

Comedy at the King's in February – Art

ARTKing's Theatre Edinburgh

Monday 11 to Saturday 16 February 2019

After breaking box office records in 2018, David Pugh & Dafydd Rogers will produce the 2019 UK tour of the Old Vic production of Yasmina Reza's Olivier, Tony and Moliere award-winning comedy ART, translated by Christopher Hampton. The production will star Nigel Havers, Denis Lawson and Stephen Tompkinson as Serge, Marc and Ivan respectively.

David Pugh said, "It is twenty years since Dafydd [Rogers] and I first produced the comedy masterpiece ART in the West End, and the original post-London tour played for 78 weeks. This time, we want to break our own record; in fact, we want to play as many theatres as Sir Ken Dodd has played in his wonderful career, and with this marvelous cast, we think we have every chance!"



ART – Stephen Tompkinson, Denis Lawson & Nigel Havers Photo credit John Swannell

Nigel Havers' films include *Chariots of Fire*, *A Passage to India*, *Empire of the Sun* and *The Whistle Blower*. He has starred in many television productions, including *The Charmer*, *Dangerfield*, *Manchild*, and, more recently, the hit US series *Brothers and Sisters*, Lewis Archer in *Coronation Street*, Benidorm and Lord Hepworth in *Downton Abbey*. His theatre work includes *The Importance of Being Earnest* and Harold Pinter's *Family Voices*, both directed by Sir Peter Hall for the National Theatre, *Richard II* and *Man and Superman* for the RSC, the hugely successful touring productions of *Rebecca* and Alan Bennett's *Single Spies*.

Denis Lawson is known for his roles as John Jarndyce in the

BBC's adaptation of *Bleak House*, for which he was nominated for both a BAFTA and an EMMY award, and as DI Steve McAndrew in BBC1's hit series *New Tricks*. In film, his notable credits include the roles of Gordon Urquhart in the film *Local Hero* and Wedge Antilles in the original *Star Wars* trilogy. On stage, he won an Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Musical for his performance as Jim Lancaster in *Mr Cinders* at the Fortune Theatre, and he was nominated for an Olivier for his performance as George in *La Cages Aux Folles* at the Playhouse Theatre.

Stephen Tompkinson's television credits include BBC's *The Split*, five series of *DCI Banks*, four series of *Trollied*, seven series of *Wild at Heart*, six series of *Drop the Dead Donkey* (British Comedy Award Winner for Best TV Comedy Actor) and three series of *Ballykissangel*, and his films include Phil in *Brassed Off*. His theatre work includes *Spamalot*, *Rattle of a Simple Man* and *Arsenic and Old Lace* in the West End, *Cloaca* and *A Christmas Carol* (Old Vic) and *Tartuffe* (National Tour).

Based on the original production by Matthew Warchus, ART will be directed by Ellie Jones, with design by Mark Thompson, lighting by Hugh Vanstone, sound design by Mic Pool, original music by Gary Yershon, fight direction by Terry King and casting by Sarah Bird CDG.

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Edinburgh

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