



For Immediate Release

**The Pilot Season of *NT LIVE* Concludes with *LONDON ASSURANCE*
at Cineplex Theatres across Canada on June 28**

A second *NT Live* season beginning in fall 2010 will include *HAMLET* and *FRANKENSTEIN*

Toronto, ON – May 4, 2010 (CGX.UN): The hugely successful pilot season of *NT Live* will end with a late addition to the schedule: a live broadcast of Boucicault's brilliantly funny Victorian comedy *London Assurance*. Starring Simon Russell Beale and Fiona Shaw in Nicholas Hytner's sell-out hit production at the Olivier Theatre, *London Assurance* will be shown on Cineplex screens across the country on Monday, June 28 at 6:30 pm ET/PT/CT and 7:30 pm MT.

A second season of *NT Live* will launch in fall 2010 and include Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, with Rory Kinnear in the title role, Clare Higgins as Gertrude and Ruth Negga as Ophelia, directed by Nicholas Hytner; and Danny Boyle's production of *Frankenstein*, a play by Nick Dear, based on the novel by Mary Shelley, in early 2011. Dates for these and other *NT Live* broadcasts will be announced later this year.

NT Live performances are filmed live at the National Theatre in high-definition and broadcast via satellite to Cineplex theatres. Tickets for *London Assurance* are now available at participating Cineplex theatre box offices and online at www.cineplex.com/events. Admission for children ages 3 – 13 and seniors is \$16.95 +tax and general admission is \$19.95 +tax.

"We couldn't have foreseen that the experimental *NT Live* season would be such a hit with audiences around the world, who are hungry to see our work in their local cinema," says Nicholas Hytner. "Through *NT Live* we can respond immediately to the sell-out success of *London Assurance* and bring it to tens of thousands who wouldn't otherwise be able to see it. And we're thrilled that we can confidently build on the success of our first season with a second season of broadcasts."

"We are tremendously pleased with the success of the first *NT Live* season presented in our theatres," said Pat Marshall, Vice President Communications and Investor Relations, Cineplex Entertainment. "In response to the popularity of this series, we are delighted to add a fifth performance this year for guests to enjoy another wonderful performance from The National Theatre."

Cineplex Entertainment will present *London Assurance* at the following theatres:

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Coquitlam

SilverCity Coquitlam Cinemas, 170 Schoolhouse Street

Kamloops

Cineplex Odeon Aberdeen Mall Cinemas, 700-1320 Trans Canada Highway

Kelowna

Famous Players Orchard Plaza 5 Cinemas, 160-1876 Cooper Road

Langley

Colossus Langley Cinemas, 20090 91A Avenue

Nanaimo

Galaxy Cinemas Nanaimo, 213-4750 Rutherford Road

Richmond

SilverCity Riverport Cinemas, 14211 Entertainment Way

Vancouver

Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver, 900 Burrard Street

Victoria

SilverCity Victoria Cinemas, 3130 Tillicum Road

ALBERTA**Calgary**

Cineplex Odeon Crowfoot Crossing Cinemas, 91 Crowfoot Terrace NW

Scotiabank Theatre Chinook, 6455 Macleod Trail SW

Edmonton

Cineplex Odeon North Edmonton Cinemas, 14231-137th Avenue NW

Cineplex Odeon South Edmonton Cinemas, 1525-99th Street NW

Lethbridge

Galaxy Cinemas Lethbridge, 501-1st Avenue SW

MANITOBA**Winnipeg**

SilverCity Polo Park Cinemas, 817 St. James Street

SASKATCHEWAN**Regina**

Galaxy Cinemas Regina, 420 McCarthy Boulevard N

Saskatoon

Galaxy Cinemas Saskatoon, 347 2nd Avenue

ONTARIO**Ancaster**

SilverCity Ancaster Cinemas, 771 Golf Links Road

Barrie

Galaxy Cinemas Barrie, 72 Commerce Park Drive

Belleville

Galaxy Cinemas Belleville, 160 Bell Boulevard

Burlington

SilverCity Burlington Cinemas, 1250 Brant Street

Collingwood

Galaxy Cinemas Collingwood, 6 Mountain Road

Etobicoke

Cineplex Odeon Queensway Cinemas, 1025 The Queensway

Gloucester

SilverCity Gloucester Cinemas, 2385 City Park Drive

Hamilton

SilverCity Hamilton Mountain Cinemas, 795 Paramount Drive

Kingston

Cineplex Odeon Gardiners Road Cinemas, 626 Gardiners Road

London

SilverCity London Cinemas, 1680 Richmond Street

Mississauga

Coliseum Mississauga Cinemas, 309 Rathburn Road W

Newmarket

SilverCity Newmarket Cinemas, 18151 Yonge Street

Niagara Falls

Cineplex Odeon Niagara Square Cinemas, 7555 Montrose Road

Oakville

SilverCity Oakville Cinemas, 3531 Wyecroft Road

Orangeville

Galaxy Cinemas Orangeville, 85 Fifth Avenue

Orillia

Galaxy Cinemas Orillia, 865 West Ridge Boulevard

Oshawa

Cineplex Odeon Oshawa Cinemas, 1351 Grandview Street N

Ottawa

Cineplex Odeon South Keys Cinemas, 2214 Bank Street

Owen Sound

Galaxy Cinemas Owen Sound, 1020 10th Street

Peterborough

Galaxy Cinemas Peterborough, 320 Water Street

Richmond Hill

SilverCity Richmond Hill Cinemas, 8725 Yonge Street

Sault Ste. Marie

Galaxy Cinemas Sault Ste. Marie, 293 Bay Street

Scarborough

Coliseum Scarborough Cinemas, 300 Borough Drive

Sudbury

SilverCity Sudbury Cinemas, 355 Barrydowne Road

Thunder Bay

SilverCity Thunder Bay Cinemas, 850 North May Street

Toronto

Cineplex Odeon Sheppard Cinemas, 4861 Yonge Street

Scotiabank Theatre Toronto, 259 Richmond Street W

SilverCity Yonge-Eglinton Cinemas, 2300 Yonge Street

Waterloo

Galaxy Cinemas Waterloo, 550 King Street N

Windsor

Cineplex Odeon Devonshire Mall Cinemas, 3100 Howard Avenue

QUEBEC**Beauport**

Cineplex Odeon Beauport Cinemas, 825 rue Clemenceau

Brossard

Cineplex Odeon Brossard Cinemas, 9350 boul. Leduc

Kirkland

Coliseum Kirkland Cinemas, 3200 rue Jean Yves

Montreal

Scotiabank Theatre Montreal, 977 rue Ste-Catherine O

NT Live is funded in partnership with Arts Council England and NESTA.

NT Live is supported internationally by Travelex.

NT Live is distributed internationally, ex-UK by New York based BY Experience (www.byexperience.net).

Notes for editors

The pilot season of NT Live has broadcast four plays since its launch in June 2009: Racine's *Phèdre* with Helen Mirren in the title role; Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well*; a family show, Terry Pratchett's *Nation*; and Alan Bennett's new play *The Habit of Art* with Richard Griffiths, Alex Jennings and Frances de la Tour.

Dion Boucicault, the Irish genius of London theatre in the age of Dickens, wrote *London Assurance* in 1841 and thereby created in Lord Harcourt and Lady Spanker two of the great comic roles for the English stage, played in this new NT production by Simon Russell Beale and Fiona Shaw.

Sir Harcourt Courtley is lured away from the epicentre of fashionable London by the promise of a rich and beautiful bride, Grace, forty-five years his junior. Arriving at Oak Hall, Gloucestershire, he marvels at this rural Venus until her charms are eclipsed by her hearty cousin, the foxhunting Lady Gay Spanker. Meanwhile his disguised son turns up in flight from his creditors and falls head over heels for Grace. When Lady Spanker discovers the young couple, she needs little prompting from the visiting chancer Dazzle to lead Sir Harcourt astray.

The full cast is: Mark Addy, Richard Briers, Matt Cross, Fiona Drummond, Mark Extance, Richard Frame, Junix Inocian, Tony Jayawardena, Simon Markey, Laura Matthews, Prasanna Puwanarajah, Paul Ready, Simon Russell Beale, Nick Sampson, Maggie Service, Fiona Shaw, Michelle Terry and David Whitworth. The production is directed by Nicholas Hytner and designed by Mark Thompson, with lighting by Neil Austin, music by Rachel Portman and sound by John Leonard.

The National Theatre

The National Theatre, founded in 1963, and established on the South Bank of the River Thames in London in 1976, has three theatres – the Olivier, the Lyttelton and the Cottesloe. It presents an eclectic mix of new plays and classics, with seven or eight productions in repertory (sharing the stages) at any one time. Actors often appear in more than one play during a season; for example Elliott Levey, who appears in *The Habit of Art*, also appeared in *All's Well That Ends Well* (broadcast as part of NT Live in October 2009). The National aims constantly to re-energize the great traditions of the British stage and to expand the horizons of audiences and artists alike, and aspires to reflect in its repertoire the diversity of the nation's culture. With its extensive program of Platform performances, backstage tours, foyer music, exhibitions, and free outdoor entertainment the National recognizes that the theatre doesn't begin and end with the rise and fall of the curtain. By touring – and now, NT Live - it shares its work with audiences in the UK and abroad. The first NT Live season has aimed to capture the diversity of the National's work: a classic tragedy, a Shakespeare, a family show and a new play (*The Habit of Art*).

About Cineplex Entertainment

As the largest motion picture exhibitor in Canada, Cineplex Entertainment LP owns, leases or has a joint-venture interest in 130 theatres with 1,347 screens serving approximately 70

million guests annually. Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, Cineplex Entertainment operates theatres from British Columbia to Quebec and is the largest exhibitor of digital, 3D and IMAX projection technologies in the country. Proudly Canadian and with a workforce of approximately 10,000 employees, the company operates the following top tier brands: Cineplex Odeon, Galaxy, Famous Players, Colossus, Coliseum, SilverCity, Cinema City and Scotiabank Theatres. The units of Cineplex Galaxy Income Fund, which owns approximately 99.6% of Cineplex Entertainment LP, are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (symbol CGX.UN). For more information, visit www.cineplex.com.

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