

NT Live: The Misanthrope

[Audio: dramatic string music plays throughout]

We see an actress stood against a wall column of what appears to be a living room in a smart shirt and trousers. The camera cuts to a man sat on an armchair with one leg crossed over the other and twiddling his fingers on one hand.

[Audio: male character: So at least it's not something I've done.]

The camera cuts back to Alice who swings one of her arms around and shouts...

[Audio: Alice played by Sandra Oh: Not funny John, I hate everyone. I used to think it was just men.]

[Text against blue background: Coming to the big screen]

A wide shot of the stage showing the same set as before. Alice is to the right, the male character centre and a woman carrying a bag is on the left of the stage.

[Audio: Female character with bag: Alice? You're Alice?]

The camera focuses on Alice's face, as she looks towards the other character, unimpressed.

[Text against blue background: Filmed live on stage]

The camera switches between Alice and the male character with a graphic of a letter 'M' overlaying the screen as the male character says:

[Audio: male character: Each of your books is complex and absorbing but all this public commentary is dangerous and boring.]

[Text against blue background: Moliere's classic reimagined]

We see Alice sat smiling and laughing before the camera cuts to a younger male character wearing a suit, who appears to be sat smiling at her.

We then see a bigger group of characters on stage as the young man spreads his arms and says:

[Audio: younger male character: I'm in love with a woman who hates everything but me]

A younger woman, also wearing a suit, leans against an armchair and asks:

[Audio: younger woman: How long will that last?]

Letters continue to frame shots of the play, showing a male character and Alice bowing to each other before we see Alice sat on a chair.

[Audio: Alice: Would you like me to actually quote what's been said about me?]

[Text against blue background with an image of four stars: "Sandra Oh shines"]

We see Alice looking toward another character clutching a bag over her shoulder, before the camera quickly cuts to a number of other characters of stage. One woman kneels on the floor

shuffling papers with a nervous laugh before the younger woman wearing the suit stands next to Alice and says:

[Audio: younger woman: this is extremely awkward.]

[Audio: Alice: Yes.]

[Text against blue background: “Waspishly funny” Financial Times]

We see an older woman in a suit lean against a red column, Alice then looking angry with her hand to her throat while she’s told:

[Audio: older male character: Alice, be careful. You’re making too many enemies]

He is stood on the stage talking to Alice, who is sat in an armchair.

Alice is then seen stood up looking at and facing the younger male.

We then see her sat back on the armchair as she gestures widely with her arms saying:

[Audio: Alice: I don’t give a sh-]

[Text against blue background: “Lavish” Daily Telegraph, “Stunning” WhatsonStage “Vivacious” Observer]

A big group of characters on stage with the younger male in the centre, declaring:

[Audio: younger male: Love it, totally outrageous!]

Shots of him raising a glass with two other characters before the older male glares at someone.

[Audio: older male: Excuse me?!]

We then see a quick montage of shots from a range of characters with another letter overlaying the images.

[Audio: Alice: I’m angry. And I have every right to be.]

[Audio: younger male: Alice, I’m not the enemy!]

Another quick montage of shots as the music builds to a crescendo, including characters appearing to fight on stage. Again, a letter overlays some of the shots.

We then see Alice and the older male stood next to each other.

[Audio: Alice: I’m honest, regardless of person or topic.]

[Text against blue background: Sandra Oh is]

[Audio over the image of the older male: No, Alice, no.]

The older male appears to continue shouting at Alice.

[Audio: older male: Self-destructive and misanthropic]

[Text against blue background: The Misanthrope, by Martin Crimp after Moliere – A production from National Theatre]

[Text against blue background: National Theatre Live logo in centre of the screen with three logos in the bottom centre: Funded by UK Government, Arts Council England and Sky Arts]

****ENDS****