

PARK
THEATRE

Acute Theatre Limited and Dann Moss in association with Park Theatre presents

THE TRIAL OF JANE FONDA
BY TERRY JASTROW

FULL CASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

OSCAR NOMINEE AND GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER ANNE ARCHER IS JOINED BY

**CHRISTIEN ANHOLT, MARTIN FISHER, ALEX GAUMOND, PAUL HERZBERG,
AKO MITCHELL AND MARK ROSE**

Casting has been announced for the brand new production of **THE TRIAL OF JANE FONDA**, written by seven-time Emmy award-winner **Terry Jastrow**, and directed by **Joe Harmston**, opening at Park Theatre on 13 July until 20 August, with a press night on 14 July.

As previously announced, **Anne Archer** (*Fatal Attraction; Patriot Games; Clear and Present Danger*) will return to the UK to star as 'Jane Fonda', having first developed the role at the Edinburgh Festival in 2014. Archer was last seen on the London stage making her West End debut as 'Mrs Robinson' in *The Graduate* at the Gielgud Theatre in 2001, to critical acclaim.

Musical theatre star **Alex Gaumond** joins the company as 'Larry Bonk'. Alex's extensive West End credits include *Matilda, We Will Rock You, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Top Hat* and *Legally Blonde*, for which he was nominated for the Olivier for Best Actor in a Musical. **The Trial of Jane Fonda** will mark not only his Park Theatre debut, but also his first major non-musical role in a play.

Alex Gaumond said, "I am very excited to take on the role of Larry in this fascinating play and to work with such a brilliant cast. If the auditions are anything to go by, the group dynamic on stage will be electric. In the few years since its opening, Park Theatre has quickly established a fantastic reputation for great work, so I am delighted to be performing there this summer."

They are joined on stage by **Christien Anholt** playing 'Buzzy Banks', **Martin Fisher** as 'Reverend John Clarke', **Paul Herzberg** – returning to Park Theatre after starring in *The Dead Wait* in 2013, directed by Joe Harmston – as 'Joe Celano', **Ako Mitchell** – returning to Park Theatre after starring in *Klook's Last Stand* in 2014, with an Offies Nomination for Best Actor - as 'Reggie Wells', and **Mark Rose** – also returning to Park Theatre after starring in *Frozen* in 2015 – as 'Tommy Lee Cook'.

Anne Archer said, "I am utterly thrilled to be working with such a dynamic and talented cast, and look forward to our creative journey together."

1972. *North Vietnam: Driven to halt the slaughter of young lives, iconic movie star Jane Fonda travels to Vietnam where she is photographed laughing and clapping, astride an anti-aircraft gun, designed to shoot down American planes. Overnight the soldiers' sexy pin-up becomes 'Hanoi Jane'; traitor to her country and betrayer of those very young men.*

1988. *Waterbury, Connecticut: Bitter demonstrations by veterans halt filming on a movie co-starring Fonda and Robert De Niro. Determined to stop her past dictating her future, Jane requests a meeting and enters a room full of angry men for whom the war still rages. The content of the meeting is never divulged.*

Having retraced Fonda's steps, interviewed her guides, dozens of veterans and Fonda herself, Terry Jastrow's powerful drama conjectures the battles which were fought in that encounter; battles which are as much to do with the ability of recorded images to dictate our memories as they are to do with truth.

The most famous actress of her time, Jane Fonda was vocal in her opposition to the Vietnam War. In 1972 she went to the capital city of North Vietnam, Hanoi, to call worldwide public attention to the Nixon administration's cover-up of US policy of deliberately bombing the country's vital system of irrigation dikes. During that trip she made radio broadcasts denouncing as a war crime the US use of antipersonnel bombs banned by the Hague Convention, and visited US POWs. On the final day of her trip, she was photographed laughing and clapping astride a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun. This activity by Fonda caused enormous controversy and galvanized a huge hate campaign amongst the US military and supporters.

ANNE ARCHER was nominated for an Academy Award®, a Golden Globe and the British (BAFTA) Academy Award for her role opposite Michael Douglas in Adrian Lyne's thriller *Fatal Attraction*. Other key roles include her Golden Globe-winning performance in the ensemble cast of Robert Altman's *Short Cuts* and for playing Harrison Ford's beleaguered wife in *Patriot Games* and *Clear and Present Danger*. She made her West End debut as 'Mrs Robinson', receiving rave reviews, in *The Graduate*; other theatrical credits include *A Coupla White Chicks Sitting Around Talking* (Off Broadway), *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Williamstown Theatre Festival), *The Poison Tree* (Mark Taper Forum), and *The Vagina Monologues* (LA). In 2014 she starred in *The Trial of Jane Fonda* at the Edinburgh Festival. Throughout her motion picture career, she has starred opposite some of Hollywood's most dynamic and respected leading men, including Gene Hackman in *Narrow Margin*, Donald Sutherland in *Eminent Domain*, Sylvester Stallone in *Paradise Alley*, Tommy Lee Jones in *In Rules of Engagement* and *Man of the House* and in the romantic comedy *Ghosts of Girlfriends Past* with Mathew McConaughey, and most recently the feature film *Lullaby*, with a powerful ensemble cast of Garrett Hedlund, Richard Jenkins, Amy Adams, Jessica Brown Finley, Jessica Barden, Jennifer Hudson, and Terrance Howard.

Television credits include *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, starring opposite Danny DeVito and *Ghost Whisperer* on CBS as the mother of Jennifer Love Hewitt, *Privileged* (The CW) and the Fox Series *The Grinder* starring Rob Lowe and Fred Savage. In 2013 she co-produced her first feature film *The Squeeze*, written and directed by Terry Jastrow.

In 2006 she founded Artists for Human Rights (AFHR), which brings the full force of artistic expression to bear in the human rights arena by working hand-in-hand with effective human rights advocates and leading organizations worldwide to raise awareness and eradicate the most egregious human rights abuses.

Writer **Terry Jastrow** has produced and/or directed the television coverage of some of the world's most important sporting events including six Olympic Games, The Super Bowl, 62 major championships of golf including the Open Championship. The plays he has written and directed include *As if it Matters* at the Beverly Hills Playhouse, *Eight One Acts over Two Nights* at The Acting Center, Hollywood, California, and *The Vaginal Lock* at the Skylight Theatre, Los Angeles. More recently, Terry wrote and directed a feature film, *The Squeeze*, which was released in April 2015, and is available on-demand.

Joe Harmston's career began 23 years ago directing the critically-acclaimed *King James' Ear* by Rod Dugate at The Old Red Lion. Since then highlights have included directing Harold Pinter in his own plays, particularly *The Lover* and *The Collection* at The Donmar and his long associations with other writers

including Sir Ronald Harwood, Sir Alan Ayckbourn, Sir David Hare and Sir Peter Ustinov. He was Associate Director of Chichester Festival Theatre and Artistic Director of the Agatha Christie Theatre Company and is still a Creative Associate Director of the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry. He was last at Park Theatre directing Paul Herzberg's *The Dead Wait*.

The Trial of Jane Fonda's Set Design is by Sean Cavanagh, Composer & Sound Designer is Matthew Bugg, Video Projection Designer is Louise Rhoades-Brown, Lighting Designer is Tony Simpson and Costume Designer is Roberto Surace. Casting is by Kate Plantin CDG. General Management is by Suzanna Rosenthal for Something for the Weekend.

www.thetrialofjanefonda.com

Facebook: TrialOfJaneFonda

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-ENDS-

For media information, images, interviews and press tickets, please contact

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LISTINGS

13 July – 20 August 2016

Performances Tuesday – Saturday @ 19.30, Thursday & Saturday @ 15.00

Press night: Thursday 14 July @ 7pm

Running Time: 95 mins approx

Booking: www.parktheatre.co.uk 020 7870 6876

Prices Previews £18.50, Full £29.50/£20.00

Discounts available on Tuesdays for residents with N. London postcode - check the website for further details

Pay What You Can

Those on lower incomes can take advantage of PWYC on any matinee or any Wednesday of each production. Please ask for an application form (in person or via boxoffice@parktheatre.co.uk) for the scheme and, once returned to us – if accepted – we will update our records and issue you with a membership card, making PWYC seats available to you for a period of one year. These will be bookable from one hour prior to the performance, in person only. One ticket per membership. Subject to availability.

Cast Biographies

Ako Mitchell

Ako's theatre credits include: 'Captain Meadows' in *Beyond the Fence* (Arts Theatre / Sky Arts); *Grey Gardens* (Southwark Playhouse); *Misanthropes* (Old Vic New Voices), *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* (Royal Festival Hall); Orin in *Little Shop Of Horrors* (Manchester Royal Exchange); 'Klook' in *Klook's Last Stand* (Park Theatre – Off West End Best Actor nomination); 'Gabriel' in *Fences* (Duchess Theatre), 'Mitch' in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Donmar Warehouse); 'Eddie' in *Sister Act* (London Palladium), 'Mufasa' in *The Lion King* (Lyceum Theatre); 'Straight Arrow' in *Dr. Dolittle* (UK Tour); 'God' and 'Jesus' in *The Mystery Plays* (Bath Music Festival); 'Louisa' in *Broadway in the Shadows* (Luxembourg National Theatre and Arcola).

Ako has appeared in Berlin Station (Television series for Paramount); he played 'Denis' in *Lake Placid: The Final Chapter* (*Syfy - UFO Films*). Ako is also the voice of the series "Strangest Weather on Earth" for Discovery/Weather Channel USA. Ako recently directed and co-wrote the short "I'm in the corner with the bluebells" which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and won Best Director at the Mica Film Festival in Brazil.

Alex Gaumont

Born and raised in Canada, Alex trained at Guildford School of Acting, graduating with a 1st Class BA(Hons).

Theatre includes: 'The Baker' in *Into the Woods* (Manchester Royal Exchange); 'Adam' in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Regent's Park Open Air); 'Autolycus', 'Proteus' and other roles in *Shakespeare's Birthday Bash* (RSC); 'Beadle Bamford' in *Sweeney Todd* (ENO); 'Freddy Benson' in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Savoy); 'Miss Trunchbull' in the RSC's *Matilda* (Cambridge); 'Alberto Beddini' in *Top Hat* (Aldwych); 'Jesus' in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Ljubljana Festival, Slovenia); 'Galileo' in *We Will Rock You* (Dominion, Whatsonstage Awards nomination for Best Takeover in a Role); 'Emmett Forrest' in *Legally Blonde* (Savoy, original cast, Olivier Awards and Whatsonstage Awards nominations for Best Actor in a Musical); 'Galileo' in *We Will Rock You* (original UK tour); 'Ray Sunshine' in *Desperately Seeking Susan* (Novello); 'Rusty Charlie' and understudy 'Nathan Detroit' in *Guys and Dolls* (Donmar Warehouse UK tour); *Sunday In The Park With George* (Wyndham's); 'Tom Jenkins' in *Scrooge* (Palladium); 'Malcolm MacGregor' in *The Full Monty* (original UK tour); *Hart in Unity 1918* (Old Vic); understudy 'Chris' in *Miss Saigon* (Manila and Asian tour); understudy 'Malcolm', 'Jerry' and 'Ethan' in *The Full Monty* (Prince Of Wales); *Gone* (New Ambassadors).

Films include: *The Reunion*, *Powerplay*, *90 Seconds*, *Room 71*, *Between*, *Jeffrey*, *Table For Four*, *Chlorophyll* and *Locked Out*.

Alex dedicates his performance to his family back in Canada.

www.alexgaumond.com

Christien Anholt

He began his acting career in 1988 at the age of 17 after winning the coveted role of 'Hans' in the motion picture "Reunion", directed by Jerry Schatzberg and starring Jason Robards. For his debut performance Anholt received a Best Actor nomination at the 1989 Cannes Film Festival, and went on to win Best Actor at the E'Febo Doro awards in Sicily in 1990. Harold Pinter, who wrote the screenplay for "Reunion", recommended Anholt to playwright Ronald Harwood, who cast him as 'Leonard/Jeremy Lands' in his new play "Another Time" starring Albert Finney. The play, its cast, including Anholt enjoyed rave reviews and a sell-out run at London's Wyndham Theatre. Harwood then recommended him to Director Franco Zeffirelli, who cast Anholt as 'Marcellus' alongside Mel Gibson in the motion picture "Hamlet" Anholt went on to star opposite Kate Beckinsale, Sam Niel and Judy Davis in Hallmark's production of "One Against The Wind" He then acted alongside Steven Dorff in "The Power Of One" directed by John G. Avildsen.

Steven Spielberg hand picked Anholt to play Clive Owen's brother 'Terry O'Niel' a series lead, in the critically acclaimed "Class Of 61"; A TV movie/back door pilot. He received electrifying reviews for his portrayal of 'Gary Warrell' in the BBC Screen2's production of "Money For Nothing." A string of television movies and feature films followed including, "Seventeen" opposite Rachel Wiesz, "Mama's Back" playing Joan Collin's son and BBC's "Hard Times" opposite Alan Bates, Bob Peck & Richard E. Grant. He went on to star in "The Harpist" in which his performance earned him another Best Actor nomination, this time at the Geneva Film Festival in 1997. "Preaching To The Perverted", "The Ruby Ring" (another Hallmark production) and George Miltons "Appetite" followed. Anholt then returned to London's West End in Terrance Rattigan's "In Praise Of Love" and was once again cast by Harold Pinter and Director David Jones opposite Harold Pinter in Pinter's thriller, "The Hothouse." Again to rave reviews. In 1999 Anholt was cast as 'Nigel Bailey' a series lead opposite Tia Carrere, in "Relic Hunter" which ran for 3 seasons. He then went on to guest star in two episodes of "Adventure Inc", alongside Michael Biehn. He then had a cameo in "The Conclave", played 'Higgins', one of the fly boys, alongside James Franco, in the motion picture "Flyboys" Produced by Dean Devlin and Directed by Tony Bill. Following that he starred opposite Thora Birch in "Dark Corners" Directed by Ray Gower and "Ben 10 Race Against Time" More recently Anholt appeared in BBC's Doctors and the movie short "Severed Garden". Anholt has just made his Directorial debut at the Tabard theatre with Simon Stephens 'Wastwater'.

Mark Rose

Mark trained at Bretton Hall

Theatre credits include: *Hangmen* (Wyndhams Theatre, West End), *The Beaux' Stratagem*, *A Taste of Honey* and *Port* (National Theatre), *Frozen* (Park Theatre), *Women Laughing* (Old Red Lion), *Masters are You Mad? and Twelfth Night* (Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre), *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* (Manchester Royal Exchange), *The Accomplice* (Menier Chocolate Factory), *Spider's Web* (UK Tour), *On the Middle Day* (Old Vic), *A Laughing Matter* and *She Stoops to Conquer* (National Theatre with Out of Joint)

Television credits include: *Coronation Street* (ITV), *Emmerdale* (ITV)

Film credits include: *Four Walls* (Bete Noir Production), *The Vintage* (Eyeline Entertainment)

Mark is a founder-member of Blueprint Theatre Company

Paul Herzbeg

Paul was last at the Park in his play, *The Dead Wait*, directed by Joe Harmston. Theatre includes: *Schutzmacher / The Doctor's Dilemma* (NT); *Vincentio / The Taming Of The Shrew* (RSC); *Stanley Kowalski / A Streetcar Named Desire* (Mermaid), *Vorster / I.D.* (Almeida), *Shylock / The Merchant Of Venice* (Arcola); *Gerry Evans / Dancing At Lughnasa* (Abbey); *The Dead Wait*, *Arms And The man*, *Romeo And Juliet*, *While The Sun Shines* (Royal Exchange); *The Merchant Of Venice*, *Carrington* (Chichester), *Pride And Prejudice* (National Tour), *Oleanna* (Scarborough), *Sweet Like Suga* (Centaur, Montreal). Television includes: *Daniel Borgoraz* in *The Honourable Woman*; *The Life And Loves Of A She-Devil*, *Smiley's People*, *Inspector Lynley*, *Murder City*, *Poirot*, *The Knock*, *Napoleon And Josephine*, *Seaton's Aunt*, *Dark Secret*, *Neck*. Film includes: *My Week With Marilyn*, *Papadopolous & Sons*, *Almost Heaven*, *Cry Freedom*, *The Book Of Eve*, *The Dirty Dozen: Next Mission*. Writing includes: *Almost Heaven* (Nashville International Best Feature); *Metropolis Kabarett* (NT); *The Dead Wait* (Market, Royal Exchange): Three M.E.N. nominations including best actor – won / shortlisted Verity Bargate Award; *Sweet Like Suga* (London & Montreal), *Be Bop The Ruler* (Finborough – Time Out nomination). *The Dead Wait*, *The Song Of My Father*, *Dreaming Up Laura* (BBC Radio 4), *Where's The Bull?* (Winner London Radio Playwrights).

MARTIN FISHER

Training: Webber Douglas Academy.

Theatre: *Captain Flint* in *Swallows & Amazons*, *Steene* in *A Daughter's A Daughter* (Trafalgar Studios), *Barton Russell* in *Murder On Air* (Windsor and UK Tour), *Inspector Thomas* in *The Unexpected Guest* (Windsor), *Valmont* in *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Theatre By The Lake), *Manningham* in *Gaslight* (TBTL), *Dick Barton/Snowy* in *Dick Barton – Special Agent* (TBTL), *Vicomte de Nanjac* in *An Ideal Husband* (Theatr Clwyd), *Sykes* in *Oliver and Julian* in *Communicating Doors* (Perth Rep), *George Bates* in *Intent To Murder* (Vienna English Theatre), *Buckingham/Surrey* in *Henry VIII* (Bridewell Theatre), *Lent* in 'Julia Pastrana' (Battersea Arts Centre & UK tour), *Poseidon/Menaleus* in *Women of Troy* (Orange Tree, Richmond), *Gabriel* in *Lautrec* (Shaftesbury Theatre, London), *Grantaire* in *Les Miserables* (UK Tour), *Jack Carter* in *Idiot Wind* (Old Red Lion), *Toby Cartwright* in *Ways and Means*, *Henry Gow* in *Fumed Oak*, *Bert Bentley* in *Red Peppers*, *Charles Bingley* in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Axel Hammond* in *The Nerd* (all at Perth Rep), *Mike Connor* in *High Society* (UK Tour), *Buddy Holly* in *Buddy* (Victoria Palace and UK Tour), *Nine* (Royal Festival Hall), *Tig* in *Rain Dogs* (Prince of Wales, London), *Sunset Boulevard* (Sydmonton Festival), *Mick* in *Straight Up* (White Bear, Kennington), *Season at The Queens' Theatre*, *Hornchurch*.

Television: *I'm Nathan*, *True Crime* (ITV), *Eastenders* (BBC), *Doctors* (BBC), *Emmerdale* (ITV), *The Last Enemy* (BBC), *Hollyoaks Later* (C4), *Afterlife* (ITV), *Judge John Deed* (BBC), *Family Affairs* (C5).

Film: *Retribution*, *Shame The Devil*, *Vendetta*, *G.B.H.*, *Hooligan Wars*, *The Warning*, *Death Defying Acts*, *Mixed Up*.

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