

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## Shakespeare's Globe announces full casting for *Playing Shakespeare with* Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet

## **5 FEBRUARY**

Shakespeare's Globe is delighted to announce the **full cast for the Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank production of** *Romeo and Juliet*. Michael Oakley returns to direct this fullscale, fast-paced production created especially for young people, which will open on Thursday 28 February until Wednesday 27 March. Over **20,000 free tickets** have been allocated to state secondary schools in London and Birmingham, with thousands more students expected to watch the production during its run.

**Director Michael Oakley** says, "Romeo and Juliet *is as much about loathing as it is about love.* In a divided society, as the gap between the generations widens, the play thrillingly invites us to examine how younger people find their way in the world in the attempt to forge their own destiny."

To coincide with this year's performances, Shakespeare's Globe are running workshops for students in schools across the country and continuing professional development (CPD) for teachers, alongside award-winning free online resources to support GCSE and A-Level curricula.

**Patrick Spottiswoode, Director, Globe Education** says, "Last year, a survey by LAMDA suggested that nearly half of children have never been on a school trip to the theatre and cuts in classroom budgets means that money for these experiences is scarcer than ever. In times like these, Playing Shakespeare With Deutsche Bank at Shakespeare's Globe is vitally important. Now in its thirteenth year, the partnership offers students the opportunity to meet our national playwright on the stage he wrote for, and a wealth of free resources and continuing professional development for teachers. Playing Shakespeare With Deutsche Bank continues to support and excite teachers and young people working on Shakespeare in schools across the country."

**Tiina Lee, Chief Executive Officer, UK and Ireland, Deutsche Bank** says, "Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank sits within our global youth engagement programme, Born to Be, which aims to help young people prepare for the future and unlock their potential. Through Born to Be, we aim to empower young people to follow paths of their own choosing. Shakespeare explores real-life issues in his plays, such as in Romeo and Juliet, showing us two people whose fate is determined by their backgrounds and upbringings. Many of the topics he addresses are more prevalent today than ever before and his plays can help young people increase their confidence, self-esteem and communication skills through simply mastering his complex language and plots."

**The titular lovers will be played by Nathan Welsh and Charlotte Beaumont**. Nathan will play Romeo. Since graduating from LAMDA, Nathan's credits include *Circa* (The Vaults Theatre), *Shetland* (ITV), *Trust Me* (BBC) and *Obsession: Dark Desires* (Discovery). Charlotte will play Juliet. Charlotte is best known for her role as Chloe Latimer in *Broadchurch* (ITV). Other television work includes *Death in Paradise* (BBC), *Holby City* (BBC) and *Waterloo Road* (BBC). Charlotte's previous stage credits include *The Lovely Bones* (Birmingham Repertory Theatre), *No One Will Tell Me How to Start a Revolution* (Hampstead Theatre) and *Three Winters* (National Theatre).

**Jeff Alexander** will play Friar Laurence and Lord Montague. Jeff's recent theatre work includes *The Duchess of Malfi* and *The Fantastic Follies of Mrs Rich* (RSC) and *Romeo and Juliet* (West Yorkshire Playhouse). His screen credits include *In the Dark* (BBC), *Lucky Man* (Sky) and *Brief Encounters* (ITV).

**Stuart Bowman** is Lord Capulet. Stuart returns to the Globe after appearing in Eve Best's *Macbeth.* Stuart's other theatre work includes *Hamlet is Dead: No Gravity* (Arcola Theatre), *The Marriage of Figaro* (Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh) and *Pygmalion* (Garrick Theatre). Television credits include Jed Mercurio's *Bodyguard* (BBC) and *Versailles* (BBC).

**Debbie Chazen** will play the Nurse and Lady Montague. Previous theatre credits include *Love and Information* (Sheffield Crucible Theatre), *Three Women* (Trafalgar Studios) and *The Girls* (West End). Debbie's television work includes *Holby City* (BBC), *The Man* (ITV) and *Dead Pixels* (Channel 4). Film includes *Red Joan* directed by Trevor Nunn.

**Christopher Chung** is Paris and will also play the roles of Abraham and Prince Escalus. Christopher has recently finished appearing in *Heathers the Musical* in the West End. His other recent theatre work includes *Here Lies Love* (National Theatre) and *Martha, Josie and the Chinese Elvis* (Hull Truck). Screen credits include *West Side Story* (BBC), *Waterloo Road* (BBC) and *The Pacific* (HBO).

**Ned Derrington** is Mercutio. Ned returns to the Globe following his performance in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, for which he won a commendation at the 2017 Ian Charleson Awards. Other theatre work includes *Sunny Afternoon* (West End and Hampstead Theatre) and *Filthy Business* (Hampstead Theatre). Ned's television work includes *Defending the Guilty* (BBC), *Fresh Meat* (Channel 4) and *Siblings* (BBC).

**Hermione Gulliford** will play Lady Capulet. Previous theatre work includes *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur* (The Print Room), *Richard II* (Arcola), *Three Winters* (National Theatre) and *Love For Love* (RSC). Hermione's television work includes *Hollyoaks* (Channel 4), *Holby City* (BBC) and *Foyles War* (ITV). Film includes *Where Hands Touch*, *Stage Beauty* and *The Affair of the Necklace*.

**Shalisha James-Davis** is Benvolio. Shalisha's recent theatre credits include *If We Were Older* (National Theatre), *The Wolves* (Theatre Royal Stratford East), *Our Country's Good* (National Theatre) and *Electricity* (Arcola Theatre) as well as being part of the National Youth Theatre rep company in 2016. Television credits include *Silent Witness* (BBC) and *Next of Kin* (ITV). Film includes *The Bay of Silence* and Josie Rourke's upcoming *Mary Queen of Scots*.

**Ayoola Smart** will play Tybalt and the Apothecary. Ayoola appeared in Caroline Byrne's *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Globe. Other theatre work includes *The Lovely Bones* (Birmingham Repertory Theatre), *Othello* (Unicorn Theatre) and *Futureproof* (Everyman Theatre, Cork). Ayoola's television credits include *Les Miserables* (BBC).

## **EDITOR'S NOTES**

#### DEUTSCHE BANK

Deutsche Bank provides commercial and investment banking, retail banking, transaction banking and asset and wealth management products and services to corporations, governments, institutional investors, small and medium-sized businesses, and private individuals. Deutsche Bank is Germany's leading bank, with a strong position in Europe and a significant presence in the Americas and Asia Pacific.

*Born to Be* is Deutsche Bank's global youth education programme that aims to prepare young people to become the workforce of tomorrow by breaking the cycle that limits their prospects. It raise their motivation, helps them develop their skills and improves access to education and employment opportunities. In the UK, *Born to Be* aims to improve social mobility and address the skills gap for 21<sup>st</sup> century employment. *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank* is one of Deutsche Bank's most longstanding *Born to Be* programmes and has supported over 190,000 young people since 2007.

## Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet

28 February - 27 March 2019

## Tickets still available for family performances

Thursday 28 February, 7.00pm Saturday 2 March, 6.00pm Thursday 7 March, 7.00pm Saturday 9 March, 6.00pm Saturday 16 March, 2.00pm & 6.00pm Thursday 21 March, 7.00pm Saturday 23 March, 2.00pm & 6.00pm

#### Assisted performances

Saturday 23 March, 2.00pm – BSL interpreted and Captioned performance

## FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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ONLINE SHAKESPEARESGLOBE.COM (£2.50 transaction fee applies)

## IN PERSON

Shakespeare's Globe, 21 New Globe Walk, London, SE1 9DT

Please refer to prices for individual events where listed throughout the brochure. For the winter theatre season, prices as follows:

## Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Standing tickets (fixed position): £10. Seated tickets:  $\pounds 20-\pounds 48$ . Premium tickets also available (max  $\pounds 62$ ). Patrons who are members of the <u>free access scheme</u>

## SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

#### **Our Cause**

We celebrate Shakespeare's transformative impact on the world by conducting a radical theatrical experiment. Inspired and informed by the unique historic playing conditions of two beautiful iconic theatres, our diverse programme of work harnesses the power of performance, cultivates intellectual curiosity and excites learning to make Shakespeare accessible for all. 'And let us ...on your imaginary forces work' *Henry V, Prologue* 

Performance and education take place throughout the year inspired and informed by the Globe Theatre and Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. In addition, there is an exhibition and tour, as well as retail, catering and events spaces. A registered charity (No. 266916), the Shakespeare's Globe Trust does not receive regular public subsidy. Three quarters of income comes from over one million visitors annually who buy tickets to performances, events, exhibition and tours, and educational activities. Revenue is also generated by on-site retail and catering. Vital support comes from the Globe's family of Friends and Patrons. These include a range of Members' schemes at varying levels, corporate supporters, trusts, individual gifts and legacies.

## GLOBE THEATRE

Following an absence of 400 years, the present Globe Theatre stands a few hundred metres from the original site. The rebuilding of the iconic building was led by the pioneering actor and director Sam Wanamaker who spent 23 years fundraising, advancing research into the appearance of the original Globe and planning the reconstruction with architect Theo Crosby. Sam Wanamaker died in 1993, three and a half years before the theatre was completed.

Performances, tours, and educational work take place all year with the theatre season running from April to October. The theatre is an important space for research led by in-house scholars, and is central to undergraduate and post graduate programmes, as well as activities for school students of all ages. Each year in early spring, *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank*, a Shakespeare production created for young people and families, gives 20,000 free tickets to state secondary schools in London and Birmingham.

## SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE

The Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, opened in January 2014. The intimate, 340-seat candle-lit space is a beautiful archetype of the indoor playhouses of Jacobean London. Also open all year, the Playhouse's principal theatre season runs from October to April. In addition, it hosts panel discussions, lectures, and musical events. It is also an essential space for original research, rehearsed readings, family storytelling and workshops for school students and teachers.

## BANKSIDE AND BEYOND

Overlooking the river on Bankside, Shakespeare's Globe is proud to be in Southwark and has a range of community projects: Globe Elders Company, Southwark Youth Theatre, *A Concert for Winter*, *Our Theatre* schools performance project and a work experience programme for 14-18 year olds. Shakespeare's Globe has a rich tradition of touring nationally and internationally with award-winning productions transferring to both the West End and Broadway. *Globe on Screen* also takes highlights from the theatre season to cinemas worldwide and *Globe Player* makes Shakespeare's Globe productions available to all.

For more information, images for press, details about what's on and how to book: www.shakespearesglobe.com.