

THE PUBLIC THEATER  
ANNOUNCES  
COMPLETE CASTING FOR  
WORLD PREMIERE PLAY  
*DRY POWDER*  
BY SARAH BURGESS  
DIRECTED BY THOMAS KAIL

Claire Danes, Hank Azaria,  
and Sanjit De Silva Join

John Krasinski in Gripping New Play  
Now Extended Two Weeks To April 24

January 21, 2016 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) announced complete casting today for the world premiere play *DRY POWDER* by **Sarah Burgess**, part of Oskar Eustis' 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season. **Claire Danes** and **Hank Azaria** join the previously announced **John Krasinski** in this deliciously funny new drama about the people shaping, and skewing, the American economy. Directed by *Hamilton's* **Thomas Kail**, *DRY POWDER* begins previews on Tuesday, March 1 and has been extended two weeks to Sunday, April 24, with an official press opening on Tuesday, March 22.

The complete cast of *DRY POWDER* features **Hank Azaria** (*Rick*), **Claire Danes** (*Jenny*), **Sanjit De Silva** (*Jeff Schrader*), and **John Krasinski** (*Seth*).

Public Theater Member tickets, and single tickets starting at \$80, are available now and can be accessed by calling **(212) 967-7555**, [www.publictheater.org](http://www.publictheater.org), or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street. Post-show talkbacks with the creative team are scheduled to take place immediately following the performances on Wednesday, March 9 and Wednesday, March 30. Tickets are also now available for special benefit performances on Thursday, April 7, and Tuesday, April 19, which includes an exclusive dinner in The Library at The Public with cast and creative team members of *DRY POWDER* after the show. All proceeds support The Public.

Continuing The Public's mission to make great theater accessible to all, The Public's First Performance "Free for All" returns this spring; in partnership with **TodayTix**, New York's premiere theater ticket app, free tickets to the first preview on Tuesday, March 1 will be available beginning February 23, via TodayTix mobile lottery. The Library at The Public is open nightly for food and drinks, beginning at 5:00 p.m., and Joe's Pub at The Public continues to offer some of the best music in the city.

The same week his private equity firm forced massive layoffs at a national grocery chain, Rick threw himself an extravagant engagement party, setting off a publicity nightmare. Fortunately, Seth (John Krasinski), one of Rick's partners, has a win-win deal to invest in an American-made luggage company for a song and rescue his boss from a PR disaster. But Jenny (Claire Danes), Seth's counterpart, has an entirely different plan: to squeeze every last penny out of the company, no matter the consequences. The

game is on in Sarah Burgess' gripping, razor-sharp new play about the price of success and the real cost of getting the deal done.

**DRY POWDER** features scenic design by Rachel Hauck; costume design by Clint Ramos; lighting design by Jason Lyons; and sound design by Lindsay Jones.

**SARAH BURGESS** (*Playwright*) was a writer for *The Tenant* (Woodshed Collective) and "Naked Radio," Naked Angels' monthly podcast series. She has been a writer-in-residence at the Cape Cod Theatre Project and at SPACE on Ryder Farm in Brewster, NY. She is a member of the WP Playwrights Lab; and is an Ars Nova Play Group alum.

**THOMAS KAIL** (*Director*) recently directed the new musical *Hamilton* at The Public Theater, which is currently running on Broadway at the Richard Rogers Theatre. His additional Broadway credits include *In the Heights* (Tony nomination for Best Director); and two new plays, *Lombardi* and *Magic/Bird*. His Off-Broadway credits include *In the Heights* (Callaway Award, Drama Desk nom., Outer Critics nom.); at New York City Center Randy Newman's *Faust* and *The Wiz*; Lincoln Center Theater's *Broke-ology* and *When I Come to Die*; The Flea Theater's *Family Furniture* (Drama Desk nom.); and Second Stage Uptown's *The Tutors*. Other credits include Williamstown Theater Festival's *Broke-ology*; Paper Mill Playhouse's *Once on this Island*; and the National Tour of *In the Heights*. He is the co-creator and director of the hip-hop improv group *Freestyle Love Supreme*. He is the recipient of the Martin E. Segal Award from Lincoln Center and is a graduate of Wesleyan University, CT.

**HANK AZARIA** (*Rick*) is perhaps best known as the voices of Moe Szyslak, Apu, Chief Wiggins and many others on the record-breaking animated series "The Simpsons" (four Emmy Awards). He will next star in the independent film *Oppenheimer Strategies* opposite Richard Gere and HBO's "The Wizard of Lies" opposite Robert DeNiro. His other television credits include: "Ray Donovan"; "Friends" (Emmy Award nomination); "Huff" (Emmy Award nomination); and "Tuesdays with Morrie" (Emmy Award). His film credits include *Lovelace*; *The Smurfs*; *Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian*; *Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story*; *Along Came Polly*; *America's Sweethearts*; *Godzilla*; *The Birdcage* (SAG Award); *Pretty Woman*. On Broadway, he starred in *The Farnsworth Invention*, and was nominated for a Tony Award for his performance in *Spamalot*.

**CLAIRE DANES** (*Jenny*) currently stars on Showtime's critically acclaimed series "Homeland" and has won back to back Emmy and Golden Globe Awards along with a 2013 SAG Award for "Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Drama Series." She also starred in HBO's "Temple Grandin" biopic and won the Emmy, Golden Globe and SAG Award for "Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Television Movie or Miniseries." Her film credits include Richard Linklater's *Me & Orson Welles*, Anand Tucker's *Shopgirl*, Richard Eyre's *Stage Beauty*, Burr Steer's *Igby Goes Down* and Baz Luhrman's *William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet*. In 2007, Danes made her Broadway debut starring in George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* opposite Jefferson Mays. Her performance as 'Eliza Doolittle' was well reviewed by critics. She first caught critics' and audiences' attention in Ed Zwick and Marshall Herskovitz's acclaimed series, "My So Called Life," which earned her an Emmy Nomination and she was awarded the Golden Globe for her leading role as 'Angela Chase.' Danes is also an accomplished dancer and has received critical acclaim for her performances in "Edith and Jenny" and "Christina Olson: American Model" both choreographed by Tamar Rogoff at P.S. 122.

**SANJIT DE SILVA** (*Jeff Schrader*) has appeared at The Public in *Macbeth* and *Measure for Measure*. His additional stage credits include *War Horse* on Broadway (Lincoln Center Theater, Tony Award Best Play); and Off-Broadway in NAATCO's production of *Awake & Sing* at The Public Theater; *The Ragged Claws* at Cherry Lane; *The Little Foxes* at NYTW; *Masked* at DR2; and regionally *The Cherry Orchard* at People's Light; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Hartford Stage; and *Indian Ink* at Quantum Theatre. His film and television credits include *After Party*, *The Girl is in Trouble*, *The Company Men*, *August*, *Arranged*, "Elementary," "High Maintenance," "Homeland," "Blue Bloods," and "The Good Wife."

**JOHN KRASINSKI** (*Seth*) is an actor, writer and director who is making his theatrical debut. He currently stars as a Navy SEAL in Michael Bay's Benghazi film *13 Hours*. He also directs and stars in the upcoming film *Like it Once Was* alongside Anna Kendrick, Richard Jenkins, Margo Martindale and Sharlto Copley.

Through his own Sunday Night banner, Krasinski executive produces “Lip Sync Battle” on Spike TV alongside Jimmy Fallon and Stephen Merchant. Sunday Night recently made an overall producing deal with Twentieth Century Fox Television. Krasinski notably starred on NBC’s Emmy®-winning smash hit “The Office” for nine seasons. His film credits include *Promised Land*, *Aloha*; *Big Miracle*; *Something Borrowed*; *It’s Complicated*; *Away We Go*; *Leatherheads*; *License to Wed*; *For Your Consideration* and *Kinsey*. Krasinski previously adapted and directed the David Foster Wallace book, *Brief Interviews with Hideous Men*. He also co-wrote an untitled action-adventure script with Oren Uziel, which was sold to Warner Bros. in 2013 that he will produce alongside Uziel. Born and raised in Newton, Massachusetts, Krasinski graduated from Brown University as an honors playwright and later studied at the National Theater Institute.

### **ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER:**

The Public Theater, under the leadership of Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, is the only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare, the classics, musicals, contemporary and experimental pieces in equal measure. Celebrating his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season at The Public, Eustis has created new community-based initiatives designed to engage audiences like Public Lab, Public Studio, Public Forum, Public Works, and a remount of the Mobile Shakespeare Unit. The Public continues the work of its visionary founder, Joe Papp, by acting as an advocate for the theater as an essential cultural force, and leading and framing dialogue on some of the most important issues of our day. Creating theater for one of the largest and most diverse audience bases in New York City for nearly 60 years, today the Company engages audiences in a variety of venues—including its landmark downtown home at Astor Place, which houses five theaters and Joe’s Pub; the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, home to free Shakespeare in the Park; and the Mobile Shakespeare Unit, which tours Shakespearean productions for underserved audiences throughout New York City’s five boroughs. The Public’s wide range of programming includes free Shakespeare in the Park, the bedrock of the Company’s dedication to making theater accessible to all; Public Works, an expanding initiative that is designed to cultivate new connections and new models of engagement with artists, audiences and the community each year; and audience and artist development initiatives that range from Emerging Writers Group and to the Public Forum series. The Public is located on property owned by the City of New York and receives annual support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; and in October 2012 the landmark building downtown at Astor Place was revitalized to physically manifest the Company’s core mission of sparking new dialogues and increasing accessibility for artists and audiences, by dramatically opening up the building to the street and community, and transforming the lobby into a public piazza for artists, students, and audiences. The Public is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning *Fun Home* and Lin-Manuel Miranda’s acclaimed American musical *Hamilton*. The Public has received 47 Tony Awards, 167 Obie Awards, 52 Drama Desk Awards, 48 Lortel Awards, 31 Outer Critics Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics Awards, and four Pulitzer Prizes. [www.publictheater.org](http://www.publictheater.org).

The LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust provides leadership support for The Public Theater’s year-round activities; Bank of America, Proud Season Sponsor of Shakespeare in the Park; The Harold & Mimi Steinberg New Play Development Fund at The Public Theater Supports the Creation and Development of New Plays; The Philip and Janice Levin Foundation - Lead Supporter of The Public’s Access and Engagement Programming; The Time Warner Foundation, Founding Sponsor of The Emerging Writers Group; Delta Air Lines, Official Airline of The Public Theater; *New York Magazine* is the official print sponsor of The Public Theater’s 2015-2016 downtown season; Public support is provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, an independent federal agency.

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## **TICKET INFORMATION**

***DRY POWDER*** will begin previews in The Public's Martinson Theater on Tuesday, March 1 and has been extended to Sunday, April 24, with an official press opening on Tuesday, March 22.

Public Theater Member tickets, and single tickets starting at \$80, are available now and can be accessed by calling **(212) 967-7555**, [www.publictheater.org](http://www.publictheater.org), or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

Free tickets to the first preview on Tuesday, March 1 will be available via **TodayTix** mobile lottery, launching Tuesday, February 23. Winners will be notified by email and push notifications between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the day of the first preview. Winners must confirm their winning tickets in the TodayTix app within one hour of being notified. A limited number of tickets will also be distributed, beginning at 12:00 p.m., via lottery in the lobby of The Public Theater at Astor Place at 425 Lafayette Street.

Post-show talkbacks with the creative team are scheduled to take place immediately following the performances on Wednesday, March 9 and Wednesday, March 30. Tickets are also available for special benefit performances on Thursday, April 7 and Tuesday, April 19, which includes an exclusive dinner in The Library at The Public with cast and creative team members after the show. All proceeds support The Public.

The performance schedule is Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00p.m. There is an added 2:00 p.m. performance on Wednesday, March 30, Wednesday, April 6, Wednesday, April 1, and Wednesday, April 20; There is no 2:00 p.m. performance on Saturday, March 5; no 8:00 p.m. performance on Sunday, March 27, Sunday, April 3, Sunday, April 10, Sunday, April 17, and Sunday, April 24.

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