

Rupert Goold's Chimerica at the Almeida Theatre Gets Five Stars



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News and reviews for London's smaller stages, local and fringe theatres

June 03, 2013, 11:01 am -- [/EPR NETWORK/](#) -- Rupert Goold will take over as Artistic Director of the Almeida Theatre in August 2013 and in December of this year will open his first production as Artistic Director – 'American Psycho: A new musical thriller'. But before he does Headlong, the theatre company he leaves after eight years, presents a first rate production, 'Chimerica', written by Lucy Kirkwood at the Islington theatre – "If we see a better new play this year, we'll be extremely lucky", says Michael Billington in The Guardian while The Telegraph critic Charles Spencer cannot rate it highly enough. For theatre goers who want to stay in the city for the night there are plenty of affordable [hotels in London](#) allowing them to enjoy the best of London 's local theatres.

Before it even opens at the Bush Theatre on 12th July 2013, 'Josephine and I' is extending its run to 17th August due to demand for tickets. The current production, 'Disgraced' which has just won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for drama, is enjoying rave reviews – "intelligent, thought-provoking" (The Telegraph), "the candour and passion of the exchanges are breathtaking" (Financial Times) – continues throughout June until 29th.

'Josephine and I', which marks acclaimed actress Cush Jumbo's playwriting debut, reunites the actress with Phyllida Lloyd following their collaboration on the all-female Julius Caesar at the Donmar

Warehouse last year, which Lloyd directed and in which Jumbo played Mark Antony.

The new Artistic Director of the Donmar Warehouse, Josie Rourke, who left the Bush Theatre for the Donmar in 2012, has booked high profile Hollywood actor, Tom Hiddleston, to return to the one of the smallest theatres in the West End playing the title role in Coriolanus, Shakespeare's searing tragedy of political manipulation and revenge. Public booking for the December show opens at 9am on 25th June 2013.

Recently reopened at its new temporary home, the Southwark Playhouse, one of London 's best fringe theatres, has hit a snag with the opening show in its main house. 'Tanzi Libre' has been cancelled as the lead actress suffered an injury during a performance of the show in its opening week. However, 'Juana in a Million' continues in the smaller theatre, The Little, and audiences can see 'The Moment of Truth' begins in the main space, The Large, on 26th June 2013.

The latest addition to London's local theatres, away from the West End, the £2.5 million Park Theatre in Finsbury Park, which opened in May 2013, has made a promising start with 'These Shining Lives' which continues until 9th June. Next on the main 200-seat stage, Park200, is 'The School for Scandal' (12th June to 7th July) by Red Handed Theatre Company, followed by the world premiere of Oliver Cotton's 'Daytona' starring Maureen Lipman which opens on 10th July 2013.

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