



1650 Broadway  
Suite 602  
NYC, NY 10019  
Office: 917261-3988

Contact: Polk & Co. – Matt Polk

**Director THOMAS OSTERMEIER's  
Critically Acclaimed International Production of**

**AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE**

**By Henrik Ibsen**

**In A Version by  
FLORIAN BORCHMEYER & THOMAS OSTERMEIER**

**\*\*\*\*\* (five out of five stars) – The London Guardian**

**“Probably the most invigorating Ibsen you will see.” – London Times**

**“This is a riveting interpretation of Ibsen's explosive play with acerbic and satirical humour and accessible, relevant political commentary.” - Melbourne Herald Sun**

**“Ostermeier is the most important theater director of his generation.” - New Republic**

**New English Adaptation by  
BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS**

**Comes to Broadway 2017-2018 Season  
In a Broadway Theater To Be Announced**

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(New York, NY) Director **Thomas Ostermeier's** critically lauded Schaubühne production of **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE** by **Henrik Ibsen** will be presented on Broadway in the 2017-2018 season at a theater to be announced. The acclaimed version by **Florian Borchmeyer & Thomas Ostermeier** will have a new English adaptation by MacArthur Genius Fellow **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**.

The world premiere of **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE** was at the internationally renowned Schaubühne am Lehniner Platz in Berlin, followed by critically acclaimed engagements around the world including Avignon, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), Buenos Aires, Copenhagen, Istanbul, London's Barbican Centre, Melbourne, Oslo, Paris, Seoul and Venice.

In his five star review for the Barbican Centre engagement, Michael Billington of **The Guardian** said “Thomas Ostermeier's stimulating production brings Ibsen's play into our world. What is fascinating is the way the play has gained new traction in today's discontented world: this is the fourth revival I've seen in the past six years, and the most urgent. Ostermeier also reveals the

desire for radical change simmering under the surface of our well-ordered society and involves the audience to thrilling effect as Ibsen's drama scales new heights of excitement and fascination."

**Thomas Ostermeier** has been resident director and member of the Artistic Direction of the Schaubühne since 1999. He has been appointed Officier des Arts et des Lettres by the French ministry of culture, and promoted to the degree of Commandeur in 2015. Ostermeier received the Golden Lion of the Venice Biennale for the entirety of his work in 2011. Elisabeth Vincentelli of the New York Times said "Ostermeier is a genius at rejuvenating plays," and Jason Farago of the New Republic called Ostermeier "the most important theater director of his generation." Joseph Pearson of Newsweek said Ostermeier is one of "Germany's most important stage director. His plays are regulars at major theaters across the world, where audiences appreciate his mastery of dramas."

**Branden Jacobs-Jenkins** is a MacArthur Genius Fellow, a Pulitzer Prize-finalist and a recipient of Yale's Windham-Campbell Prize for Drama. Ben Brantley of the New York Times proclaims playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins as "one of the most exciting young dramatists working today," and counts him among "this country's most original and illuminating writers."

**AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE** - A battle rages in the city. The drinking water is contaminated but – never mind the opinion of a local expert – there's a tourism industry to protect. Factions form: to tell or not to tell? Studded with contemporary music references, Ostermeier's production brings Ibsen's dark satire to a boil – and, with help from the people, a solitary whistleblower to his knees.

Casting and the design team will be announced shortly.

**AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE** is produced by **David Binder**.

Other international critics weighed in with the following critical acclaim for the production:

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**The London Times** - "Thrilling...with copious wit and sharp staging, this is an amazing ride." - Dominic Maxwell

**New Republic** - "Ostermeier, the most important theater director of his generation, has found what was in Ibsen and amplified it to deafening volume." – Jason Farago

**Whatsonstage.com** - "Poetic! An exciting and provocative theatrical event on its own terms." - Michael Coveney

**The London Times** - "The ever-innovative German director Thomas Ostermeier is brilliant with his laid-back, playful, hipster version of Ibsen's drama." - Maxie Szalwinska

**Huffington Post** - "Ostermeier's *An Enemy of the People* is vital and purposeful theater, a perfect example of its kind." John Branch

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## **BIOGRAPHIES**

**HENRIK IBSEN** (Playwright, 1828-1906). In addition to *An Enemy of the People*, his plays include *Hedda Gabler*, *A Doll's House*, *Ghosts*, *The Lady From the Sea*, *Peer Gynt*, *Pillars of Society*, *The Wild Duck*, *Rosmersholm*, *The Master Builder*, *Little Eyolf*, *John Gabriel Borkman* and *When We Dead Awaken*.

**THOMAS OSTERMEIER** (Director/Adaptor) was born in 1968 in Soltau, Germany, and spent his youth in Landshut. From 1992 to 1996 he studied directing at the Hochschule für Schauspielkunst Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Art Berlin. In 1990-91 he worked as an actor in Einar Schleeß's *Faust* project at the Hochschule der Künste, Berlin. In 1993-94 he was assistant director and actor with Manfred Karge in Weimar and at the Berliner Ensemble. In 1995 he directed *Die Unbekannte* by Alexander Blok in accordance with Meyerhold's system of biomechanics. In 1996 he directed *Recherche Faust/Artaud* at the bat-Studiotheater Berlin. From 1996-99 Ostermeier was Artistic Director of the Baracke at the Deutsches Theater, Berlin. Productions there included *Fat Men in Skirts* by Nicky Silver (1996), *Knives in Hens* by David Harrower (1997 awarded with Friedrich-Luft Prize), Brecht's *Mann ist Mann* (1997), *Suzuki* by Alexej Schipenko (1997), *Shopping and Fucking* by Mark Ravenhill (1998), *Below the Belt* by Richard Dresser (1998), and *The Blue Bird* by Maeterlinck (1999). In 1998 the Baracke was nominated *Theatre of the Year*. In 1998 and 1999 Ostermeier directed *Disco Pigs* by Enda Walsh and *Fire Face* by Marius von Mayenburg at the Schauspielhaus Hamburg. His final production at the Baracke was *Suzuki II* by Alexej Schipenko. Since September 1999, Ostermeier has been resident director and member of the Artistic Direction of the Schaubühne. He has also directed several productions at the Münchner Kammerspiele: 2002 *Der starke Stamm* by Marieluise Fleisser, 2005 *Vor Sonnenaufgang* by Gerhart Hauptmann, 2007 *Die Ehe der Maria Braun* by Rainer Werner Fassbinder (invited to the Theatertreffen 2008) and 2009 *Susn* by Herbert Achternbusch, at the Edinburgh Festival: *The Girl on the Sofa* by Jon Fosse, 2002 (awarded with the Herald Angel Award) and at the Burgtheater in Vienna: *The Master Builder* by Henrik Ibsen, 2004. In November 2004 Ostermeier was appointed Artiste Associé for the Festival d'Avignon by the new artistic director of the festival, Vincent Baudriller, and has been presenting shows at the Festival almost every year since then. Invitations to the Theatertreffen Berlin with *Knives of Hens* (1997), *Shopping and Fucking* (1998), *Nora* (2003), *Hedda Gabler* (2006) and *Die Ehe der Maria Braun* (2008). Furthermore, in 2003 *Nora* has been awarded the Nestroy Prize as well as the Politika Prize during the theatre festival in Belgrade BITEF. *Hedda Gabler* received in 2006 the audience award of the Theater-gemeinde Berlin, his *Little Foxes* was awarded the same prize in 2015. His production *John Gabriel Borkman* and *Hamlet* have been awarded with international prizes as best productions in the season 2008/2009: *John Gabriel Borkman* with the Grand Prix de la Critique of France (April 2009) and *Hamlet* with the Barcelona Critics Prize (September 2009). Thomas Ostermeier's production *The Cut* received the critic's prize at the international theatre festival KONTAKT in Torun (Poland) in Mai 2010. For *Measure for Measure* he received the Friedrich-Luft-Prize for the Best Theatre Performance in Berlin in 2011. In Chile *Hamlet* has been awarded with the critic's prize as Best International Production 2011, in Turkey with the honor award by the 18th Istanbul Theatre Festival 2012 and in Teheran as best direction at the FADJR International Theatre Festival in 2016. In 2009 Thomas Ostermeier has

been appointed Officier des Arts et des Lettres by the French ministry of culture, and promoted to the degree of Commandeur in 2015. For his contributions to the European theatre, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Arts degree from the University of Kent in 2016. In May 2010 Thomas Ostermeier has been announced as German president of the Deutsch-Französischer Kulturrat (DKFR), German-French Council of Culture. Thomas Ostermeier received the Golden Lion of the Venice Biennale for the entirety of his work in 2011.

His latest productions at the Schaubühne are *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen (2012), *Death in Venice/Kindertotenlieder* after Thomas Mann/Gustav Mahler (2013), *The Little Foxes* by Lillian Hellman (2014) and *Richard III* by William Shakespeare (2015). In May 2015, he directed the world premiere of Yasmina Reza's new play, *Bella Figura*. In December 2016, he directed *Professor Bernhardt* by Arthur Schnitzler.

His productions are touring worldwide to places like Adelaide, Athens, Avignon, Barcelona, Belgrade, Bordeaux, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Bucharest, Caracas, Chennai, Copenhagen, Delhi, Dublin, Hong Kong, Kolkata, Krakow, Lisbon, Ljubljana, London, Madrid, Marseille, Melbourne, Moscow, Naples, New York, Novi Sad, Omsk, Oslo, Ottawa, Paris, Prague, Québec, Rennes, Reims, Santiago de Chile, Sarajevo, Seoul, Sydney, Taipei, Tampere, Tel Aviv, Tokyo, Venice, Vienna and Zagreb.

For a list of production credits at the Schaubühne:

[https://www.schaubuehne.de/en/people/thomas-ostermeier.html/ID\\_Taetigkeit=5](https://www.schaubuehne.de/en/people/thomas-ostermeier.html/ID_Taetigkeit=5)

**FLORIAN BORCHMEYER** (Adaptor) was born in 1974 in Wasserburg am Inn, Germany, and studied literature in Berlin, Havana, and Paris. In 2006, he received a doctorate in philosophy with a graduate thesis about the chronicle of the discovery of America, and won the Bayerische Filmpreis for the documentary movie *Habana – Arte nuevo de hacer ruinas*. As a filmmaker and literature critic he works for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and as an author for television cultural magazines such as *aspekte*, *Kulturzeit*, and *Foyer*. He curates the international program at Filmfest Munich. He has been dramaturg at the Schaubühne since 2011. He worked together with Thomas Ostermeier on several plays such as *and Professor Bernhardt*.

**BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS** (New English Adaptation). Credits: *Everybody* (Signature Theatre), *War* (LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater), *Gloria* (Vineyard Theatre; Pulitzer Prize-finalist), *Appropriate* (Signature Theatre; Obie Award), *An Octoroon* (Soho Rep; Obie Award) and *Neighbors* (The Public Theater). He is a Residency Five playwright at Signature Theatre and under commissions from LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater, MTC/Sloan, and the Steppenwolf Theatre Company. His recent honors include the MacArthur Fellowship, the Windham-Campbell Prize for Drama, the Benjamin Danks Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation Theatre Award, the Steinberg Playwriting Award, and the Tennessee Williams Award. He currently teaches in the Hunter College Playwriting MFA Program, where he is a Master-Artist- in-Residence.

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