

National Theatre

17 March 2026

FIRST LOOK AT *SUMMERFOLK* AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE



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The National Theatre today releases images of **Nina Raine** and **Moses Raine**'s new version of **Maxim Gorky**'s [Summerfolk](#), a razor-sharp portrait of class, privilege and denial. Directed by Deputy Artistic Director **Robert Hastie**, this biting and satirical play is in the Olivier theatre until **29 April 2026**.

Full cast includes **Rebecca Banatvala** as Sasha, **Thomas Barrett** as Maxim Zimin, **Tamika Bennett** as Sonya, **Pip Carter** as Pavel Sergeyich Ryumin, **Peter Forbes** as Semyon Semyonich

Dvoyetochiye, **Brandon Grace** as Nikolai Petrovich Zamislov, **Arthur Hughes** as Pyotr Ivanich Suslov, **Sam Jenkins-Shaw** as Kropilkin, **Gwyneth Keyworth** as Olga Alekseyevna, **Daniel Lapaine** as Yakov Petrovich Shalimov, **Alex Lawther** as Vlass Mikhailich, **Adelle Leonce** as Yulia Filipovna, **Doon Mackichan** as Kaleria, **Justine Mitchell** as Maria Lvovna, **Paul Ready** as Sergei Vassilich Bassov, **Sophie Rundle** as Varvara Mikhailovna, **Sid Sagar** as Kirill Akimovich Dudakov and **Richard Trinder** as Pustobaika, With **Ivan Ivashkin**, **Aisha-Mae McCormick**, **Roisin Rae**, **Ellie Turner** and **Joe Usher** making up the ensemble.

It's a hot, beautiful summer in 1905, and Russia's elite retreat to the countryside to swim, sip champagne and start affairs. When they're having this much fun, why care about anything else? But Varvara just can't shake the feeling that their holiday idyll is built on borrowed time. As the party continues, how long can they ignore the storm on the horizon?

Director **Robert Hastie** is joined by set and costume designer **Peter McKintosh**, lighting designer **Paul Pyant**, sound designer **Alexandra Faye Braithwaite**, composer **Nicola T. Chang**, movement director **Thomas Herron**, music director **Candida Caldicot**, casting director **Bryony Jarvis-Taylor CDG**, voice coaches **Shereen Ibrahim** and **Zoe Littleton**, associate set designer **Joseph Bisat Marshall**, and BSL and associate director **Lilac Yosiphon**.

Playing in the Olivier theatre until 29 April 2026, press performance on Tuesday 17 March 2026, 7pm.

Tickets available at nationaltheatre.org.uk.

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For images, click [here](#).

Production	Theatre	Dates	Press Night	Publicist
<i>Summerfolk</i>	Olivier theatre	Until 29 April 2026	Tuesday 17 March	James Lever

Assisted performances for *Summerfolk*:

Captioned: Saturday 28 March – 2pm, Wednesday 8 April – 7.30pm, Wednesday 22 April – 7.30pm

Audio described (preceded by a Touch Tour 90 minutes before the performance start time):

Saturday 4 April – 2pm, Monday 20 April – 7.30pm

Integrated BSL: Thursday 16 April – 7.30pm, Tuesday 28 April – 7.30pm

Relaxed performance: Tuesday 31 March – 7.30pm

With thanks:

This production is supported by James & Victoria Corcoran, Marcia B. Whitaker and Marc & Rachel Polonsky. The position of Deputy Artistic Director is supported by James and Victoria Corcoran.

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre offers the widest access to high-quality theatre in the world. This year, we are producing 14 plays across our three South Bank auditoriums, having staged more than a thousand shows that have shaped British theatre since 1963.

Our shows transfer to the West End and travel to Broadway and beyond, winning awards on both sides of the Atlantic. We champion bold storytelling that inspires, challenges and entertains, bringing the world to the National and taking the best of British theatre to the world. Through NT at Home and NT Live, we reach people digitally in almost every country worldwide: 184 out of 195 and counting.

We are a registered charity with a deep social purpose and a nationwide footprint. We partner with regional theatres to tour our work; more than 90% of state secondaries are signed up to our schools' platform, NT Collection; and our Skills Centre trains 5,000 individuals each year.

Our dedicated New Work Studio champions new writing, and we are central London's 'biggest factory' with workshops that power every aspect of our productions. We host the world's most extensive theatre archive, and our Green Store houses more than 150,000 reusable props and costumes as part of our sustainability commitments.

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