

SMASH-HIT 'CLARION' RETURNS IN NEW ARCOLA SEASON!

FOLLOWING A SELL-OUT RUN IN APRIL, CRITICS' CIRCLE AWARD-WINNER
GREG HICKS AND THREE-TIME OLIVIER AWARD-WINNER **CLARE HIGGINS**

RESUME THEIR ROLES IN ONE OF THE MOST ACCLAIMED SMASH-HIT PLAYS OF THE YEAR



Clarion
by Mark Jagasia

BACK FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY

"JAGASIA HAS CREATED ONE OF THE GREAT MONSTERS OF MODERN DRAMA."
Michael Billington

★★★★★
"HIGGINS IS SUPERB"
Libby Purves

★★★★★ Morning Star
★★★★★ The Guardian
★★★★★ Daily Telegraph
★★★★★ The Times
★★★★★ Financial Times
★★★★★ The Independent
★★★★★ Daily Mail
★★★★★ Evening Standard

Following an acclaimed, sell-out run in April, Critics' Circle award-winner **Greg Hicks** and three-time Olivier award-winner **Clare Higgins** are to resume their starring roles in **Mark Jagasia's Clarion**, one of the smash-hit plays of the year.

Clarion, directed by Artistic Director **Mehmet Ergen**, earned universal five and four star rave reviews from publications across the political spectrum, from *The Daily Mail* to the *Morning Star*, and received three Off West End Award nominations - Best New Play, Best Female and Best Male.

All the original cast are returning for a four-week season at Arcola Theatre from Tuesday 20 October - Saturday 14 November. There are 500 seats at just £10 during the season.

Press night is Thursday 22 October at 7.30pm.

The Daily Clarion is Britain's worst newspaper. Power-crazed editor Morris Honeyspoon (Greg Hicks) spends his weekends dressed as Julius Caesar, and life at his beloved paper is a masterclass in incompetence and deceit. But as political storm clouds gather over an uneasy country, it seems the *Clarion's* worst crimes are about to be exposed. While Honeyspoon searches for an office traitor, washed-up foreign correspondent Verity Stokes (Clare Higgins) masterminds a murderous day of reckoning... **Clarion** is a hilarious dark comedy about free speech, nationalism and the state of the British media.

Written by former journalist Mark Jagasia, who has worked for some of the UK's leading newspapers, it shines a dazzling light on the dark heart of our democracy.

Cast: John Atterbury, Jim Bywater, Peter Bourke, Greg Hicks, Clare Higgins, Laura Smithers, Ryan Wichert.
Director Mehmet Ergen. Designer: Anthony Lambie. Lighting Designer: David Howe. Music and Sound Designer: Neil McKeown.

"An eye-wateringly funny — and foreboding — vision of British print journalism going to hell in a handcart ... Higgins's performance is pitch-perfect ... Hicks is on storming form and having a ball ... Highly recommended."
The Times

"In the despotic figure of Morris Honeyspoon, Jagasia has created one of the great monsters of modern drama."
Michael Billington

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arcola
theatre

Clare Higgins recently co-starred with Glenn Close on Broadway in Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance*. She has been nominated six times as Best Actress in the Olivier Awards and won three times for *Vincent in Brixton*, *Sweet Bird of Youth*, and *Hecuba*. She was twice named London Critics' Circle Theatre Award Best Actress, for her performances in *Vincent in Brixton* and *The Children's Hour* and *Sweet Bird of Youth*. She won the Evening Standard Best Actress Award for *Vincent in Brixton*. She was nominated for the Best Actress Tony Award for *Vincent in Brixton* and won the 2003 Theatre World Award for outstanding major Broadway debut. Her film and TV credits include the Philip Pullman adaptation *The Golden Compass*; Woody Allen's *Cassandra's Dream*; *Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont*; *Stage Beauty*; *House of Mirth*; *Hellraiser*, and *Hellbound: Hellraiser II*; *Downton Abbey*; *Shameless*; and *Parade's End*. Last year she co-starred with Paul McGann in a special online episode of *Doctor Who*, *The Night of the Doctor*, which preceded the 50th Anniversary special, *The Day of the Doctor* - as Ohila, a member of the Sisterhood of Karn who help the Doctor regenerate into his next incarnation, John Hurt. She returned to *Doctor Who* in the two-part season 9 opening episode earlier this month.

Greg Hicks has been a member of The Royal Shakespeare Company since 1976. He was nominated for the Best Actor Olivier Award, and won Best Shakespearian Performance at the Critics' Circle Theatre Awards, for playing the title role in *Coriolanus* at the Old Vic. Leading RSC roles include the title roles in *King Lear* and *Macbeth* and *Brutus* in *Julius Caesar*. He was *Orestes* in *The Oresteia* at the National Theatre and *Christ* in Steven Berkoff's *Messiah* at the Old Vic. He is returning to Arcola Theatre for the first time since playing Dr Thomas Stockmann in Mehmet Ergen's 2008 production of *An Enemy of the People*.

Mark Jagasia is a former staff journalist on the *Evening Standard*, a former showbusiness editor of the *Daily Express* and a contributor to other newspapers including the *Guardian* and *Sunday Telegraph*. He is originally from Bolton but has lived in London for the past 20 years. **Clarion** is his first stage-play."



Arcola Theatre

24 Ashwin Street
London
E8 3DL

Tuesday 20 October - Saturday 14 November

Press night: Thursday 22 October at 7.30pm

Monday - Saturday evenings at 7.30pm
£19.00 / £15.00 concessions

Saturday matinees at 3.00pm
£17/£14/£12/ £10

500 TICKETS AT JUST £10
Opening performances (20-21 October)
All tickets £12

Pay What You Can Tuesdays (tickets in person
from 6pm – limited and subject to availability)
Tickets are £10 or less with Arcola Passport