

## Society of London Theatre celebrates UK's world-leading theatre industry with display of Rankin portraits on the Piccadilly Lights

- The Society of London Theatre, the organisation behind the Olivier Awards, West End LIVE, the Theatre for Every Child campaign and Kids Week, will celebrate theatre with a display of portraits by acclaimed photographer Rankin, taken at this year's Olivier Awards, on the Piccadilly Lights
- The portraits, featuring notable names including Nicole Scherzinger, Sarah Snook, Andrew Scott, David Tennant and Arlene Phillips, will be displayed on the Piccadilly Lights at 4pm tomorrow (Tuesday 11 June)

Portraits of this year's Olivier Award-winners and some of theatre biggest names, taken by acclaimed photographer Rankin, will be displayed on the Piccadilly Lights at 4pm on Tuesday 11 June as the Society of London Theatre celebrate the UK's world-leading theatre industry. These striking portraits, sponsored by Fujifilm and photographed on their GFX100 ii large format camera, were taken at this year's prestigious Olivier Awards with Mastercard of the ceremony's star-studded array of winners and nominees. Alongside stills of the portraits, the Piccadilly Lights display will include video footage shot by Cameron O'Connell.

The celebration coincides with the on-sale of Kids Week, Society of London Theatre's long-running audience development initiative which sees children aged 17 and under attend theatre across London for free, when accompanied by a paying adult, throughout the summer holidays. Over the past 25 years, Kids Week has introduced over 2.5 million young people and their families to the magic of live theatre and with over 50 shows participating this year, there is something for all the family to enjoy. Tickets are available from 10am on Tuesday 11 June, only at OfficialLondonTheatre.com.

The Society of London Theatre, a not-for-profit organisation representing London's theatre industry, are also behind West End LIVE – Europe's largest free musical theatre festival to be held this year on Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 June -, Official London Theatre, the world famous TKTS booth in the heart of Leicester Square, Theatre Tokens and the Theatre for Every Child campaign.

## Rankin said:

"Theatre is an integral part of our cultural identity, so it was a privilege to photograph the nominees and winners at this year's Olivier Awards - supported by Fujifilm – and celebrate the

very best of London theatre. The display on the Piccadilly Lights will be a fitting showcase of the world-leading theatre industry in the UK."

## Full list of names featured in the Rankin portraits to be displayed on the Piccadilly Lights on Tuesday 11 June, 4pm:

- Nicole Scherzinger
- Sarah Snook
- Andrew Scott
- David Tennant
- Sheridan Smith
- Arlene Phillips
- Luke Thompson
- Daniel Mays
- James Norton
- Will Close
- Sonia Friedman
- Stephen Daldry
- Justin Martin
- Kate Trefry
- Jade Lewis
- Matilda Feyişayo İbini
- James Cousins
- Tom Wexler
- Isabela Coracy
- Adam Fisher
- Alan Williams

\*ENDS\*

A selection of the Rankin portraits are available here.

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

<u>Society of London Theatre (SOLT)</u> is a not-for-profit organisation representing the London theatre industry. SOLT runs the Olivier Awards, West End LIVE, TKTS, Theatre Tokens, Kids Week and Official London Theatre. SOLT represents approximately 230 London-based producers, theatre owners and managers, including all the major subsidised theatrical organisations in London.

**About Theatre for Every Child** 

The Society of London Theatre (SOLT) & UK Theatre want every child to attend the theatre by the time they leave school.

We want children and young people to experience as much theatre and live performance as possible at every age, as we believe every child has the right to experience and enjoy our country's world-class theatre sector.

As a minimum benchmark, our <u>Theatre for Every Child</u> (TFEC) campaign asks for all political parties to ensure that all children have the chance to see a professional theatre production before they leave school.

Ahead of the general election, we are asking all political parties to make this commitment in their manifestos.