getting-here

Access: Patrons with disabilities enjoy half price tickets
The Rose is a fully accessible organisation and we welcome everyone
There is Blue Badge parking in High Street and Rose car park

Sensory Access: A digital hearing system is available for patrons with a hearing aid, and Sennheiser headsets for patrons without a hearing aid. Guide and hearing dogs are welcome. Please let us know in advance so we can provide a dog-sitter and water bowl

Learning Disabilities: Please contact us in advance to discuss how we can help make your visit as comfortable as possible, on 020 8174 0090 or email access@rosetheatrekingston.org

SEASON AT A GLANCE

The Herbal Bed:

26 April – 7 May

Press night: **27 May at 7.30pm**

King John:

13 May – 5 June

Press night: **18 May at 7pm**

Good Canary:

16 September – 8 October

Press night: **21 September at 7pm**

All My Sons:

28 October – 19 November

Press night: **2 November at 7pm**

www.rosetheatrekingston.org

Twitter: **@Rosetheatre**



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