



EastEnders

MARIA FRIEDMAN TO APPEAR IN EASTENDERS

Linda's mother set to ruffle some feathers at The Vic ...



Star of the stage and three-time Olivier Award winner Maria Friedman will be starring in a guest role on EastEnders as Elaine Peacock, Linda Carter's mother.

Larger than life, Elaine is a glamorous Landlady who loves to be the centre of attention and having successfully run her own pub for years, it is something she excels at. Although the relationship between mother and daughter has often been fraught, it is clear that it is mainly due to the women being so similar - if you have met Elaine, everything about Linda makes perfect sense.

One person who always has time for Elaine is her son in law, Mick. Having got on famously for years, the two are very close. It is down to Mick that Elaine arrives in Albert Square after he realises that something is not right with Linda. Not knowing that Linda is going through the toughest time of her life, Mick is hopeful that Elaine's arrival will help but will it make things better or worse?

Maria is best known for her performances in the West End productions of Chicago, Passion, The Woman in White and Ragtime.

Maria commented: "I am thrilled to be joining the cast of EastEnders to play Elaine Peacock. Working alongside Kellie Bright and the rest of the Carter clan has been an absolute joy. It has also been a lovely experience to take my West End shoes East for a short trip!"

Dominic Treadwell-Collins, Executive producer added: Ever since Elaine became the voice on the end of the Queen Vic phone, we have been waiting to see just what kind of woman made Linda Carter. Elaine is tough, warm and capable - but also proud and more than a little vain, bringing with her a whole new dynamic when she arrives in Walford to sort out her daughter. Maria Friedman is a West End legend and we are all very excited to have someone of her pedigree playing Elaine Peacock."

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Notes to Editors:

Maria will first appear on screens in late Autumn in the UK. Australia is currently airing one-and-a-half weeks behind the UK TX date.

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The logo for Foxtel, featuring the word "FOXTEL" in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a gradient of orange and red, giving it a vibrant, fiery appearance.