



SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE

PRESS RELEASE

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE REOPENS OUTDOOR THEATRE FROM 19 MAY

EMBARGOED UNTIL 1PM WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH 2021

Shakespeare's Globe is preparing to reopen its outdoor theatre on 19 May 2021. Provided the conditions are met for Step 3 of the Government's roadmap for cultural reopening, the Globe will be welcoming audiences in for socially distanced performances, having closed on 18 March 2020.

The summer season 2021 opens with Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, followed by *Romeo & Juliet* and *Twelfth Night*. The Globe Touring Ensemble will perform *As You Like It*, *The Tempest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, including some of the ever-popular Audience Choice performances. *Metamorphoses*, a new piece of theatre by the Globe's writers-in-residence and inspired by Ovid's Myths, will open in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse on 30 September. The season includes: **Jean Chan**, **Alfred Enoch**, **Sean Holmes**, **Sami Ibrahim**, **Ola Ince**, **Laura Lomas**, **Sabrina Mahfouz**, **Brendan O'Hea**, **Holly Race Roughan** and **Michelle Terry**. For the first time productions will be live streamed from the Globe stage, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Twelfth Night* and *Metamorphoses*.

The outdoor theatre is introducing protocols for a safe return to live theatre for audiences in line with the See It Safely campaign from UK Theatre and SOLT, including staggered arrival times, allocated entrances, no intervals, pre-ordered drinks, and for the initial period of opening there will be seating in the Yard. Despite reduced capacity there are still limited tickets available at £5.

Opening in 2022's summer season will be the postponed 2021 production *King Lear*, with **Kathryn Hunter** reprising a performance that made history 24 years ago, in a new production with Helena Kaut-Howson returning to direct. The international team retelling this story for today also includes movement director Marcello Magni, designer Pawel Dobrzycki and composer Boleslaw Rawski.

Michelle Terry, Artistic Director, said: "To even be announcing a season means that we are inching ever closer to getting back to doing the thing that we love, the thing that the Globe was built for, and the thing that so many of us, artists and audience alike, have lost during this time: sharing time, space and story with as many people as is safe. This is a historic moment, and not to be underestimated; we have a long way to go as we emerge and heal from this, but theatre can help us get there: that's what it's for. To express the often inexpressible, bear the often unbearable, laugh, cry, be – safely – together. The readiness is all and Shakespeare's Globe is ready."

Opening the season on Wednesday 19 May, will be the much-celebrated 2019 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The ensemble for this production will also be performing *Twelfth Night*, which opens on 29 July both productions will be directed by **Sean Holmes**, with **Assistant Director Prime Isaac**. The Globe's Artistic Director **Michelle Terry will perform Viola**. Sean is Associate Artistic Director of the Globe. He was previously Artistic Director and Joint Chief Executive of the Lyric Hammersmith for almost a decade. Sean's tenure at the Lyric included programming game-changing shows such as *Three Kingdoms*, and directing productions including the Olivier Award-winning *Blasted* and the worldwide hit *Ghost Stories*. His years of experience working with ensembles include Filter and the ground-breaking Secret Theatre project.

A Midsummer Night's Dream and *Twelfth Night* includes **Shona Babayemi** as Helena and Olivia, **Peter Bourke** as Oberon and Antonio (*Henry IV* Parts I and II with the RSC, *The Mayor of Casterbridge* and *David Copperfield*), **Jean Chan** designing, **Rachel Hannah Clarke** as Sung and Curio (*You Remember* with the Royal Court, *Queens of Sheba* with The Vaults and *Hatch* with the Talawa Theatre Company), **Sasha Milavic Davies** (Movement Director), **Bryan Dick** as Lysander and Orsino (*Eric and Ernie*, *Master and Commander* and *Hobson's Choice* with Theatre Royal Bath), **Victoria Elliott** as Titania and Feste (*Hebburn*, *The Lost Disc* with the Soho Theatre, *Hedda Gabler* with Northern Stage), **Jim Fortune** (Composer), **George Fouracres** as Flute and Aguecheek (*A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Lyric Hammersmith, *Spitting Image*, *The Bremmer Files*), **Nadine Higgin** as Quince and Sir Toby Belch (*Allelujah!* The Bridge Theatre, *The Lion King* Lyceum Theatre and *Military Wives*), **Nadi Kemp-Sayfi** as Hermia and Maria (*The Whip*, *A Museum in Baghdad* and *King John* with the RSC and *Virilicus* with Birmingham Rep) **Ciáran O'Brien** as Demetrius and Sebastian (*The Plough and the Stars* with Lyric Hammersmith), *Misfits* and *Ripper Street* (BBC), **Sophie Russell** as Bottom and Malvolio (*Richard III*, *Henry VI*, *Henry V*, *Henry IV* Part 1, *Henry IV* Part 2 and *Bottom's Dream* with Shakespeare's Globe, *The Prudes* with the

Royal Court and *King Lear* with the RSC), **Artistic Director Michelle Terry as Viola** and **Jacoba Williams as Fabian and Snout** (*The Snow Queen* with Stephen Joseph Theatre, *When the Sea Swallows us Whole* and *Queens of Sheba* with the Vaults Festival). Music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be performed by musicians from the **Hackney Colliery Band**.

Opening 26 June, **Romeo & Juliet** will be directed by **Ola Ince**. Ola is currently an Artistic Associate at The Royal Court and winner of the h100 Theatre & Performance Award. Her credits include *Appropriate* (Donmar Warehouse), *The Convert* (Young Vic) and *Poet In Da Corner* (Royal Court).

The production sees the return of many of the original company, who were in rehearsals when the theatre closed, including **Alfred Enoch as Romeo** and **Rebekah Murrell as Juliet**. **Alfred** is best known for playing Wes Gibbins in *How To Get Away With Murder* (ABC) and Dean Thomas in the *Harry Potter* film series. Alfred's theatre credits include *Crave* (Chichester Festival Theatre); *Tree* (Young Vic); *RED* (Wyndham's Theatre/MGC); *King Lear* (Royal Exchange); *Coriolanus* (Donmar Warehouse); *Timon of Athens* and *Antigone* (National Theatre). Television credits include *Foundation* (Apple TV); *Trust Me* (Red Production Company); *Troy: Fall of a City* (BBC); *Sherlock* (BBC/Hartwood Films) and *Broadchurch* (ITV/Kudos). **Rebekah's** theatre credits include *Living Newspaper: Edition One*, *Scenes with Girls*, *Glass*, *Kill. Bluebeard. Imp.* (Royal Court); *Whitewash* (Soho Theatre); *Nine Night* (National Theatre and Trafalgar Studios). Screen credits include *Trying* (BBC/Apple); *Roman Mysteries and Myths* (BBC) and *Pirates* (Hillbilly Films/BBC/BFI), **Beth Cordingly** as Lady Capulet (*The Merry Wives of Windsor* with the RSC, *Family Affairs* and *The Bill*), **Will Egerton** as Tybalt (Will trained at Arts Ed and *Romeo & Juliet* is his professional debut), **Adam Gillen** as Mercutio (*Benidorm*, *Fresh Meat* and *Killer Joe* with Trafalgar Studios), **Jacob Hughes** (Designer), **Clara Indrani** as Montague (*Flesh and Blood*, *Vera* and *Marcella*), **Rachel Lemon** (Assistant Director), **Max Perryment** (Composer), **Zoe West** as Benvolio (*Peter Pan* with the Chester Storyhouse, *Much Ado About Nothing* with the Dubai Opera House and *Out of Water* with the RSC), **Dwane Walcott** as Paris (*Our Girl*, *Anna* with the National Theatre and *Hamlet* with the Barbican) and **Sargon Yelda** as Friar (*Dead Pixels*, *Antony and Cleopatra* with the National Theatre and *King Lear* with the Old Vic).

The Globe Touring Ensemble will also be performing their 2020 postponed productions of **As You Like It** and **The Tempest** at the Globe from 8 June. Directed by **Brendan O'Hea with Associate Director, Vanessa-Faye Stanley, Andrew D Edwards** (Designer), **Catherine Jayes** (Composer) and **Globe Associate Artist Sian Williams** (Choreographer). Cast includes **Stephenson Ardern-Sodje, Tom Chapman, Anna Crichlow, Mark Desebrock, Emma Ernest, Colm Gormley, Sara Lessore and Katy Secombe**. This ensemble of eight actors will be asking audiences to vote for the play that they would most like to see in 'Audience Choice' shows. A director, actor, and education practitioner, Brendan directed 2019 and 2018's Globe Touring Ensemble, Tom Stuart's new play *After Edward* (2019) and has previously performed in a number of productions at Shakespeare's Globe including *Cymbeline* (2015), *Measure for Measure* (2015) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2014). Plans for the touring company to perform *As You Like It*, *The Tempest*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* beyond Bankside will be announced in due course, including work with and within the local community.

Opening 30 September, Metamorphoses is a new piece of theatre inspired by Ovid's powerful myths of chaos and creation. This piece has been written bespoke to the candlelit **Sam Wanamaker Playhouse** by Globe writers-in-residence **Sami Ibrahim, Laura Lomas and Sabrina Mahfouz**. *Metamorphoses* will be directed by **Sean Holmes and Holly Race Roughan**, Associate Artistic Director of Headlong. Company also includes: **Grace Smart** (Designer) and four actors. As part of a continued commitment to new writing, the Globe is launching 'The Globe Writer's Week', a week-long residency for a select group of writers to explore writing for epic spaces.

This year marks the **15th Anniversary of the Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank project**. As the Globe closed on 16 March 2020, there were 1,500 school children attending a production of *Macbeth*. The scheme sees **18,000 free tickets going to state secondary school children from London and Birmingham** with a show designed especially for young people. Since the programme started more than 200,000 students have benefited from the programme, which has supported the teaching of English in the UK National Curriculum. This year the production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be performed for Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank audiences, from 28 September. Deutsche Bank have confirmed their support for the project in 2022, leading to a 16th year in partnership.

The Globe's Education department is also launching a new series of webinars on the relationship between race, social justice, and Shakespeare. **Anti-Racist Shakespeare: Perspectives on the Plays** will enable live discussion over Zoom hosted by Shakespeare's Globe and delivered by actors and scholars of colour. Audience members, theatre professionals, teachers and scholars from all backgrounds will be invited to add to the discussion over Q&A's. The first webinar will focus on **A Midsummer Night's Dream** on 20 May at 6pm.

Running alongside each production in the season will be activities to explore these plays for every age and stage and context. These include **Behind Closed Doors**, offering a sneak-peak into the rehearsal room and beyond, the Globe's Education department's ever-popular family storytelling events **Shakespeare's Telling Tales**, and a new series **In Conversation**, enables in-depth discussion of social, political and cultural issues with a Globe scholar.

The Globe received a lifeline grant of **£3million from the Government's Cultural Recovery Fund**, set up to protect the nation's world renowned cultural, arts and heritage institutions. The Cultural Recovery Fund is supporting the Globe in its

reopening costs, having been **launched in July 2020 at the Globe** by Chancellor Rishi Sunak and Secretary of State for Culture Oliver Dowden.

The **Garfield Weston Foundation** has significantly supported the Globe's recovery through a major grant of £750,000 from the Weston Culture Fund. Established in 1958, the Garfield Weston Foundation is a family founded charitable grant-making trust, which recently launched a £25million fund to support the cultural sector's recovery following the impact of Covid-19. The foundation received applications from across the sector totalling over £128 million, five times the fund that was available and were so struck by the level of need that they increased the fund by 20% to £30million. The Globe's awarded grant will predominantly support the Globe's re-opening costs, and high-quality production filming and livestream of productions over the summer. The Globe's digital future has been supported by **WarnerMedia**, ensuring the digital infrastructure is secure throughout this period of closure and for future work to be made available to audiences worldwide.

EDITOR'S NOTES

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Download images of the Globe Theatre [here](#)

For further information on our COVID-19 procedures please visit:

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/visit/coronavirus-covid-19-safety-measures/>



shakespearesglobe.com/

Join the conversation on social media. Help us spread the word by tweeting [@The_Globe](#) [#ThisWoodenO](#)

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE SUMMER SEASON:

Thurs 8 Apr: Public Booking opens, 10am

Due to Covid-19 restrictions on capacity, we are inviting press to attend performances across a whole week with an embargoed date for review.

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare

19 May – 30 October

Globe Theatre

Press Night: w/c 25th May (embargoed until 27 May)

Live Stream: 5 June, 25 September

Midnight Matinee: 18 September

Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare

26 June – 17 October

Globe Theatre

Press Night: w/c 5th July (embargoed until 9 July)

Live stream: 10 July, 7 August

Midnight Matinee: 17 July

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

29 July – 30 October

Globe Theatre

Press Night: 6 August

Live stream: 4 September, 23 October

Metamorphoses by Globe Writers-in-Residence

30 September - Sat 30 October

Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Press Night: wk/c 4 October

Live stream: Wed 27 - Sat 30 Oct

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: 8 June – 29 August

Midnight Matinee: 21 August

Local performances and touring dates TBC

PLAYING SHAKESPEARE WITH DEUTSCHE BANK:

A Midsummer Night's Dream

28 September - 12 October

Globe Theatre

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES:

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

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Audio Described: 19 June Matinee, 25 September Matinee, 31 August Matinee

Captioned: 18 June Evening, 12 October Evening

BSL: Dates to be announced

Relaxed: 6 June Matinee, 12 June Evening

Romeo & Juliet

Audio Described: 18 September Matinee, 3 October Matinee

Captioned: 11 August Evening, 23 September Evening

BSL: 21 August Matinee, 9 October Matinee

Relaxed: 14 July Evening, 14 August Evening, 5 September Matinee

Twelfth Night

Audio Described: 14 August Matinee, 11 September Matinee, 16 October Matinee

Captioned: 16 September Evening

BSL: 10 September Evening

Relaxed: 9 September Evening, 21 September Evening

Metamorphoses

Audio Described: 23 October Matinee

Captioned: 14 October Evening, 21 October Evening

Relaxed: 22 October Evening

Globe on Tour: *As You Like It*

Audio Described: 17 July Matinee

Captioned: 15 July Evening

BSL: 29 August Evening

Relaxed: 24 August Evening

Globe on Tour: *The Tempest*

Audio Described: 24 July Matinee

Captioned: 23 July Evening

BSL: 29 August Matinee

Relaxed: 13 June Evening

Globe on Tour: *Audience Choice*

Relaxed: 28 August Evening

Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Audio Described: 8 October Matinee

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*

MEMBERSHIP

Advanced Priority Booking for Patrons opens on 25 March at 10.00am

Friends Priority Booking opens on 30 March at 10.00am.

No booking fees during Priority Booking.

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

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

DONATE

Our great oak doors have been closed for over a year. During this unprecedented time for the cultural sector, please donate to help support the Globe's recovery and ensure our wooden 'O' remains accessible for future generations.

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/join-and-support/donate/>

To donate £20 text GLOBE20 to 70460

To donate £10 text GLOBE10 to 70460

To donate £5 text GLOBE5 to 70460

SHOP

Our online shop is back - browse clothing, bags, gifts, stationary, posters, books, DVDs, homeware and more. Get 10% off your first online order – just use code SMILE10 at the checkout.

SWAN BAR AND RESTAURANT INFORMATION

Swan at the Globe, the Globe's on-site bar and restaurant will be open for outdoor dining **from 12 April**. They will be offering mid-morning coffees and snacks, and a new springtime menu, with daily specials and a carefully curated drinks list. New opening times and new menus can be viewed here:

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/visit/swan-bar-and-restaurant/>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Shakespeare's Globe strives to make Shakespeare accessible for all. The Globe normally welcomes over a million visitors a year and shares 10% of London's play-going audience, with an annual income of around £25 million. It has operated, until now, without any regular public or Arts Council England subsidy. Of course, the events of 2020 have taken a heavy toll on the Globe, and we now look to recovering and rebuilding as we open our theatres from April.

Since closing our doors to the public in March 2020, the Globe has been reaching audiences internationally. Filmed productions released over YouTube received over 3 million views across 137 countries. Recognising the needs of these times, the Globe's education department moved online

helping to support families, teachers, and students of all ages across the world. Our education work has been deeply responsive to this time, moving online to reach 6 different continents, supporting students, parents, and teachers engaging with live and interactive events, whilst also growing our Higher Education offering.

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. Talent development is a key objective and since 2015, our new writing commissions have been nominated for ten Olivier Awards.



Garfield Weston

FOUNDATION

In partnership with
BORN TO BE
The Deutsche Bank youth
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