



PRESS RELEASE

Shakespeare's Globe announces full casting for *Swive [Elizabeth]*,
created by Ella Hickson and Natalie Abrahami

12 November 2019

*The only unmarried woman to rule England. She reigned for forty-four years.
Mastermind. Seductress. Survivor.*

*'My mother seduced a man so successfully that she altered the constitutional history of a
country'*

Shakespeare's Globe is delighted to announce full casting for the world premiere of **Swive [Elizabeth]**. Created by award-winning writer **Ella Hickson** and award-winning director **Natalie Abrahami**, and designed by **Ben Stones**, this new play will shine candlelight on the ways and means by which women in power negotiate patriarchal pressure in order to get their way.

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 Hickson 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 directing 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.

The cast will comprise:

Nina Cassells: Nina graduated from The Brit School last year. Her recent theatre credits include *The Crucible* (The Yard) and *Feed* (Theatre Témoin). Credits while training include *Everyman*, *Richard III*, *The Seagull* and *DNA* (The Brit School).

Abigail Cruttenden: Abigail's recent theatre credits include *Black Chiffon* (Park Theatre), *Her Naked Skin* (Salisbury Theatre), *An Enemy of the People* (Chichester Festival Theatre) and *Accolade* (St James' Theatre). Television includes the BBC's hit comedy *Not Going Out*, in which she appeared regularly as Anna, *Fresh Meat* (Channel 4) and *Benidorm* (ITV). Films include *Denial* and *The Theory of Everything*.

Michael Gould: Michael returns to the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse having starred in Michael Longhurst's *'Tis Pity She's A Whore* in 2014. Other recent theatre credits include *Dealing with Clair* (Orange Tree), *The Writer* (Almeida), *The Jungle* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Young Vic). Recent television work includes *There She Goes* (BBC), *Manhunt* (ITV) and *Black Earth Rising* (Netflix / BBC). Films include *Radioactive*, *Underdogs*, and *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*.

Colin Tierney: Colin returns to the Globe having previously performed in Nick Bagnall's *The Last Days of Troy* in 2014. Recent theatre credits include *The Odyssey: Missing Presumed Dead*, *The Misanthrope* (Liverpool Everyman), *The Father* (Bath Theatre Royal / Tricycle), *Britannia Waves the Rules* (Royal Exchange) and *Betrayal* (Sheffield Crucible). Television includes *Vera* (ITV) and *Silent Witness* (BBC). Film includes *Nowhere Boy* and *The Ombudsman*.

SHAKESPEARE'S
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EDITOR'S NOTES

Swive [Elizabeth]

Created by Ella Hickson and Natalie Abrahami
Written by Ella Hickson
Directed by Natalie Abrahami
Designed by Ben Stones
Composed by Angus MacRae

Movement Director: Anna Morrissey
Associate Movement Director: Sian Williams
Candle Consultant: Prema Mehta

Friday 6 December – Saturday 15 February
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Press Night: Thursday 12 December

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ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

Captioned: 9 January, 7:30pm
Audio Described: 18 January, 2pm
Relaxed: 8 February, 2pm

BOOKING

BY PHONE
020 7401 9919

ONLINE
SHAKESPEARESGLOBE.COM
(£2.50 transaction fee applies)

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

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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 guided 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.

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.