

Did you know?

Mrs. Warren’s Profession is one of the three plays Bernard Shaw published as Plays Unpleasant in 1898, alongside The Philanderer and Widowers’ Houses. It was meant to challenge audiences morally and socially, rather than simply entertain.

Enjoy the show

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MRS. WARREN’S
PROFESSION

by Bernard Shaw

A production from



Cast

Mrs. Kitty Warren.....Imelda Staunton
Vivie Warren.....Bessie Carter
Rev. Samuel Gardner.....Kevin Doyle
Sir George Crofts.....Robert Glenister
Frank Gardner.....Reuben Joseph
Mr. Praed.....Sid Sagar
Ensemble.....Liz Izen
.....Lizzie Schenk
.....Michelle Hanks
.....Abbie-Marie Howe
.....Kabira Imona
.....Karen McCaffrey
.....Marusia Makhmutova
.....Carlotta Mastracchi
.....Alessandra Michelucci-Dunn
.....Emma Riches

Production Team

Director.....Dominic Cooke
Set and Costume Designer.....Chloe Lamford
Lighting Designer.....Jon Clark
Sound Designer.....Christopher Shutt
Composer.....Angus MacRae
Casting Director.....Amy Ball CDG

Broadcast Team

Screen Director.....Tim Van Someren
Lighting Director.....Gemma O’Sullivan
Sound Supervisor.....Conrad Fletcher
Script Supervisor.....Emma Ramsay

Running time:
1 hour and 56 minutes. There is no interval.

Michael Billington on Shaw

an excerpt from the *Mrs. Warren's Profession* programme, with thanks to Nimax Theatres.

Mrs. Warren's Profession had a particularly difficult birth — not altogether surprising given Shaw's exploration of the links between sex and society. There was no question of the play being granted a license by the Lord Chamberlain, who, until the abolition of theatrical censorship in 1968, enjoyed the power to prohibit public performance.

What is saddening, however, is to see how even Shaw's champions turned against him over *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. J. T. Grein was a visionary Dutchman who set up the Independent Theatre Company to give private performances of unlicensed plays. [...] *Mrs. Warren's Profession*,

however, was a step too far even for Grein, and the play had to wait until 1902 to be given two private performances by the Stage Society.

Mrs. Warren's Profession had to wait until 1925 to receive its first public performance in England. [...] Since then, Shaw's play has become an established part of the repertory. Ronald Eyre staged it for the National Theatre Company at the Old Vic in 1970 with a fine cast headed by Coral Browne. A second National Theatre production followed in 1985 directed by Anthony Page with Joan Plowright and Jessica Turner as mother and daughter.

Sonia Friedman Productions

Sonia Friedman Productions (SFP) is one of the most prolific and influential theatre companies in the world. Since beginning in 2002, SFP has developed, initiated and produced over 270 productions worldwide, winning 63 Olivier Awards, 61 Tony Awards and 3 BAFTAs.

Led by Sonia Friedman CBE, who this year was named one of *Vogue's* 25 most influential women working today and previously included in *TIME's* 100 Most Influential People in the World, SFP has developed and delivered an unparalleled body of work across the West End, Broadway and beyond, helping to redefine the theatrical landscape.

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Coming soon

The Fifth Step

by David Ireland
directed by Finn den Hertog

In cinemas from **27 November**

Jack Lowden (*Slow Horses*, *Dunkirk*) is joined by Martin Freeman (*The Hobbit*, *The Responder*) in the critically acclaimed and subversively funny new play.

★★★★★

'Raw, excruciating and often alarmingly funny'

Daily Mail

Hamlet

by William Shakespeare
directed by Rob Hastie

In cinemas from **22 January**

Olivier Award-winner Hiran Abeysekera (*Life of Pi*) is Hamlet in this fearless, contemporary take on Shakespeare's famous tragedy.

★★★★★

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