

ROYAL COURT THEATRE
PRESS RELEASE
Friday 27 March 2020

**DAVID IRELAND'S AWARD-WINNING PLAY *CYPRUS AVENUE*,
DIRECTED BY ROYAL COURT THEATRE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
VICKY FEATHERSTONE, AVAILABLE TO WATCH FOR A
MONTH FOR WORLD THEATRE DAY**

- *Cyprus Avenue* now available to watch [here](#)
- Trailer available to watch [here](#)



Stephen Rea as Eric Miller photo by Ros Kavanagh

As previously announced the Royal Court Theatre and The Space will make *Cyprus Avenue*, the film adaptation, available to watch for free today (World Theatre Day) on their website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube pages for one month.

This is the first time the film is able to be seen internationally.

Royal Court Theatre Artistic Director Vicky Featherstone said;

“Last year we were fortunate enough to make a film of our production of Cyprus Avenue by David Ireland with BBC Four and The Space. We were going to put it up on our website for a month from 27th March – World Theatre Day. We still are. But now the world has changed immeasurably it is an opportunity to watch some theatre, free, at home, safely and remember that when we all return to each other, great plays and great performances which entertain and help us understand the world we live in, like this, will be filling your theatres for you to enjoy. Don’t forget about us. We will be back.”

Commissioned by The Space this film of *Cyprus Avenue* mixes live capture of performance from the iconic Royal Court Theatre stage production with location shooting in Belfast. It was first broadcast on Sunday 15 September 2019 on BBC Four.

Starring Stephen Rea and directed by Vicky Featherstone, award-winning *Cyprus Avenue* was originally produced by the Royal Court Theatre, London and Abbey Theatre, Dublin before touring to The MAC in Belfast and the Public Theater in New York.

Full cast include Ronke Adékoluejo, Chris Corrigan, Andrea Irvine, Amy Molloy and Stephen Rea.

Eric Miller is a Belfast Loyalist. He is experiencing a psychotic episode and mistakes his five-week old granddaughter for Gerry Adams. Generations of sectarian trauma convince him that his cultural heritage is under siege. He must act.

This hard hitting black comedy *Cyprus Avenue* tells the story of a man struggling with the past and terrified of the future. It was awarded Best New Play at the Irish Times Theatre Awards and the James Tait Black Prize for Drama in 2017. For his portrayal of Eric, Stephen Rea won Best Actor at the Irish Times Theatre Awards 2017.

The Royal Court Theatre is the writers’ theatre. It is a leading force in world theatre for cultivating and supporting writers – undiscovered,

emerging and established. Over 120,000 people visit the Royal Court in Sloane Square, London, each year and many thousands more see the work elsewhere through transfers to the West End and New York, UK and international tours, digital platforms, residencies across London, and site-specific work. Through all the work the theatre strives to inspire audiences and influence future writers with radical thinking and provocative discussion. The Royal Court is pleased to be able to offer an international audience the chance to see *Cyprus Avenue*.

Cyprus Avenue the film adaptation was commissioned by The Space and produced for BBC Four by the Royal Court Theatre. It was Executive Produced by Lucy Davies, Jane Featherstone, Barbara Broccoli and Michael G Wilson.

ENDS-

Press contact Anoushka Warden 0207 565 5063 / AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com

Notes to Editors:

For images [click here](#).

#CyprusAvenue #WorldTheatreDay

Content Warning

[[Content Warning: *Cyprus Avenue* contains strong language, discussion of sectarian themes and scenes of extreme violence that some viewers may find disturbing. For this reason, we will be putting a 18+ rating on all direct posts containing the film.]]