



PRESS RELEASE

GLOBE RESTARTS AWARD-WINNING GUIDED TOUR WITH VISITORS ONSTAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME, ALONGSIDE AN EXCITING DIGITAL FESTIVAL FILMED IN THE CANDLELIT SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE

19 AUGUST 2020

- **Globe Theatre tours to reopen taking visitors onstage for the first time**
- **Digital festival from 21-23 August includes Romeo and Juliet director Ola Ince and actors Alfred Enoch, Rebekah Murrell, and Sargon Yelda**
- **Globe shop now open online**
- **Swan Bar & Restaurant takes part in Government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme**

After closing in March this year, the **Globe Theatre opens its oak doors once more for guided tours from 21 August**. As well as hearing about **Shakespeare, the history of London and the renowned theatre itself, visitors will also have a once in a lifetime chance to stand on one of the most famous stages** in the world. Alongside costumes worn by some of the most celebrated actors to have acted at the Globe, there will also be a **photography exhibition in the space from theatre photographer Marc Brenner** of previously unseen backstage images taken at the Globe during lockdown. An award-winning experience **for the young and the young at heart**, the tour normally welcomes over 350,000 visitors a year. The Globe's online shop has now reopened.

Neil Constable, Chief Executive of Shakespeare's Globe, said: *"As an independent charity that currently receives no government subsidy, our hope is that any income raised from this festival will help support the Globe, artists and practitioners, as we all continue to look for new ways to share our work. After being closed for five months, reopening for our wonderful guided tours, giving access to the stage to our visitors for the first time, and the opening of our online shop and the Swan Bar & Restaurant are all ways in which we hope to welcome more and more people back through our doors to safely enjoy culture and experience in our iconic theatre before we are in a position to start performances again."*

Tours will be running seven days a week with six tours a day until 20 September. Tickets must be pre-booked online for time slots to allow for social distancing. The tours happen outside, and precautions due to Covid-19 include hand sanitising stations, deep cleaning of toilets, face shields for the Globe Guides, and further systems to ensure social distancing. The open-air theatre is following all recommended safety measures amending normal operation of the tours to fit with all Covid-19 restrictions.

Online from 21 – 23 August, the Globe launches its first ever digital festival about Shakespeare and Race featuring a new two-part documentary about *Romeo and Juliet*, monologues from celebrated writers, a panel discussion, a brand-new season of the podcast 'Such Stuff', and workshops for 8-14-year olds.

'Behind Closed Doors: Romeo and Juliet' gives a sneak peek into the world of the rehearsal room where Director Ola Ince and actors Alfred Enoch, Rebekah Murrell, and Sargon Yelda gathered (socially distanced) in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse for an honest conversation about Shakespeare, race, beauty, and mental health in the play and the impact this has on them as artists and the audience.

On Saturday 22 August at 7.30pm, a series of new writing **'Notes to the Forgotten She-Wolves'** celebrates history's forgotten and unsung women and features three **monologues from ground-breaking playwrights Nicôle Lecky, Winsome Pinnock and Amanda Wilkin**. These stories write back into history Bessie Coleman, the first woman and person of colour to hold a pilot's licence; Una Marson, the first woman of colour to broadcast for the BBC; and Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner, a woman of colour who invented the sanitary belt.

To mark International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition on 23 August, a panel discussion will be filmed in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, with Professor Karim-Cooper, novelist and academic **Preiti Taneja**, Historian and President of the Royal Historical Society, **Margot Finn** and actor and director **Elliot Barnes-Worrell**, discussing British history, the colonial past, racial identity and how best to tell our collective stories.

A new series of the Globe's podcast 'Such Stuff' will be released, exploring 'whiteness'. This series includes contributions from artists **Sarah Amankwah, Adjoa Andoh, Jade Anouka, Federay Holmes, Steven Kavuma** and **Kobna Holdbrook-Smith**. Academics contributing to the podcast include **Dr Steven Garner, Dr Shona Hunter, Dr Will Tosh, Dr Ruben Espinosa,** and **Dr Ambereen Dadabhoy**.

On 21 – 22 August, **live anti-racist workshop sessions** will be held: for 8 – 10-year olds 'This Island's Mine' is based on *The Tempest*, and 'Haply for I am Black' for 11 – 14-year olds is based on *Othello*. There will also be a teachers' CPD on 21 August at 5pm on an anti-racist approach to teaching Shakespeare.

Started in 2018, the inaugural 'Shakespeare and Race' was **conceived and curated by Professor Farah Karim-Cooper**, the Globe's Head of Higher Education and Research and King's College London's Professor of Shakespeare studies. This year the festival finds its way online and is curated by Professor Karim-Cooper, **Kobna Holdbrook-Smith** and **Michelle Terry**. Most of the events are available for 24 hours from their first broadcast, so that conversation can happen wherever attendees are in the world. **All events start from £5.**

The Globe's online shop has now reopened with fantastic gifts, books, and DVDs. Anyone who joins the Globe as a Member will receive a 20% discount in the online shop as a thank you for their support.

The Globe site, though empty of the public, has been maintained with some urgent and necessary repairs taking place since March. Artisan Plastercraft was commissioned to undertake on-site surveys to ascertain the condition of the lime plasterwork at Shakespeare's Globe. The lime plastering, providing the world-famous white and oak exterior of the Globe Theatre, has been replaced in select severely weathered panels using traditional methods and materials that would have been applied in Shakespeare's day.

The **Swan Bar & Restaurant are now open for business** and are taking part in the Government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme. Details of opening hours are below.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

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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

GLOBE THEATRE GUIDED TOURS

21 August – 20 September
Running time: 50 minutes
Tickets must be pre-booked online at shakespearesglobe.com

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone who joins the Globe as a Member will receive a 20% discount in the online shop as a thank you for their support.

Priority booking for guided tours opens today, with exclusive access to a concessionary ticket rate for Members.

For information on how to become a Member or gift Membership, you can visit our website <https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/join-and-support/memberships/> or call on 020 7902 5970

SWAN BAR & RESTAURANT INFORMATION

Bar: Monday – Wednesday, 11.30am – 11.30pm | Thursday, 11.30am – 12.00am | Friday, 11.30am – 12.30am | Saturday, 10.30am – 12.30am | Sunday, 10.30am – 10.30pm.

The bar menu is available from 12.00pm every day. The weekend brunch menu is available Saturday and Sunday 10.30am – 3.00pm.

Restaurant: Tuesday – Saturday, 12.00pm – 9.00pm | Sunday, 12.00pm – 5.00pm.

Tuesday – Saturday, the à la carte menu is available 12.00pm – 3.00pm and 5.30pm – 9.00pm, and the afternoon tea menu is available 12.00pm – 5.00pm.

On Sunday, the Sunday lunch menu and afternoon tea menus are available 12.00pm – 5.00pm.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Shakespeare's Globe strives to make Shakespeare accessible for all. It is a registered charity and has operated independently since opening in 1997. The theatre closed on 18 March 2020 disrupting the end of the winter season run and a production of Macbeth with 20,000 free tickets for school children. Around 3 million people across 137 countries including USA, India, Japan, Italy, Germany, Spain, Turkey, Canada and Australia, have watched our free streamed films on YouTube over lockdown. Currently 79% of staff are furloughed or flexi-furloughed and will be until the end of the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

The Shakespeare's Globe site comprises: The Globe Theatre (1997): unique full-scale replica of Shakespeare's original 1599 Elizabethan open-air theatre; Education and Rehearsal Centre (2010); Indoor candle-lit Jacobean Sam Wanamaker Playhouse (2014); Library, archive, lecture theatre and other public spaces. In addition to performances in our London theatres and touring productions nationally and internationally, we also educate through Shakespeare in performance. Working over 139,000 students each year, giving over £2 million in free tickets to schoolchildren, we are the only performing arts organisation in the world with an in-house faculty of academics who lead on original research into Shakespeare in performance and stage global social justice-themed festivals. Talent development is a key objective and since 2015, our new writing commissions have been nominated for ten Olivier Awards.