

**THE PUBLIC THEATER
BEGINS PREVIEWS FOR
NEW YORK PREMIERE OF
MOTHER OF THE MAID
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

**Written by Jane Anderson
Directed by Matthew Penn**

**EXTENDED A FINAL THREE WEEKS THROUGH
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23**

September 20, 2018 - The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) will begin previews for the New York premiere of *MOTHER OF THE MAID*, written by Emmy Award winner **Jane Anderson**, on **Tuesday, September 25** with a Free First Preview performance. Directed by Emmy Award nominee **Matthew Penn**, the riveting new play was initially extended through Sunday, December 2 and has been extended a final three weeks through Sunday, December 23 with an official press opening on Wednesday, October 17.

Continuing The Public's mission to make great theater accessible to all, The Public's Free First Previews program continues this fall; free tickets to the first preview on Tuesday, September 25 will be available beginning Wednesday, September 19, via TodayTix mobile lottery, and on September 25 via the lottery in the lobby of The Public Theater at Astor Place, with entries starting at 11:00 a.m. and winners drawn at 12:00 p.m.

The complete cast of *MOTHER OF THE MAID* features **Glenn Close** (*Isabelle Arc*), **Dermot Crowley** (*Jacques Arc*), **Olivia Gilliatt** (*Monique*), **Kate Jennings Grant** (*Lady of the Court*), **Andrew Hovelson** (*Pierre Arc/Guard*), **Daniel Pearce** (*Father Gilbert/Chamberlain/Scribe*), and **Grace Van Patten** (*Joan Arc*).

MOTHER OF THE MAID tells the story of Joan of Arc's mother (Glenn Close), a sensible, hard-working, God-fearing peasant woman whose faith is upended as she deals with the baffling journey of her odd and extraordinary daughter. This riveting play is an epic tale told through an unexpected and remarkable new perspective. Emmy nominee Matthew Penn directs this deeply moving drama about the glories and challenges of raising an exceptional child.

MOTHER OF THE MAID features scenic design by John Lee Beatty, costume design by Jane Greenwood, lighting design by Lap Chi Chu, sound design by Alexander Sovronsky and Joanna Lynne Staub, original music by Alexander Sovronsky, and hair and wig design by Tom Watson.

JANE ANDERSON (*Playwright*)'s theater credits include *The Baby Dance*, *Defying Gravity*, *The Quality of Life*, *Looking for Normal*, *The Escort*, *Food & Shelter*, and *The Baby Dance: Mixed*. Most recently she wrote the screenplay for the film *The Wife*, starring Glenn Close. Other screenwriting credits include *How to Make An American Quilt*; *It Could Happen to You*; and *The Prizewinner of Defiance, Ohio*; which she also directed. Documentary film: *Packed in a Trunk: The Lost Art of Edith Lake Wilkinson*. Her television

credits include "Olive Kitteridge" (Emmy Award, Writers Guild Award), "The Positively True Adventures of the Alleged Texas Cheerleader Murdering Mom" (Emmy, Penn Award, and Writers Guild Award). She wrote and directed "The Baby Dance" (Peabody Award), "Normal" (Emmy, Golden Globe, Directors' Guild, and Writers' Guild nominations), "When Billie Beat Bobby," and the first segment of HBO's "If These Walls Could Talk II" starring Vanessa Redgrave.

MATTHEW PENN (*Director*) is an Emmy-nominated director with over 200 hour-long dramatic television shows to his credit including "The Mist," "Queen of the South," "Orange is the New Black," "Blue Bloods," "Damages," and "Royal Pains," as well as classic series like "The Sopranos," "NYPD Blue," and "Law and Order." In the theater, Penn has distinguished himself in both drama and comedy. His theater credits include Shakespeare and Company's *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike*; Barrington Stage's *Typhoid Mary*, *10x10*; George Street Playhouse's *The Root*; and EST's *Sundance* marathon. His Off-Broadway credits include *Scrambled Eggs*. He is Co-Artistic Director of the Berkshire Playwrights Lab.

GLENN CLOSE (*Isabelle Arc*) is a six-time Academy Award nominee who made her feature debut in *The World According to Garp*, earning her first Oscar nomination. She was subsequently Oscar-nominated for *The Big Chill*, *The Natural*, *Fatal Attraction*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, and *Albert Nobbs*, for which she was also co-screenwriter, producer, and lyricist on the Golden Globe-nominated song, "Lay Your Head Down." She stars in the film adaptation of Meg Wolitzer's bestselling novel *The Wife*. Close made her theater, and Broadway, debut in Harold Prince's revival of *Love for Love*. Her theater credits include *The Crucifer of Blood*, *Barnum* (Tony nomination), and Tony Awards for her performances in *The Real Thing*, *Death and the Maiden*, and *Sunset Boulevard*. Starting in 2007, Close headlined the legal thriller "Damages" for five seasons, winning two consecutive Best Actress Emmys. Her 13 Golden Globe nominations include a Best Actress Award for a television production of "The Lion in Winter." Among her 14 Emmy nominations is a Best Actress Award for "Serving in Silence: The Margarethe Cammermeyer Story" (earning her a Peabody Award as executive producer).

DERMOT CROWLEY (*Jacques Arc*)'s Broadway credits include *The Weir*, *Translations*, and *Juno*. He has appeared Off-Broadway in *Dealer's Choice*, *Give Me Your Hand*, and *Afterplay*. He has appeared at the National Theatre in London in *Everyman*, *Translations*, *Stuff Happens*, *Amadeus*, and *Great Britain*. His film credits include *The Death of Stalin*, *The Foreigner*, *The Lady in the Van*, *Black 47*, *The Legend of Bagger Vance*, *Octopussy*, and *The Return of the Jedi*. His television credits include "Luther" (Schenk), "Hard Sun," "Hunted," "MI5," "The Collection," "Borgia," "Bleak House," "Father Ted," "Foyle's War," "MidSomerset Murders," "Jonathan Creek," and "Poirot."

OLIVIA GILLIATT (*Monique*). Gilliatt's New York and regional credits include *Pushkin* (American vicarious); *Disgraced* (Denver Center, Northern Stage); *A Doll's House* (Northern Stage); *CasablancaBox* (Culturemart @HERE); *Buried Child* (Palm Beach Dramaworks); *I Hate Hamlet* (New London Barn); *Tomorrow in the Battle* (Stageworks/Hudson); *The Libertine* (Chernuchin); *Boeing Boeing* (Seven Angels); and *Who Murdered Love?* (Theater for the New City). Her film and television credits include "The Path," "The Mysteries of Laura," the forthcoming "Flaming Trumpet" (PBS), *Dastaar* (2016 SXSW), *Lily*, and *Forever*.

KATE JENNINGS GRANT (*Lady of the Court*) has appeared at The Public in *Radiant Baby* and on Broadway in *Noises Off*, *The Country House*, *The Lyons*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Proof*, and *An American Daughter*. Her Off-Broadway credits include *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, *The Beard of Avon*, and *Summer of '42*. Her film credits include *Custody*, *Love and Other Drugs*, *Frost/Nixon*, *United 93*, *When a Stranger Calls*, and *Forgiven*. She has appeared on television in "Russian Doll," as Louise Herrick on "Notorious," "Billions," "Madam Secretary," "The Good Wife," "Alpha House," "Damages," "Parenthood," and "Pan Am."

ANDREW HOVELSON (*Pierre Arc/Guard*) has appeared at The Public in *Othello* and *As You Like It*. His Broadway credits include *Lucky Guy* (with Tom Hanks), *The Father*, and *An Enemy of the People*. His additional Off-Broadway credits include *An Ordinary Muslim* (NYTW), *Tamburlaine the Great* (TFANA), and *Golden Age* (MTC). His television and film credits include "Shades of Blue," "Blue Bloods," "Turn:

Washington's Spies," "The Good Wife," "Mysteries of Laura," "Unforgettable," "ER," *Stranger in the Dunes*, and *The Magnificent Meyersons*.

DANIEL PEARCE (*Father Gilbert Chamberlain/Scribe*) has appeared at The Public in *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, *Ping Pong*, *Henry V*, *Henry VI*, and *Measure for Measure*. His Broadway credits include *Machinal* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. His additional Off-Broadway credits include *The Most Deserving*, *Falling*, *Passion Play*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, and *Love's Fire*. He has appeared regionally in the world premiere of Noah Haidle's *Birthday Candles*. His film and television credits include *Murder of a President*, *Salt*, *Invisible Sign*, *Clowns*, *Godzilla*, "Bull," "Law & Order," "SVU," "Criminal Intent," "Chappelle's Show," "Damages," and "Queens Supreme."

GRACE VAN PATTEN (*Joan Arc*) has appeared Off-Broadway in *The Whirligig* (The New Group). Her film credits include *The Meyerowitz Stories* (opposite Adam Sandler and Dustin Hoffman), *The Wilde Wedding* (opposite Glenn Close), and *Tramps* (Official Selection, 2016 Toronto International Film Festival). Her upcoming films include *Under the Silver Lake* (opposite Andrew Garfield) and *Good Posture*. Her television credits include "The Sopranos," "Law & Order: SVU," "Boardwalk Empire," and the upcoming "Maniac."

ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER:

THE PUBLIC is theater of, by, and for all people. Artist-driven, radically inclusive, and fundamentally democratic, The Public continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on-stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation's first nonprofit theaters, The Public has long operated on the principles that theater is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public's wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, The Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City's five boroughs, Public Forum, Under the Radar, Public Studio, Public Works, Public Shakespeare Initiative, and Joe's Pub. Since premiering *HAIR* in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American Theater and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning musical *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 59 Tony Awards, 170 Obie Awards, 53 Drama Desk Awards, 54 Lortel Awards, 32 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

TICKET INFORMATION

MOTHER OF THE MAID begins performances in The Public's Anspacher Theater on Tuesday, September 25. The new play was initially extended through Sunday, December 2 and has been extended a final three weeks through Sunday, December 23 with an official press opening on Wednesday, October 17.

Public Theater Partner, Public Supporter, and Member tickets are available now. Full price tickets, starting at \$95, can be accessed by calling **(212) 967-7555**, visiting www.publictheater.org, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

The Library at The Public is open nightly for food and drink, beginning at 5:30 p.m., and Joe's Pub at The Public continues to offer some of the best music in the city. For more information, visit www.publictheater.org.

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