



**Actors Touring Company**  
in co-production with the Orange Tree Theatre & Theatre Royal Plymouth  
presents  
The UK Premiere of

## AMSTERDAM

by **Maya Arad Yasur**  
Direction - **Matthew Xia**  
Translated by **Eran Edry**  
Design - **Naomi Kuyck-Cohen**  
Movement - **Jennifer Jackson**  
Lights - **Ciarán Cunningham**  
Music - **Max Pappenheim**

This autumn will see Matthew Xia's inaugural production as artistic director of Actors Touring Company. The UK premiere of *Amsterdam* by Maya Arad Yasur will open the Orange Tree Theatre's Autumn season before embarking on a tour beginning at Theatre Royal Plymouth in February 2020.

**An Israeli violinist. Living in her trendy canal-side Amsterdam apartment.  
Nine months pregnant.**

**One day a mysterious unpaid gas bill from 1944 arrives.**

**It awakens unsettling feelings of collective identity, foreignness and alienation.  
Stories of a devastating past are compellingly reconstructed to try and make sense of the present.**

*Amsterdam* is a contemporary, audacious thriller that dissects the mechanisms of the stories we make, in order to try to find some order in our chaotic worlds.

**Maya Arad Yasur** is a prize-winning Israeli playwright, whose work has been produced worldwide. *Amsterdam* won the prestigious Theatretreffen Stückemarkt Award. It is Arad-Yasur's fourth play to be produced and her most personal.

**Matthew Xia** was appointed Artistic Director of Actors Touring Company in November 2018. He is one of the busiest and most exciting directors in the UK. He is a former Associate Artistic Director of Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester; Director in Residence at Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse; and Associate Director of Theatre Royal Stratford East. He is currently an Associate Artist at Nottingham Playhouse. Some of Matthew's acclaimed productions include: at the Royal Exchange, Manchester *Frankenstein*, *Wish List* (also Royal Court), and *Into The Woods* and *Sizwe Banzi is Dead* at the Young Vic; and *Shebeen* at Nottingham Playhouse. In 2019 Matthew directed *Eden* at Hampstead Theatre, *Blood Knot* at the Orange Tree and is currently directing *One Night in Miami* for Nottingham Playhouse. Matthew is a founding member of Act for Change and a trustee of Artistic Directors of the Future.

Founded in 1980 by inspirational theatre-maker John Retallack, **Actors Touring Company** has always dedicated itself to making imaginative, theatrical and challenging work based on the versatility and dexterity of actors in a wide range of styles. With more than 60 productions to its credit, the company has consistently toured the most ambitious, thought-provoking plays to the widest possible range of places both in the UK and abroad. ATC is only UK touring company to consistently explore and celebrate international work. The company has rediscovered international classics and is the touring sector's leading advocate for premiering new international plays. It has toured to small-scale venues, school and village halls, studio theatres and main houses, covering all corners of the globe.

ATC's recent productions include: *The Brothers Size*, produced with the Young Vic (2008 & 2018); *The Events* (Traverse, Young Vic, Schauspielhaus Vienna, 2013 -2017), revived in Norway, Denmark, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Australia and the US.; *The Suppliant Women* toured to Edinburgh, Belfast Festival, Young Vic, Dublin Theatre Festival, Hong Kong Arts Festival (2017-2018); *Living with the Lights On* (2016-2019) toured to Barcelona, Madrid and Helsinki; *Keep on Walking Federico* (2018-19) which toured the UK following its premiere in Barcelona.

**The Orange Tree** is an award-winning, independent theatre. Recognised as a powerhouse that creates high-quality productions of new and rediscovered plays, the theatre entertains 70,000 people across the UK every year. It holds to the belief in the power of dramatic stories to entertain, thrill and challenge us; plays that enrich our lives by enhancing our understanding of ourselves and each other. As a registered charity sitting at the heart of its community, the Orange Tree work with 10,000 people in Richmond and beyond through participatory theatre projects for people of all ages and abilities. The Orange Tree Theatre's mission is to enable audiences to experience the next generation of theatre talent, experiment with ground-breaking new drama and explore the plays from the past that inspire the theatre-makers of the present.

**Theatre Royal Plymouth** is the South West's home of new writing, specialising in the production of new plays, both as producer and co-producer, alongside the presentation of a broad range of theatre - including classic and contemporary drama, musicals, opera, ballet and dance. They have three performance spaces - The Lyric, The Drum and The Lab. Their work with young people and communities is extensive and radical, taking place across all three venues and beyond. Recent productions and co-productions include *God Of Chaos*, by Phil Porter, *The Kneebone Cadillac* by Carl Grose, *You Stupid Darkness!* by Sam Steiner (with Paines Plough) and *The Unreturning* by Anna Jordan (with Frantic Assembly).



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Drum, Theatre Royal Plymouth  
presents  
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Direction - **Matthew Xia**  
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**Orange Tree Theatre**  
**Friday 6 September to Saturday 12 October**  
Previews 6 - 10 September  
Press Night Wednesday 11 September  
Evenings 19:30  
Matinees 14:30 - Thursday and Saturday  
(except Sat 7 Sept)

**Theatre Royal, Plymouth**  
**Thursday 27 February - Saturday 14 March**  
19:45

Followed by UK tour March - May 2020  
dates to be confirmed.

<http://www.atctheatre.com>

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Supported using public funding by  
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