

DEAR FRIENDS,



Rehearsals for our upcoming production of *The Audience* have begun, and as I sit and watch the amazing cast of 17 actors create this fascinating world, I wonder how much you, the Drury Lane audience, knows about this play?

Let me fill you in!

The Audience is the basis for the hugely popular Netflix series, *The Crown*. While creating the script the playwright, Emmy Award winning Peter Morgan, was struck by the relationship between young Queen Elizabeth II and elderly Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and thought “there might be a TV show in this”...

Centered around Queen Elizabeth II’s weekly meetings with 8 of her prime ministers, *The Audience* reveals imagined moments in time with heavy hitting names in British history-Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, and Tony Blair. Carefully crafted private moments with lesser-known Prime Ministers play out in front of you, divulging decisions that formed the turbulent history of Queen Elizabeth II’s United Kingdom.

This powerful story shifts back and forth through time, revealing the Queen in many stages of her life.

A young naïve girl learning what it means to be Queen in a world of powerful men.

The Queen, mid-reign, succeeding and failing as a parade of Prime Ministers come and go.

An experienced Queen, reflecting on her decisions as she navigates what it means to “pull off inexplicable survival against all odds.”

This imaginative production provides a glimpse into a world dominated by the longest reigning monarch of the United Kingdom. This Queen, seemingly foreign and formal, is also a woman, whose intimate thoughts and emotions are identifiably personal and familiar.

To be able to produce the play for the Drury Lane audience is a privilege and an adventure. I hope that you will join us as we add a new layer to the Drury Lane Experience.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the theatre,

Wendy Stark Prey
Managing Director

DRURY LANE
THEATRE

For an insider’s perspective, I encourage you to read the notes from the Director, Jessica Fisch.

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