



# PRESS RELEASE

## SHAKESPEARE FOR ALL: THE GLOBE CELEBRATES SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY ONLINE

22 April 2020

- Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Sandi Toksvig, Stephen Fry, Roger Allam, and many other of the UK's best-known and loved actors to feature in 'Shakespeare & Love in Isolation'.
- Michelle Terry interviews Peter Brook on the Globe podcast 'Such Stuff'.
- Alfred Enoch and Rebekah Murrell perform a scene from *Romeo & Juliet* on BBC Radio 4: Front Row.
- 90-minute Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank production of *Macbeth* to be made available until schools reopen
- BBC iPlayer to host Emma Rice's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* starring Ncuti Gatwa, and Roger Allam and Colin Morgan in *The Tempest* for Culture in Quarantine

**Shakespeare for all:** at a time when the Globe would normally be opening its summer season welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors, the **celebrations of Shakespeare's Birthday on 23 April will be hosted online**, including collaborations with the BBC and the Guardian. There will more free films to stream from the Globe's YouTube channel, including the **90-minute *Macbeth*** from Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank (2020), halted as the theatre closed down and **free until schools reopen**. 'Shakespeare & Love in Isolation' will also launch on Shakespeare's Birthday and includes **Alfred Enoch, Athena Stevens, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Jenifer Toksvig, Kathryn Hunter, Kobna Holdbrook-Smith, Nadia Albina, Paul Ready, Roger Allam, Sandi Toksvig, Shubham Saraf, Sophie Stone, and Stephen Fry**. This new and exciting digital provision means the Globe's audiences of all ages across the world can engage with Shakespeare from their homes.

In celebration of Shakespeare's Birthday on 23 April, the Globe has teamed up with the BBC as part of **BBC Art's Culture in Quarantine** project. BBC iPlayer will host *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2016), and *The Tempest* (2013) from 23 April 2020, available free for over three months. Emma Rice's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* stars **Ncuti Gatwa**, best-known for Netflix's 'Sex Education', and Jeremy Herrin's *The Tempest* stars **Roger Allam** as Prospero and **Colin Morgan**.

The Globe's 'Shakespeare & Love in Isolation' series will also launch on Shakespeare's Birthday and sees artists, in times of solitude and from their place of sanctuary, sharing some of the greatest words ever written. The series includes **Alfred Enoch, Athena Stevens, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Jenifer Toksvig, Kathryn Hunter, Kobna Holdbrook-Smith, Nadia Albina, Paul Ready, Roger Allam, Sandi Toksvig, Shubham Saraf, Sophie Stone, and Stephen Fry**. **The Guardian has partnered** on the project to relaunch its Shakespeare Solo series, and **Vivienne Westwood** will be posting some of the new digital content on Instagram to help celebrate the Bard's birthday.

To add to current free to stream films, The Globe will also be streaming the **90-minute** Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank production *Macbeth* (2020). *Macbeth* was halted on the eve of the first integrated British Sign Language performance of the play. Over 33,000 students had seen the production but a further 15,000 had tickets and will not be able to see it in the theatre. Now the play, currently the most widely studied on the school curriculum, will be available for **free on the Globe's YouTube channel until the Government reopens schools**. *Macbeth* will be available on the Globe's YouTube channel from Monday 11 May at 7pm.

Over the last month the Globe's YouTube channel, on which it streams free filmed productions, has received **over 900,000 views**. With 80,000 subscribers tuning in from all over the world, including America, India, Italy, and Australia, *Hamlet*, starring Artistic Director Michelle Terry, received over 600,000 views. Twitter impressions have increased by 200%. Even though audiences cannot attend the Globe in person for the summer season, the digital provision is allowing audiences of all ages the opportunity to engage with the greatest playwright of all time.

The podcast 'Such Stuff' will feature Michelle Terry interviewing the inimitable **Peter Brook**. **Kathryn Hunter** also features performing readings throughout the episode. **BBC Radio 4's** programme Front Row will soon feature **Alfred Enoch and Rebekah Murrell** performing a scene from *Romeo & Juliet*, which was due to open the Globe's Summer Season, directed by Ola Ince.

The Globe has just launched a new donation service 'Text to Donate'. Supporters can now text GLOBE followed by their donation amount (up to £20) to 70460 to donate.

SHAKESPEARE'S  
GLOBE

## EDITOR'S NOTES

### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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For free film streaming please go to  
<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/watch/>

Download images of the Globe Theatre [here](#)  
Download images of the BBC iPlayer films [here](#)  
Download images for the free to stream films [here](#)

### SHAKESPEARES GLOBE.COM

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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 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 normally open all year, 9.00am – 5.00pm departing every 30 minutes.

### 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: [www.shakespearesglobe.com](http://www.shakespearesglobe.com).