



**Park Avenue Armory Announces Cast  
for *Judgment Day*,  
Starring Emmy Award-Winning Actor Luke Kirby and directed by Olivier  
Award-Winning director Richard Jones, CBE**

**Christopher Shinn's Adaptation of Ödön von Horváth's 1937 Play  
Makes World Premiere in the Wade Thompson Drill Hall  
December 5, 2019 – January 11, 2020**

**New York, NY** – October 16, 2019 – Park Avenue Armory today announces the cast for its December production of *Judgment Day*—the world premiere of Christopher Shinn's new adaptation of Ödön von Horváth's 1937 play. Chosen by acclaimed British theater director **Richard Jones**, who directed *The Hairy Ape* at the Armory to rave reviews, the cast of sixteen stars **Luke Kirby** in the central role of Thomas Hudetz, a meticulous and respected stationmaster who struggles between guilt and self-protection after a train crash that occurs under his watch results in eighteen casualties. Kirby, who won an Emmy Award for his performance as Lenny Bruce on *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, also had recurring roles on *The Dence* and *Slings & Arrows*.

Kirby will be joined by a brilliant group of seasoned actors including: **Susannah Perkins** (*Network*; *The Wolves*) as Anna, **Alyssa Bresnahan** (*Network*; *27 Dresses*) as Mrs. Hudetz, and **Henry Stram** (*Junk*; *The Elephant Man*) as Alfons; **Alex Breaux** (*Hustlers*; *Red Speedo*), **Charles Brice** (*Homeland*; *The Punisher*), **Cricket Brown**, **Gina Daniels** (*Network*; *Orange is the New Black*), **Harriet Harris** (*Thoroughly Modern Millie* – Tony Award; *Desperate Housewives*), **Maurice Jones** (*Lifespan of a Fact*; *30 Rock*), **Andy Murray** (*The Seafarer*; *The Emperor Jones*), **Tom McGowan** (*La Bête* – Tony Award; *Wicked*), **George Merrick** (*Beetlejuice*; *South Pacific*), **Jason O'Connell** (*Happy Birthday Wanda June*; *Pride and Prejudice*), **Joe Wegner** (*Tales of the City*), and **Jeena Yi** (*Network*; *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*).

“We are eager to watch this stellar ensemble of sixteen as they integrate themselves into the shape-shifting choreography of Richard Jones and the spare and haunting dialogue of Christopher Shinn and Ödön Von Horvath,” said **Rebecca Robertson, Founding President and Executive Producer of Park Avenue Armory** and **Pierre Audi, Marina Kellen French Artistic Director at Park Avenue Armory**.

Ödön von Horváth's penultimate play is a hybrid of theatrical genres: part moral fable, part sociopolitical comedy, part noirish thriller. Born Austro-Hungarian, von Horváth lived in Berlin and Vienna during the 1920s and 30s. Having witnessed first-hand the rise of Nazism, his plays often explore popular culture, politics, and history, with a particular focus on fascism and its dangers. Written on the eve of WWII, *Judgment Day* has been seen as an allegory for the indoctrination of Nazi ideology.

This production dramatically plays on the interior of the Wade Thompson Drill Hall, with a monumental set activated by the stage direction of Richard Jones. Jones, who has won eight Olivier Awards (*Too Clever by Half*, *Into the Woods*, *The Mastersingers of Nuremberg*, *The Trojans*, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Katya Kabanova* and, in 2015, an Outstanding Achievement in Opera), has partnered with theater and opera scenic designer **Paul Steinberg** to create a monumental set. Rounding out the production team are Tony-nominated lighting designer **Mimi Jordan Sherin**, costume designer **Antony McDonald**, and music and sound designer **Daniel Kluger** (2019 Tony Nominee for *Oklahoma*).

### ***Judgment Day***

Previews: December 5 – 9

Thursday at 7:30pm

Friday at 8:00pm

Saturday at 8:00pm

Monday at 7:30pm

Tuesday at 7:30pm

Performances: December 10, 2019 – January 11, 2020

Monday–Thursday at 7:30pm

Friday at 8:00pm

Saturday at 2:00pm and 8:00pm

*Special holiday performance schedule available at [www.armoryonpark.org](http://www.armoryonpark.org)*

by Ödön von Horváth

Adapted by Christopher Shinn

Richard Jones, Director

Paul Steinberg, Set Designer

Mimi Jordan Sherin, Lighting Designer

Antony McDonald, Costume Designer

Daniel Kluger, Music and Sound Designer

Drew Levy, Sound Designer

### **TICKETS**

Tickets start at \$35 (Previews) | \$55 (Performances) and can be purchased at [armoryonpark.org](http://armoryonpark.org) / (212) 933-5812

Thompson Arts Center at Park Avenue Armory

643 Park Avenue at 67<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY

### **SPONSORSHIP**

Citi and Bloomberg Philanthropies are the Armory's season sponsors.

Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by the Charina Endowment Fund, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, the Juliet Lea Hillman Simonds Foundation, the Leon Levy Foundation, the May and Samuel Rudin

Family Foundation, the Richenthal Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation. The artistic season is also made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Additional support has been provided by the Armory's Artistic Council.

## **ABOUT PARK AVENUE ARMORY**

Part palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory fills a critical void in the cultural ecology of New York by enabling artists to create, students to explore, and audiences to experience, unconventional work that cannot be mounted in traditional performance halls and museums. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19<sup>th</sup>-century European train stations—and an array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory offers a platform for creativity across all art forms. Together, these and other spaces within the historic building utilized for arts programming comprise the Thompson Arts Center, named in recognition of the Thompson family's ongoing support of the institution.

Since its first production in September 2007, the Armory has organized and commissioned immersive performances, installations, and cross-disciplinary collaborations in its vast Drill Hall that defy traditional categorization and challenge artists to push the boundaries of their practice. In its historic period rooms, the Armory presents small-scale performances and programs, including its acclaimed Recital Series, which showcases musical talent from across the globe within the intimate salon setting of the Board of Officers Room; and the new Artists Studio series in the newly restored Veterans Room, which features innovative artists and artistic pairings that harken back to the imaginative collaboration and improvisation of the original group of designers who conceived the space. The Armory also offers robust arts education programs at no cost to underserved New York City public school students, engaging them with the institution's artistic programming and the building's history and architecture.

Programmatic highlights at the Armory include *The Let Go*, a site-specific immersive dance celebration by Nick Cave; *Macbeth*, directed by Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh, and starring Branagh and Alex Kingston for which the Wade Thompson Drill Hall was transformed into a bloody, rainy Scottish heath; Ernesto Neto's *anthropodino*, a large-scale, interactive sculpture and labyrinth comprising a 120 by 180-foot canopy extended across the Drill Hall and 60-foot aromatic fabric stalactites; Julian Rosefeldt's *Manifesto*, a multi-channel cinematic installation featuring Cate Blanchett; Sam Mendes' hit production of *The Lehman Trilogy*, adapted by Ben Power and starring Adam Godley, Ben Miles, and Simon Russell Beale; Ivo van Hove's chilling staging of *The Damned*; Simon Stone's critically acclaimed, Obie Award-winning, and four-time Drama Desk-nominated production *Yerma*, starring Billie Piper and performed within glass walls; Obie Award-winning and eight-time Drama Desk-nominated play *The Hairy Ape*, directed by Richard Jones and starring Bobby Cannavale in a production where the audience was surrounded by a massive revolving stage; Obie Award-winning *A Room in India* (*Une chambre en Inde*) with Le Théâtre du Soleil under the direction of Ariane Mnouchkine; and the unprecedented residency of the Royal Shakespeare Company of five productions in repertory over six weeks in association with Lincoln Center Festival.

Concurrent with its artistic program, the Armory has undertaken an ongoing \$215-million revitalization of its historic building, designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron.

[www.armoryonpark.org](http://www.armoryonpark.org)

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**Media Contacts**

For more information or to request images, please contact Resnicow and Associates:

Sarah Sutherland, [ssutherland@resnicow.com](mailto:ssutherland@resnicow.com) or (212) 671-5163

Delaney Smith, [dsmith@resnicow.com](mailto:dsmith@resnicow.com) or (212) 671-5160

Josh Balber, [jbalker@resnicow.com](mailto:jbalker@resnicow.com) or (212) 671-5175