



PRESS RELEASE

Shakespeare's Globe Announces Full Casting for Globe on Tour Summer 2020

31 January

Shakespeare's Globe is delighted to announce the full cast for **Globe on Tour**, directed by **Brendan O'Hea**. The company of eight actors will once again offer audiences around the world a trio of plays, which this year explore the relationship between humankind and Mother Nature. Audiences will cast their votes for either **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **As You Like It** or **The Tempest**, each of which explores the natural world and its great potential for abundance and transformation.

A director, actor, and education practitioner, Brendan has directed Globe on Tour for the past three years as well as Tom Stuart's new play *After Edward* in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse in 2019. He has also performed in a number of Globe productions, including *Cymbeline* (2015), *Measure for Measure* (2015) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2014).

Brendan O'Hea says, *"I'm so pleased to be back on the road with the Touring Ensemble, transporting the spirit of the Globe around the world with simple, clear storytelling which brings Shakespeare to all. This year we will be performing three plays that explore themes of nature, the city and the places beyond. Storytelling and theatre must play a crucial role in offering ways of reimagining the world, creating conditions on stage and off for renewal, belonging, empathy, kindness and an experience that embodies our place in the interconnected web of life. And, like the Elizabethan touring players before us, we will leave the choice of play to the most powerful voice in the room: the audience"*

This year, Globe on Tour want to encourage audiences to reconnect with nature and their local community. From the forest of Sherwood to the shores of Guernsey, all venues will be offered a workshop that will give their audiences the chance to learn more about the plays and the natural world. The Globe will also be collaborating with the RSPB, who are making their birdsong radio available to venues as part of their [Let Nature Sing](#) campaign that aims to promote environmental awareness.

Matt Howard, Cultural Campaigner for RSPB says, *"Nature is in crisis and one of the biggest threats it faces is our disconnection from it. The Let Nature Sing campaign is shining a light on the threat to the natural world whilst celebrating just how important it is to our cultural and imaginative lives. The richness of Shakespeare's work shows the central importance of nature to our inspiration and creativity."*

The full cast will comprise:

Stephenson Ardern-Sodje will play Lysander/Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Orlando in *As You Like It* and Caliban/Antonio in *The Tempest*. Stephenson joins the Globe after performing in the ensemble of *Hamilton* (Victoria Palace) where he also covered the roles of Alexander Hamilton and John Laurens/Philip Hamilton.

Tom Chapman will play Demetrius/Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Oliver/Amiens/Sir Oliver Martext in *As You Like It* and Ferdinand in *The Tempest*. Tom returns to the Globe having performed in *Voices in the Dark* last year. His other recent theatre work includes *Macbeth* (The Shakespeare Project), *For All The Women Who Thought They Were Mad* (Hackney Showrooms), *Twelfth Night* (Chichester Festival Theatre), and *Lights! Camera! Improvise!* (Mischievous Theatre).

Anna Crichlow will play Hermia/Snug in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Celia/Adam in *As You Like It* and Alonso in *The Tempest*. Anna's recent theatre work includes *The Last Noël* (Touring), *The Worst Witch* (Royal & Derngate), *Confidence* (Southwark Playhouse), *Common* (National Theatre) and *Pride & Prejudice* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre).

Mark Desebrock will play Egeus/Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Silvius/Audrey/Le Beau in *As You Like It* and Prospero in *The Tempest*. Mark returns to Globe on Tour after performing in last year's *Twelfth Night*, *The Comedy of Errors* and *Pericles*. His other recent theatre work includes *Hamlet* (Almeida/West End), *Cis and Barbiche* (Agelink/York Theatre Royal/UK and Australian tour) and *Beauty and the Beast* (National Theatre). Television includes *Hamlet* (BBC) and *Fungus the Bogeyman* (Sky TV).

Emma Ernest will play Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Rosalind in *As You Like It* and Ariel in *The Tempest*. Emma is making her professional debut after graduating from RADA last year. Theatre credits while training include *After the Peace*, *Into the Woods* and *Romeo and Juliet* (RADA).

Sara Lessore will play Helena/Starveling in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Duke Senior/Duke Frederick/Corin in *As You Like It* and Miranda in *The Tempest*. Sara's recent theatre credits include *The Last of the Pelican Daughters* (The Pleasance, Edinburgh), *Beauty and the Beast* (New Victory Theatre/Tobacco Factory Theatres) and *Peter Pan* (Mercury Theatre).

Katy Secombe will play Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Touchstone/Phoebe in *As You Like It* and Stephano/Sebastian in *The Tempest*. Katy's theatre credits include *Hay Fever* (Rose Theatre), *Mamma Mia* (Prince Of Wales Theatre) and *Chicago* (Live Nation Tour). Katy has also starred as Madame Thénardier in *Les Misérables*, a role she first played in 2012 opposite Matt Lucas, then in 2015 as part of the 30th anniversary cast, continued to play at the Queen's Theatre until June 2018 and reprised the role in last year's 2019 concert production at the Gielgud Theatre.

Deka Walmsley will play Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Jaques/Charles/William in *As You Like It* and Trinculo/Gonzalo in *The Tempest*. Recent theatre credits include *Macbeth*, *Playing with Fire* (National Theatre), *Wonderland* (Nottingham Playhouse), *The Pitmen Painters* (National Theatre/Broadway) and *Billy Elliot* (West End). Television includes *Vera* (ITV) and *Three Girls* (BBC).

Vanessa-Faye Stanley will also join Brendan this year as **Associate Director**. Vanessa-Faye studied on the Globe's Shakespeare Studies MA programme, and is artistic director of *Boilerroom*. She received the Oxford Samuel Beckett Theatre Award for innovative theatre, with *The Terrific Electric* (Barbican, 2007) and was associate movement director on the all-female site-specific *Richard III* (Wales Millennium Centre, 2015). She has also performed with theatres such as the National Theatre and the Royal Exchange.

FINIS.

EDITOR'S NOTES

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ON TOUR

A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Tempest and As You Like It by William Shakespeare

Presented by the Touring Ensemble

Globe Theatre

Monday 27 April – Saturday 9 May, Monday 8 June – Saturday 13 June, Wednesday 16 September – Sunday 20 September, Monday 5 October – Thursday 8 October

West Horsley Place, Surrey

Wednesday 13 May – Friday 15 May

The Brewhouse, Taunton

Monday 18 May – Wednesday 20 May

Hay Festival, Herefordshire

Saturday 23 May – Saturday 30 May

Sherwood Forest

Monday 1 June

Calderstones Mansion House, Liverpool

Thursday 4 June – Saturday 6 June

Bridehead Manor, Artsreach, Dorset

Friday 10 July – Saturday 11 July

St James, Guernsey

Wednesday 15 July – Saturday 18 July

Brighton Open Air Theatre

Wednesday 19 August – Saturday 22 August

The Festival Theatre, Hever Castle, Kent

Thursday 27 August – Saturday 29 August

Further venues TBA

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES, Shakespeare's Globe

Patrons who are members of the [free access scheme](#) are eligible for adjusted ticket prices.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Captioned: Friday 18 September, 7:30pm

Audio Described: Monday 5 October, 7:30pm

The Tempest

Captioned: Wednesday 16 September, 7:30pm

Audio Described: Thursday 11 June, 7:30pm

As You Like It

Captioned: Sunday 20 September, 1pm

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BOOKING

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020 7401 9919

ONLINE

SHAKESPEARESGLOBE.COM

(£2.50 transaction fee applies)

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.