



**ROSE  
THEATRE  
KINGSTON**

## ENGLISH TOURING THEATRE ANNOUNCES CASTING UPDATE FOR SANDI TOKSVIG'S NEW PLAY SILVER LINING

English Touring Theatre and Rose Theatre Kingston present  
The world première of

### **SILVER LINING**

By **Sandi Toksvig**

Director: **Rebecca Gatward**; Designer: **Michael Taylor**

Sound and Projection Designer: **Mic Pool**; Lighting Designer: **Mark Doubleday**

**Press night: 8 Feb at Rose Theatre Kingston**

And then on UK tour until 8 Apr

**English Touring Theatre** today announces a casting update for the world première of **Sandi Toksvig's** new comedy *Silver Lining*, a co-production with **Rose Theatre Kingston**. **Sheila Reid** plays Gloria, with **Rachel Davies** as Maureen, **Keziah Joseph** as Hope, **Maggie McCarthy** as May, **Joanna Monro** as June and **Amanda Walker** as St Michael in the production directed by **Rebecca Gatward**. It opens at **Rose Theatre Kingston** on **8 February**, before touring to **Portsmouth, Oxford, Cambridge, Ipswich, Keswick, York and Salford**.

On one dark and stormy night in the upper day room of the Silver Retirement Home, five elderly ladies are trading stories of their remarkable lives. With the storm floods rising and no rescue team in sight, the ladies are faced with the sudden realisation that in order to survive they are going to have to do what they have done for their entire lives – do it themselves!

*Silver Lining* tells the tale of five extraordinary yet forgotten women, who come together one treacherous night to recreate *The Great Escape* – senior citizen style.

**Sandi Toksvig** is a writer, actor, presenter and political activist. Her previous writing for the stage includes the musical *Big Night Out at the Little Sands Picture Palace* and *The Pocket Dream*. Until last year she was the presenter of BBC Radio 4's *The News Quiz* and in October 2016 she takes over from Stephen Fry as the host of BBC television quiz show *QI*. She is the joint founder of the Women's Equality Party which was established in March 2015.

**Sheila Reid** plays Gloria. Her theatre credits include *Pericles* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Othello* and *The Three Sisters* (The Old Vic), *Romeo and Juliet*, *Tis Pity She's a Whore* and *Richard III* (RSC), *When I Was A Girl I Used To Scream And Shout* and *My Mother Said I Never Should* (Royal Court Theatre),

*The Importance of Being Earnest* (Theatre Royal Haymarket), *Pornography* (Tricycle Theatre), *Into The Woods* (Donmar Warehouse), *Filomena* (Almeida Theatre), *Hedda Gabler* (National Theatre) and at Edinburgh Festival, *Love Among the Butterflies*, *Terrible with Reasons In It* (both of which she wrote) and *Maurice's Jubilee* (also UK tour). For television, she is perhaps best known for her role as Madge in ITV comedy *Benidorm*; her other television credits include *Call the Midwife*, *Doctor Who*, *Father Brown* and *Psychobitches*.

**Rachel Davies** plays Maureen. Her theatre credits include *Ecstasy* (Hampstead Theatre), *The Party* and *The Bacchae* (National Theatre), *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (New Theatre and Old Vic). For television her credits include *Emmerdale*, *A Passionate Woman*, *New Tricks*, *Best Friends*, *Bodies*, *Cutting it*, *The Chase*, *Dalziel & Pascoe* and *Linda Green*.

**Keziah Joseph** as Hope. Keziah trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama this marks her professional debut.

**Maggie McCarthy** plays May. Her theatre credits include *We Wait in Joyful Hope* (Theatre 503), *The Absence of War* (Headlong/Sheffield Theatres/Rose Theatre Kingston), *Juno and the Paycock* (Bristol Old Vic/Liverpool Theatres), *Gaslight* (Salisbury Playhouse), *Children of the Sun*, *Cocktail Sticks*, *Doctor's Dilemma*, *Major Barbara*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Philistines*, *The Rose Tattoo*, *Mother Clap's Molly House* (National Theatre), *Private Lives* and *Uncle Vanya* (Chichester Festival Theatre). Her work for television includes *Dancing On the Edge*, *Feather Boy* and *She's Out*. Her work for film includes *Attack the Block*, *Leap Year* and *Hilary And Jackie*.

**Joanna Monro** plays June. Her theatre credits include *Jack and the Beanstalk* (Hall for Cornwall), *Mamma Mia* (West End and international tour), *Breeze Block Park* (Liverpool Playhouse), *Habeus Corpus* (Exeter Northcott), *Women On The Verge Of HRT*, *Golden Leaf Strut* and *The Master Builder* (Belgrade Theatre, Coventry), *Blood Brothers* (West End), *Prisoner Cell Block H*, *Baby Love*, *Rough Crossing*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Dead White Males*, *The Price Of Meat* and *The Taming Of The Shrew* (Nuffield Theatre) and *Dreams Of San Francisco* (Bush Theatre). For television her work includes *Confessions of a Diary Secretary*, *Angels*, *People Like Us*, *The Cazelet Chronicles*, *Doctor Who*, *Fast Forward*, *The Life and Death of Philip Knight* and *Dream Team*. She is currently a recurring character in the BBC Radio 4 series *Homefront*.

**Amanda Walker** plays St Michael. Her theatre credits include *Orpheus Descending* (Haymarket Theatre), *Waiting in September: The War On Terror* (Southbank Centre) and *Superior Donuts* (Southwark Playhouse). Her television work includes *The Missing*, *Murphy's Law*, *My Family*, *Daylight Robbery*, *Fish* and *The New Adventures of Robin Hood*; and for film *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*, *Captain America: The First Avenger* and *Cloud Atlas*.

**Rebecca Gatward** directs. Her theatre credits include *The Night Watch* (Manchester Royal Exchange), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre, Chester), for West Yorkshire Playhouse; *The Accrington Pals* and *Beryl* (also Rose Theatre Kingston), *The Trial Of Dennis*, *The Menace* (Southbank Centre), *The Comedy Of Errors*, *The Merchant Of Venice* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Pandas* (Traverse Theatre), *The Indian Boy* (RSC Complete Works Festival), *The Canterbury Tales* directed in partnership with Greg Doran and Jonathan Munby and *Thyestes* for The Other Place (RSC), *Touched* (Salisbury Playhouse), *Cancer Tales* (New Wolsey Theatre Ipswich). She was Company Director on *This Is Our Youth* with Matt Damon and Casey Affleck at the Garrick Theatre. Her work for television includes *EastEnders* (winner Broadcast award and soap award nominations for best episode and scene), *Casualty*, *Doctors* and *Sadie J*.

**Rose Theatre Kingston**

3 – 11 February

Box office: 020 8174 0090

[www.rosetheatrekingston.org](http://www.rosetheatrekingston.org)**New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth**

14 – 18 February

Box office: 023 9264 9000

[www.newtheatreroyal.com](http://www.newtheatreroyal.com)**Oxford Playhouse**

21 – 25 February

Box Office: 0844 871 3020

[www.oxfordplayhouse.com](http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com)**Cambridge Arts Theatre**

7 – 11 March

Box office: 01223 503 333

[www.cambridgeartstheatre.com](http://www.cambridgeartstheatre.com)**New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich**

14 – 18 March

Box office: 01473 295 900

[www.wolseytheatre.co.uk](http://www.wolseytheatre.co.uk)**Theatre by the Lake, Keswick**

21 – 25 March

Box office: 017687 74411

[www.theatrebythelake.com](http://www.theatrebythelake.com)**York Theatre Royal**

28 March – 1 April

Box Office: 01904 623568

[www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk](http://www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk)**The Lowry, Salford**

4 – 8 April

Box office: 0843 208 6000

[www.thelowry.com](http://www.thelowry.com)

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

Twitter: @Rosetheatre



For more information contact:

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## Notes to Editors and Listings

Rose Theatre Kingston

24-26 High Street, Kingston, KT1 1HL

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

Twitter: @Rosetheatre Facebook: /RoseTheatreKingston Instagram: RoseTheatreKingston

Ticket prices: £30 £25 £20 £15 £8\*/Previews: £25 £20 £15 £10 £8\*  
\*pit cushions

Box Office: 020 8174 0090 (bkg fee)  
Monday – Saturday: 10am – 8pm (6pm non-performance days)  
Sun: one hour before the performance  
No fees are payable when booking in person at the Box Office  
An additional £1 per ticket booking fee and £2.50 per booking transaction fee are payable when booking online and by phone

Concessions: Only one discount per ticket, subject to availability  
Terms and conditions apply - no discounts on Pit Cushion prices.  
Over 60, unwaged, entertainment union, children under 16 and Students:  
£5 off.

Under 26yrs: £5 tickets available. Please note valid ID will be required upon collection.  
Limited availability; certain shows only; terms and conditions apply.

Schools, Colleges: Tickets are priced from £8 at selected performances for school &  
Universities: groups of 10 or more; 11th teacher ticket free with every 10  
purchased. Please contact the Box Office for more details.

Babies: Babies under 18 months old are welcome at family productions. We do not  
charge admission but a free ticket must be collected from the Box Office.  
Prams and buggies may be stored in the foyer at the owner's risk.

Access: Patrons with disabilities enjoy half price tickets.  
The Rose is a fully accessible organisation and we welcome everyone.  
There is Blue Badge parking in High Street and Rose car park.

Sensory Access: A digital hearing system is available for patrons with a hearing aid, and  
Sennheiser headsets for patrons without a hearing aid. Guide and hearing  
dogs are welcome. Please let us know in advance so we can provide a dog-  
sitter and water bowl.

Learning Disabilities: Please contact us in advance to discuss how we can help make your visit as comfortable as possible, on 0208 174 0090 or email [access@rosetheatrekingston.org](mailto:access@rosetheatrekingston.org).