

National Theatre

THE UPCOMING ALMEIDA THEATRE REVIVAL OF CLIFFORD ODETS'

GOLDEN BOY

WITH JOSH O'CONNOR TO RECEIVE GLOBAL CINEMA RELEASE VIA
NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE



Images are available [here](#)

IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY 13 AUGUST 2026

National Theatre Live announces that the **Almeida Theatre**'s upcoming and highly anticipated revival of ***Golden Boy***, led by Emmy and Golden Globe winner **Josh O'Connor** (*The Crown*; *Challengers*) will release to cinemas worldwide from **Thursday 5 November 2026**.

An American classic, written by **Clifford Odets** and directed by Olivier Award winner **Sam Yates** (*VANYA; Magpie*), **Golden Boy** is set to be captured live from its run at the Almeida Theatre where it plays a limited run from 9 September to 31 October 2026.

Joining O'Connor in the cast are **Jason Barnett, Richard Fleeshman, David Ganly, Patrick Martins, Daniel Mays, Oliver Ryan, Hayley Squires, Stanley Townsend, Zubin Varla** and **Nicholas Woodeson**.

Director Sam Yates said:

"It is magical to think that our production of Clifford Odets' play Golden Boy will be seen by audiences in cinemas across the world via NT Live. The filmed production exists both as an experience of the live production and as a film in its own right - a special melding of two art-forms. With the peerless Josh O'Connor leading this spectacular cast, and a world-class creative team, Odets' propulsive American classic will thrill audiences with its verve, power and heart."

Director **Sam Yates** leads a creative team including set and costume designer **Rosanna Vize**, lighting designer **James Farncombe**, sound designer **Dan Balfour**, composer **Isobel Waller-Bridge**, video designer **Jack Phelan**, movement director **Imogen Knight**, fight director **Kate Waters**, casting director **Jim Carnahan CSA** and **Alexandre Bleau**, children's casting director **Amy Beadel CDG**, music supervisor **Jerome van den Berghe**, orchestral manager **David Gallagher**, costume supervisor **Sabia Smith**, dialect coach: **William Conacher** and associate director **Yasmin Hafesji**.

"I'm out for fame and fortune, not to be different or artistic! I don't intend to be ashamed of my life!"

1930s New York, at the height of the Depression.

Joe Bonaparte is a gifted young violinist with extraordinary talent and a future in music, until a chance at fame and fortune lures him into the brutal world of professional boxing. Pressured by a ruthless manager, tempted by a forbidden love, and bound by the expectations of his Italian-American family, Joe is a young man torn between the seductive promise of the American

Dream and the quiet honour of a decent life. He must confront what he's willing to sacrifice, who he's willing to become, and how to find his place in a world that demands he choose a side.

Brought to life with a live string quartet, this propulsive drama explores ambition, identity, and the high price of success.

Golden Boy joins the previously announced NT Live title ***The Misanthrope***, featuring Golden Globe Award winner **Sandra Oh** from Tuesday 22 September 2026. Audiences can find their nearest screening at [NTLive.com](https://www.ntlive.com) with tickets for all titles on sale now.

For some international territories outside the UK, specific release dates will follow.

Sky Arts is the headline sponsor of National Theatre Live in the UK.

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Notes to Editors

For further information please contact James Lever at National Theatre jlever@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Images are available [here](#).

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre offers the widest access to high-quality theatre in the world. This year, we will produce 18 plays, following over a thousand shows that have shaped British theatre since 1963.

Our productions transfer from our home in London to the West End, 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 Theatre, and taking the best of British theatre to the world. Through our online streaming service National Theatre at Home; our education platform, the National Theatre Collection in schools; and in cinemas with National Theatre Live, we reach audiences digitally in almost every country worldwide – 184 out of 195 and counting.

We operate as a registered charity with a deep social purpose and a nationwide footprint. We partner with regional theatres to tour our shows, are active in more than 90 per cent of state secondary schools, and our Skills Centre trains 5,000 people each year.

Our dedicated NT Studio champions new writing, and we are central London's 'biggest factory' with workshops that craft 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.

For more information, please visit nationaltheatre.org.uk

About the Almeida:

The Almeida Theatre is led by Artistic Director Dominic Cooke and Executive Director Ros Brooke-Taylor, who this year succeeded Rupert Goold and Denise Wood. Recent highlights include *American Psycho*, *1536* (transferred to the West End this year), *The Years* (transferred to the West End, winner of two Olivier Awards), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (won three Olivier Awards including Best Revival; returned to the West End last year followed by a run at BAM, New York), *Patriots* (transferred to the West End and Broadway), *The Hunt* (transferred to St Ann's Warehouse, New York), *Spring Awakening* (screened in cinemas nationwide), *The Tragedy of Macbeth* (screened on BBC Four) and *Tammy Faye* (transferred to Broadway).

The Almeida Theatre is a registered charity and is dependent on the support of individuals, companies and trusts and foundations to realise our artistic ambitions, nurture emerging talent and connect with over 4,000 young people and community each year through Almeida Participation. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our supporters.

The Almeida is grateful for the support of Arts Council England.

About Sky Arts

Sky Arts exists to bring more art to more people across the UK. In 2020, with the creative industries under serious threat, we threw open our doors to make the channel free for everyone to watch. We've redoubled our mission to increase access to the arts and we're committed to getting everyone involved as the industry recovers. The fact is, we need the arts now like never before, and Sky Arts brings them straight to your living room.

We have something for everyone, championing creative talent by showcasing the best in music, theatre, dance, literature, opera and visual art. From Glyndebourne to Grime and Cézanne to The Style Council, we've got your passions covered. Millions of viewers tune in to hit returning series such as Portrait Artist of the Year, Urban Myths and British cultural institution The South Bank Show, but our acclaimed new programmes might take you anywhere from Pinter's house with Danny Dyer to a Scottish road trip with Samuel Johnson.

Collaboration is at the heart of what we do. Sky Arts is the headline sponsor of National Theatre Live in the UK and we work with cultural partners across the country including the English National Opera, Royal Academy of Arts, Tate, Creative Industries Federation and Coventry City of Culture to name but a few.

You can watch Sky Arts for free on Freeview channel 11 and Freesat channel 147. If you've got Sky or a Now TV entertainment pass, you can also watch over 2,000 hours of shows exclusively on demand.