



PRESS RELEASE

Shakespeare's Globe announces 2019/20 Sam Wanamaker Playhouse Season: *She Wolves and Shrews*

12 July 2019

Shakespeare's Globe is delighted to announce the **2019/20 Sam Wanamaker Playhouse Season**. Centred around ***She Wolves and Shrews***, the season is a celebration and interrogation of women, power, and the role of the feminine in shaping our past, present and future. The candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse will play host to a **world-premiere** of **Ella Hickson's** new play ***Swive [Elizabeth]***, Shakespeare's ***Henry VI***, ***Richard III***, and ***The Taming of the Shrew***, and Middleton's ***Women Beware Women***. **Sandi and Jenifer Toksvig** have written a new family show dubbed, ***Christmas at the (Snow) Globe***, and a series of candlelit ghost tales will include a new story from **Jeanette Winterson**. Other events running throughout the season include **half-term storytelling festival**, **Half Term Tales at the Globe**, with the **new Children's Laureate Cressida Cowell**, and a double bill of **Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*** and ***Three Guineas***, marking the **centenary year since the removal of the sex disqualification act**. The Globe's flagship project for secondary and post-16 students, *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank*, reaches its 14th year with ***Macbeth***.

Opening the theatre season on 5 November, **Sean Holmes** and **Ilinca Radulian** will co-direct the **Globe Ensemble** in ***Henry VI and Richard III***, completing the year-long journey through the history of our 'scepter'd isle'. **The Globe Ensemble** includes Sarah Amankwah, Philip Arditti, Nina Bowers, Jonathan Broadbent, Leaphia Darko, Steffan Donnelly, Colin Hurley, Sophie Russell, and Helen Schlesinger. **Sean Holmes** is Associate Artistic Director, and most recently directed *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as part of the 2019 Summer Season. He recently stepped down from the Lyric Hammersmith after almost a decade as Artistic Director and Joint Chief Executive. Sean's tenure at the Lyric included programming game-changing shows such as *Three Kingdoms*, directing 22 productions, including the Olivier Award-winning *Blasted*, the worldwide hit *Ghost Stories*, and the first stage version of *Bugsy Malone* in over a decade. His years of experience working with ensembles include Filter and the ground-breaking *Secret Theatre* project. **Ilinca Radulian** was Associate Director on the *Secret Theatre* national tour, and assistant directed *Hamlet* and *Mary Stuart* as a Resident Director at the Almeida Theatre, and *Summer and Smoke* and *The Night of the Iguana* in the West End. Other credits include *LUCK OUT* and *Fight Club* (site specific, RO), *Hypothetical*, and *Inland Empire* (site specific, USA).

The **world-premiere of award-winning writer Ella Hickson's new play *Swive [Elizabeth]*** will be directed by **Natalie Abrahami**. *Swive* interrogates the power of sex in gaining and maintaining control in a patriarchy. Elizabeth I was a political mastermind and monarchic force who reigned supreme for 45 years, and yet she still felt that her power ultimately resided in her beauty. *Swive* explores power, sex, intimacy, solitude and desire, shining candlelight on the savage pressure that women are under to sell themselves on their least interesting quality. *Swive* (archaic, transitive) To copulate with (a woman); (archaic, transitive, dialectal) To cut a crop in a sweeping or rambling manner, hence to reap; cut for harvest.

Ella is an award-winning writer whose work has been performed throughout the UK and abroad. Her most recent credits include *ANNA* (National Theatre), *The Writer*, and *Oil* (Almeida). She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and twice a MacDowell Fellow. Natalie Abrahami's credits include *ANNA* (National Theatre), *Machinal* (Almeida), and *The Meeting* (Chichester Festival Theatre). She ran the Gate Theatre from 2007 to 2012 with Carrie Cracknell.

Over the Christmas period, the Globe Theatre will open its doors for a **new family show created and directed by Sandi Toksvig and Jenifer Toksvig, *Christmas at the (Snow) Globe***. The show will be full of song, laughter, mulled wine, and the magic of Christmas.

Sandi Toksvig OBE is well known to UK audiences as a broadcaster, with television credits including celebrated series *Call My Bluff* (as regular team captain) and *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* She took over from Stephen Fry as host of *QI*, BBC2's fiendishly difficult and hugely popular quiz, and she and Noel Fielding became the new co-hosts of *The Great British Bake Off*. For a decade Sandi was a familiar voice for BBC Radio 4 listeners as the chair of *The News Quiz* which led to her induction into the Radio Hall of Fame.

Much of Sandi's time is devoted to writing, with more than 20 fiction and non-fiction books for children and adults to her credit. In 2019, her adaptation of *Mamma Mia the Party* will open at London's O2. Sandi is an activist for gender equality, and in 2014 she co-founded the Women's Equality Party.

Jenifer Toksvig is a writer, deviser, director and producer. Theatre work includes spoken word poetry for UNHCR, performed and translated worldwide; immersive, interactive theatre/gaming hybrid shows; a catalogue of musicals for young people to perform (in collaboration with composers David Perkins and Alexander Rudd); stage adaptations of novels by authors including Terry Pratchett, Geraldine McCaughrean, David Almond. Jenifer is an advocate for writers and an active member of the Writers Guild of Great Britain.

Sandi and Jenifer's adaptation of *Treasure Island* reopened the Leicester Haymarket Theatre in Christmas 2018, and they are delighted to be working together again to celebrate Christmas at the Globe. They both agree that it is, indeed, the most wonderful time of the year.

Opening 1 February, Shakespeare's *The Taming of The Shrew* will be directed by **Maria Gaitanidi**. The production will be performed by an ensemble cast comprising Lila Clements, Mattia Mariotti, Melissa Riggall, and **Globe Artistic Director, Michelle Terry**. **Maria Gaitanidi** is founder of the ensemble 'We Are Raw Material', bringing together artists who make art in various forms, using solely the rawness of the space, the actor, the text. The artists create in the here and now with the audience as witness. Maria works extensively in the UK, Italy and Greece. Her London credits include *Black Monk* (The Holborn Workshop), *The Late Mattia Pascal* (Shoreditch Church) and directors labs on *Platonov* and *Suddenly Last Summer* (The Young Vic). She recently completed her first short film *Salt Wound* starring Stacy Martin.

Running in repertory with *The Taming of the Shrew*, **Thomas Middleton's Women Beware Women** opens 21 February, directed by **Amy Hodge**. *Women Beware Women* is an enduringly relevant exploration of gender power dynamics that uncovers the savage underbelly of desire, lust and ambition through the prism of the flamboyant Florentine court. Amy's recent credits include *Mr Gum And The Dancing Bear – The Musical!* (National Theatre), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (Royal Exchange), and *The Brexit Shorts* for The Guardian and Headlong. She is making her first virtual reality film *Sundowning*, for the National Theatre and National Film Board of Canada, about the experience of dementia.

Special events will continue throughout the season, with a ghost story series, **Deep Night, Dark Night: Tales from Beyond the Grave**, including a new commissioned story from **Jeanette Winterson**, Victorian stories and true tales of ghosts of London. A double bill of **Virginia Woolf's A Room of One's Own** and her lesser known paper, **Three Guineas** on 28 November, marking the **centenary year since the removal of the sex disqualification act**, and Nancy Astor becoming the first female MP.

The Globe's **Voices in the Dark** series will continue in January and February with **Notes to the Forgotten She Wolves**. This collection of performances will shed candlelight on the women who have so far remained in darkness in a world history dominated by stories about men, by men. Taking their lead from Shakespeare's own She Wolf, Queen Margaret of Anjou, the Globe will ask the Shakespeares of today to pen their own letters to the forgotten women of the past, and write these women back into history (herstory).

Work with schools is immersive, inclusive and inspired by the Globe Theatre. The ever-popular Lively Action Workshops continue with almost 50,000 students from Key Stage 2 to A Level visiting the Globe already this year. Next year's **Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank** production will be **Macbeth**. Opening in the Globe Theatre on 26 February, this gripping, full-scale production is created especially for young people, with **20,000 free tickets available for state secondary schools in London and Birmingham**. As well as supporting teachers and students at GCSE level, and those being introduced to Shakespeare at Key Stage 3, this year's production of *Macbeth* will use Shakespeare's most famous power couple to explore how people struggle with mental health in the world Shakespeare created and our own.

The Higher Education programme will include performances of *The Winter's Tale* on the Globe stage presented by the Rutgers University Conservatory at Shakespeare's Globe, directed by Nicole Charles (director of smash-hit Globe show *Emilia*). On 12 November, the annual **These are the Youths that Thunder in the Playhouse** event celebrates two rising stars in Shakespeare studies. Continuing the conversation from this summer's successful *Women & Power* festival, a day of discussion on 12 December, **Women & Power on the Early Modern Stage**, will examine how writers grapple with representations of female leadership and the extent to which women in leadership – both now and in Shakespeare's day – are forced to mask their sex. The King's College London and the Globe's unique collaboration continues to be the most popular Shakespeare MA in the country.

A special **Read Not Dead** performance of the **recently rediscovered Restoration comedy, *The Dutch Lady***, will take place at Gray's Inn on 20 October, adhering to the usual Read Not Dead ground rules in which actors receive the play on Sunday morning and present it, script-in-hand, to an audience later in the afternoon. The Globe's Read Not Dead series will continue on 17 November with Jonson's *The Sad Shepherd, or, a Tale of Robin Hood*, and Munday's sequel to the Robin Hood story, *The Death of Robert Earl of Huntingdon*.

Community projects with the Borough of Southwark will continue with **Southwark Youth Theatre**, open to 11-14 year-olds who live and learn in Southwark; **Our Theatre**, a community and schools project which culminates in two final ensemble performances in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, and **A Concert for Winter**, the Globe's annual seasonal showcase performed by Southwark nurseries, schools and community groups.

Alongside family performances of *Macbeth* and *Christmas at the (Snow) Globe*, families can enjoy special tours of the Globe and the half term edition of the Globe's **family storytelling festival, Half Term Tales at the Globe**, which returns in October. The week of performances, workshops and author events which will explore all things magical, and the line-up includes the **new Children's Laureate Cressida Cowell**, illustrator **Chris Riddell**, storyteller **Kevin Graal** and authors **Sophie Anderson, Abi Elphinstone and Piers Torday**.

EDITOR'S NOTES

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BOOKING

BY PHONE
020 7401 9919

ONLINE

SHAKESPEARESGLOBE.COM
(£2.50 transaction fee applies)

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE WINTER SEASON

Henry VI by William Shakespeare
5 November 2019 – 26 January 2020
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Richard III by William Shakespeare
13 November 2019 – 26 January 2020
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Press Day: Thursday 21 November

Swive [Elizabeth] by Ella Hickson
6 December 2019 – 15 February 2020
Press Night: Thursday 12 December
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Christmas at the (Snow) Globe
Created and directed by Sandi Toksvig and Jenifer Toksvig
19 – 23 December 2019
Press Night: Thursday 19 December
Globe Theatre

The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare
1 February – 18 April 2020
Press Night: Thursday 6 February
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Women Beware Women by Thomas Middleton
21 February – 18 April 2020
Press Night: Thursday 27 February
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Macbeth
26 February – 25 March 2020
Globe Theatre

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

Henry VI
Relaxed: 7 January 2020
Captioned: 26 January 2020
Audio Described: 22 January 2020

Richard III
Relaxed: 16 January 2020
Captioned: 26 January 2020
Audio Described: 5 January 2020

Swive [Elizabeth]
Relaxed: 8 February 2020
Captioned: 9 January 2020
Audio Described: 18 January 2020

The Taming of the Shrew
Relaxed: 5 April 2020
BSL Interpreted: 15 April 2020
Captioned: 11 March 2020
Audio Described: 15 March 2020

Women Beware Women
Relaxed: 28 March 2020
Captioned: 17 April 2020
Audio Described: 4 April 2020

EVENTS

Read Not Dead: *The Dutch Lady* by Anonymous
20 October 2019
Gray's Inn

Tales of Magic: October Half Term events
22 – 26 October 2019
Various locations, Shakespeare's Globe

Deep Night, Dark Night
Deep Night, 30 October – 2 November 2019
Dark Night, 2 – 5 December 2019
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

These are the Youths that Thunder
12 November 2019
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Read Not Dead: *The Death or Robert Earl of Huntington* by Anthony Munday
17 November 2019
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Virginia Woolf: A Room of One's Own and The Three Guineas
28 November 2019
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

A Concert for Winter
5 December 2019
Globe Theatre

Women & Power on the Early Modern Stage
12 December 2019
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Voices in the Dark: Notes to the Forgotten She Wolves
29 – 31 January, 18 – 20 February 2020
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Tales of Nature: February Half Term events
18 – 22 February 2020
Various locations, Shakespeare's Globe

EDITOR'S NOTES

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 are theatre tours, 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.

THEATRE TOURS

Theatre tours are open all year, 9.00am – 5.00pm departing every 30 minutes. As a working theatre, tours may not be available due to performances, rehearsals or events, and tours may be affected by technical work in the theatre.

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.