

EMBARGOED: 10am Thursday 28 August 2025

RSC ANNOUNCES FULL CAST FOR *WENDY & PETER PAN* AT THE BARBICAN

LOLITA CHAKRABARTI RETURNS TO THE STAGE AS MRS DARLING
IN RSC ACTING DEBUT

HANNAH SAXBY AND DANIEL KRIKLER TO MAKE RSC DEBUTS AS WENDY AND
PETER PAN WITH CHARLOTTE MILLS AS TINK

THEY JOIN THE PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TOBY STEPHENS AS CAPTAIN HOOK
IN ELLA HICKSON'S MAGICAL ADAPTATION OF JM BARRIE'S CLASSIC NOVEL

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The Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) today announce full casting for the London premiere of **Ella Hickson's** exhilarating take on JM Barrie's beloved classic, ***Wendy & Peter Pan***, directed by **Jonathan Munby**, opening at the Barbican from 21 October to 22 November 2025 with press night on 28 October.

Joining the previously announced **Toby Stephens** as Captain Hook/Mr Darling, will be **Lolita Chakrabarti** as Mrs Darling, **Daniel Krikler** as Peter Pan, **Charlotte Mills** as Tink and **Hannah Saxby** as Wendy.

Director Jonathan Munby said: "*I am delighted to return to Neverland with Ella Hickson's remarkable Wendy & Peter Pan. Bringing this production to the Barbican with such an exceptional company is both a privilege and an enormous creative joy. We have assembled an extraordinarily talented and diverse group of artists, each of whom will bring their own imagination, skill and courage to meet the challenges of this ambitious piece. Wendy & Peter Pan demands emotional truth, physical daring and a strong sense of ensemble, and I could not wish to embark on this journey with finer collaborators.*"

Lolita Chakrabarti will play Mrs Darling. Her previous RSC work includes the adaptation of *Hamnet* which premiered at the Swan Theatre before running in the West End and is set to tour in the USA in 2026. Lolita's previous theatre work includes: *Summer 1954* (Bath Theatre Royal and tour), *The Hunt* (St Ann's Warehouse, New York), *Hamlet* (RADA), *Fanny & Alexander* (Old Vic), *John Gabriel Borkman* (Donmar Warehouse), *Free Outgoing* (Royal Court)

Television includes: *Silo* (Apple), *Screw, Born to Kill* (Channel Four), *Vigil*, *Showtrial* (BBC), *The Wheel of Time* (Amazon), *The Casual Vacancy* (BBC1/HBO), *Delicious* (Sky), *Beowulf, Jekyll and Hyde* (ITV), *Riviera* (Sky), *Criminal* (Netflix).

Playwright credits include: *Red Velvet*, (Tricycle Theatre, London, St Ann's Warehouse, New York and London's West End - Most Promising Playwright awards from the Critics Circle and Evening Standard), Booker Prize winning novel *Life of Pi* for the stage (Sheffield Crucible, West End, Boston, Broadway, UK, US and international tour - 5 Olivier Awards including Best New Play, 3 Tony Awards, 4 UK Theatre awards and more). Other writing credits include *Hymn* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre and Almeida), *Invisible Cities* (MIF/ Brisbane Festival), dramaturgy of *Sylvia* (Old Vic) and *Message in a Bottle* (Peacock Theatre/US tour).

Daniel Krikler will play Peter Pan in his RSC debut. Daniel's previous theatre includes: *Fiddler on the Roof* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre / Barbican West End transfer), *Austenland* (Savoy Theatre), *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet* (Donmar Warehouse), *The Motive and The Cue* (National Theatre Productions), *The Book Thief* (Leicester Curve), *The Secret Life of Bees* (Almeida Theatre), *The Tempest, Macbeth* (Guildford Shakespeare Company), *Fighting Irish* (Belgrade Theatre), *The Normal Heart* (National Theatre), *Pippin* (Charing Cross Theatre), *4000 Miles, Present Laughter* (Old Vic); *Unicorns, Almost* (Bristol Old Vic), *Homos, Or Everyone In America* (Finborough Theatre), *Pink Mist* (Bristol Old Vic/UK Tour), *Jersey Boys* (Dodger Productions), *Mamma Mia!* (Novello Theatre), *Bare: A Pop Opera* (Union Theatre); *Loserville* (Garrick Theatre & West Yorkshire Playhouse). His film and television work includes: *The Halcyon* (Leftbank Pictures for ITV).

Charlotte Mills will play Tink. She previously performed the role in the 2013 and 2015 productions of *Wendy & Peter Pan* at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and has also performed with the company in *The Winter's Tale*. Other theatre work includes: *Doncastrian Chalk Circle* (National Theatre/CAST Doncaster), *Love's Labour's Lost, Much Ado About Nothing, The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Gabriel* (Globe), *The Country Wife* (Chichester Festival Theatre), *Abigail's Party* (Theatre Royal Bath Productions), *Merlin* (Royal and Derngate), *Therese Raquin* (Theatre Royal Bath), *Jerusalem* (Royal Court/West End/Broadway), *By Jeeves* (Landor Theatre), *Billy Liar* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *Old Vic 24 Hour Plays* (Old Vic), *Theatre EP* (Hightide/Latitude), *Paradise Lost* (Southwark Playhouse), *Iphigenia* (Crucible Theatre). Television includes: *Small Prophets, Doctors, Casualty, Dodger* (BBC), *Malpractice, Protection, The Moorside, Doctor Thorne* (ITV), *A Very Royal Scandal* (Prime), *Behind Her Eyes, Letter for the King* (Netflix), *Agatha Raisin* (Sky One), *The Bastard Executioner* (FX). Film includes: *Wilhelm Tell, Daddy Issues* (Short), *The Apology* (Short), *I'm Here* (Short).

Hannah Saxby will play Wendy Darling in her RSC debut. Her previous theatre includes: *The Crucible* (Globe), *Some Demon* (Arcola Theatre and Bristol Old Vic), *Julius Caesar, Playhouse Creatures, Earthquakes in London* (Richard Burton Theatre Company). Television credits includes: *Gentleman Jack 2* (BBC / HBO), *Holby City, Doctors, Shakespeare & Hathaway* (BBC), *Malory Towers* (CBBC). Film credits includes: *The First Two* (Cinesuper / Umbrella Collective).

The full cast comprises: **Joe Anthony** as Shadow, **James Berkery** as Shadow, **Kazmin Borrer** as Shadow, **Lili-Evangeline Bryden** as Shadow, **Lolita Chakrabarti** as Mrs Darling, **Harrison Claxton** as Shadow/Doctor/Crocodile, **Christopher Jeffers** as Peter's Shadow, **Joe Hewetson** as Martin the Cabin Boy, **Scott Karim** as Smee, **Alexander Kranz** as Shadow, **Daniel Krikler** as Peter Pan, **Max Lauder** as Slightly, **Meg Matthews** as Swing Shadow, **Charlotte Mills** as Tink, **Kwaku Mills** as Michael Darling, **Alexander Molony** as Tom Darling, **Kyle Ndukuba** as Tootles, **Guy Rhys** as Doc Swain, **Hannah Saxby** as Wendy Darling, **Hadley Smith** as Knock Bone Jones, **John Sodiq Akanmu** as Skylights/Swing Shadow, **Toby Stephens** as Captain Hook/Mr Darling, **Ami Tredrea** as Tiger Lily, **Marcello Walton** as Murt the Bat, **Fred Woodley Evans** as John Darling, **Tom Xander** as Curly.

The full creative team comprises: Director, **Jonathan Munby**; Set and Costume Designer, **Colin Richmond**; Choreographer, **Lucy Hind**; Composer, **Shuhei Kamimura**; Sound Designer, **Christopher Shutt**; Lighting Designer, **Oliver Fenwick**; Video Designer, **Taiki Ueda**; Fight Director, **Terry King** and Casting Director, **Annelie Powell CDG**.

ENDS

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LISTINGS INFORMATION

Wendy & Peter Pan

By Ella Hickson

Adapted from the book by J.M. Barrie

Directed by Jonathan Munby

Barbican Theatre

Tuesday 21 October – Saturday 22 November

Press Night: Tuesday 28 October at 7pm

Tickets from: £25

Box Office: www.rsc.org.uk Tel: 01789331111

Captioned performance: Saturday 8th November, 1.30pm

Relaxed performance: Saturday 15th November, 1.30pm

Audio described performance: Saturday 22nd November, 1.30pm

Post Show Talk: Friday 14th November

Follow Wendy on an awfully big adventure as she journeys far from the safety of the Darling's nursery, taking centre stage in her quest to find the key to her parents' forgotten happiness – the child they once lost, and discovers how the power of just one happy thought can set flight to newfound joy.

With Peter Pan, fairy Tink and Tiger Lily as her unlikely allies, Wendy gives the Lost Boys a run for their money as she takes on the diabolical Captain Hook, brought to life by RSC Associate Artist Toby Stephens (Oslo, Hamlet) in this 'spectacular' (Guardian) staging and ultimately learns what it really means to grow up.

This production of *Wendy & Peter* was originally presented by Bunkamura Theatre in Tokyo and Leeds Playhouse.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The RSC is supported using public funding by Arts Council England

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The RSC is generously supported by RSC America

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Wendy and Peter is supported by RSC Production Circle member Peggy Czyzak-Dannenbaum

RSC £10 Tickets for 14-25s supported by TikTok

The RSC Acting companies are generously supported by The Gatsby Charitable Foundation

The Royal Shakespeare Company's mission is to bring people together to experience stories that deepen our understanding of ourselves, each other and the world around us, and that bring joy. Shakespeare's restless exploration of all of human nature is our inspiration and touchstone.

The Company's roots lie in the bold vision of a local brewer, Edward Fordham Flower, who in 1879 established a theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon with his son Charles. The RSC as we know it today was formed by Sir Peter Hall, whose ambition was to produce new plays alongside those of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. We continue this today across our three permanent theatres in Stratford – the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, the Swan Theatre and The Other Place – and indeed online and around the globe. We believe everybody's life can be enriched by culture and creativity. Our transformative Creative Learning and Engagement programmes reach over half a million young people and adults each year. We have collaborated with generations of the very best theatre makers and we continue to nurture the talent of the future.

Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, we will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. www.artscouncil.org.uk

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About the Barbican

The Barbican is a catalyst for creativity, sparking possibilities for artists, audiences, and communities. We showcase the most exciting art from around the world, pushing traditional artistic boundaries to entertain and inspire millions of people, create connections, provoke debate, and reflect the world we live in.

We are an international arts and events centre rooted firmly in our own neighbourhood, collaborating with local communities and putting the City of London on the map as a destination for everybody. Central to our purpose is supporting emerging talent and shaping opportunities that will accelerate the next generation of creatives.

As a not-for-profit, we rely on the generosity of individuals and organisations, including our principal funder the City of London Corporation. Every ticket purchased, donation made, and pound earned supports our arts and learning programme and enables the widest possible range of people to experience the joy of the arts.

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon. As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We're proud to be the home of the London Symphony Orchestra, our Resident Orchestra, and a London base for the Royal Shakespeare Company. We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our Artistic Associates the Academy of Ancient Music, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Boy Blue, Darbar Arts, Cultural and Heritage Trust, and Serious, who produce the EFG London Jazz Festival, alongside other associates and partners including Doc'n Roll Film Festival, London Palestine Film Festival, and Trafalgar Theatre Productions.