

Did you know?

The Importance of Being Earnest was first produced at the St. James' Theatre, London. It opened on Valentine's Day, 14 February 1895.

Enjoy the show

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National
Theatre
Live

A production from

National
Theatre

The Importance of Being Earnest

by Oscar Wilde

Cast

Gwendolen Fairfax.....Ronke Adékọluéjọ
Merriman / Lane..... Julian Bleach
Ensemble..... Shereener Browne
Reverend Canon Chasuble..Richard Cant
Lady Bracknell.....Sharon D Clarke
Algernon Moncrieff.....Ncuti Gatwa
Ensemble..... Jasmine Kerr
Miss Prism.....Amanda Lawrence
Ensemble..... Gillian McCafferty
Ensemble..... Elliot Pritchard
Cecily Cardew..... Eliza Scanlen
Jack Worthing..... Hugh Skinner
Ensemble..... John Vernon

Production Team

Director..... Max Webster
Set and Costume..... Rae Smith
Lighting Designer..... Jon Clark
Sound Designer.....Nicola T. Chang
Movement Director..... Carrie-Anne Ingrouille
Composer.....DJ Walde
Physical Comedy Advisor..... Joyce Henderson
Intimacy Coordinator... Ingrid Mackinnon

Broadcast Team

Director for Screen.....Matthew Amos
Lighting Director.....Gemma O'Sullivan
Sound Supervisor.....Conrad Fletcher
Script Supervisor.....Vicky Edmonds



Running time:

2 hours and 50 minutes including a 15-minute interval.



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ENGLAND

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That Tiger Life!

An extract from *Sos Eltis'* article in the *National Theatre's* programme for *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

It is in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895) that Wilde's doctrine of individualism and creative self-realisation finds its ultimate expression. Its men and women are equally creatures of appetite and joyful fantasy, whether scoffing cucumber sandwiches and buttered muffins, or declaring that 17 years of chastity are out of the question as 'I hate waiting even five minutes for anybody'. Everyone lives a double life, escaping the constrictions of propriety and responsibility, whether through their sensational diary

or their three-volume novel of 'more than usually revolting sentimentality' or by having an imaginary friend Bunbury – a necessity as Algernon observes for both husband and wife. Daringly, Wilde included a wealth of covert references in his punning text, from silver cigarette cases (a favourite gift to his gay lovers) to the title itself [...] As Wilde commented years later, when revising the play for publication after his imprisonment, 'How I used to toy with that tiger Life!'

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DR. STRANGELOVE

co-adapted by Armando Iannucci
co-adapted and directed by Sean Foley
from Patrick Myles and David Luff

Seven-time BAFTA Award-winner Steve Coogan plays four roles in the world premiere stage adaptation of Stanley Kubrick's comedy masterpiece.

★★★★★

**'A masterful recreation
of sublime comic acting'**

Broadway World

In cinemas from 27 March

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