



PRESS RELEASE

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ANNOUNCES 2021/22 WINTER SEASON IN THE SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE

1 September 2021

Shakespeare's Globe has announced its Winter Season for 2021/22 in the candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. The season will feature Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* directed by **Blanche McIntyre**, *Hamlet* directed by **Sean Holmes**, *The Merchant of Venice* directed by **Abigail Graham**, and a festive reimaging of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Fir Tree* written by **Hannah Khalil**. Alongside productions in the Playhouse, there will also be two week-long festivals (including the return of *Shakespeare and Race*) and half-term events for families. The Globe will continue to reach audiences at home and internationally through **livestreamed** productions of *Measure for Measure*, *Hamlet* and *The Merchant of Venice*.

Michelle Terry, Artistic Director, said: "As we slowly emerge from a period of deep uncertainty, change and challenge, we turn to these plays to ask some of the most profound questions about who we are, why we are, and what on earth can we do about it. In a quest for love, identity, justice or revenge, these plays are full of people making conscious and unconscious choices that determine either their salvation or destruction. This is a season deliberately designed to tackle the big moral questions and complexities with heart, humour and humanity."

For the very first time, audiences will be able to **buy tickets to the main productions in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse for £5**, with 48 standing tickets available per show. The Globe's **Summer Season continues until 30 October**, and despite restrictions and continued difficulties with the pandemic, has successfully welcomed over **86,000 audience members** into 150 performances, with only 2 cancelled to date. Other activities on the Globe site have been popular with over 12,000 people enjoying the guided tours, and over 8,000 students taking part in workshops. The livestreamed productions from the summer season have been enjoyed by nearly 3,000 people tuning in from over 50 countries. On 13 September, the Globe will be welcoming **internationally renowned stand-up and Mock The Week presenter Dara Ó Briain** to perform his world-class comedy on stage. Dara will be joined by British Comedy Award winning Nina Conti, Athena Kugblenu (BBC Radio 4's *Athena's Cancel Culture*), and Suzi Ruffell (*Live at the Apollo*).

Opening 19 November, *Measure for Measure* will be directed by **Blanche McIntyre**. Remarkably resonant for today, this darkly comic production explores injustice and inequality in a hyper-sexualised, politically polarised society. Blanche McIntyre most recently directed *Hymn* at the Almeida. Her previous work for the Globe includes *Bartholomew Fair* (2019), *The Winter's Tale* (2018), *As You Like It* (2015), and *Comedy of Errors* (2014). Her other theatre credits include *The Writer* (Almeida), *Botticelli in the Fire* (Hampstead Theatre), *Tartuffe* (National Theatre), *Titus Andronicus* and *The Two Noble Kinsmen* (RSC), *Noises Off* (Nottingham Playhouse), *The Oresteia* (HOME, Manchester), *The Birthday Party* (Royal Exchange Theatre), and *The Seagull* (Headlong Theatre, Nuffield Southampton Theatres and Derby Theatre – **winner of Best Director**, UK Theatre Awards, 2013). To accompany the production, a discussion event, '**In Conversation**' will invite a deeper dialogue into Shakespeare's world and the sexual politics of *Measure for Measure*, led by academics, writers, and artists.



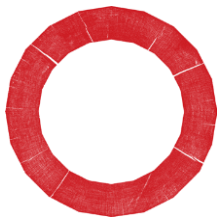
Over the Christmas period, the Globe will be celebrating folkloric tradition with an enchanting **new family show** written by **Hannah Khalil**, *The Fir Tree*, based on the original fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen. Audiences will be welcome to gather with warm drinks to sing and laugh in the 'Wooden O', as it quite literally returns to its roots with the story of Christmas told from the perspective of the tree. Palestinian-Irish writer, Hannah Khalil, has most recently had her play *Bitterenders* streamed live from the Arcola Theatre, directed by Maxine Peak and her family adaptation of *Myths and Adventures* from Ancient Greece online for Waterman's Brentford in 2020. Her theatre credits include *A Museum in Baghdad* (RSC, 2019) directed by Erica Whyman, *Interference* (The National Theatre of Scotland), *The Scar Test* (Soho Theatre), and *Scenes from 68* Years* (Arcola). *Scenes from 68* Years* was nominated for the James Tait Black award and has subsequently been produced by Golden Thread Theatre in San Francisco and in Tunisia production (supported by British Council Tunisia and AFAC and produced by Alia Al Zougbi). She is a Creative Fellow of the Beckett Archive at the University of Reading for 2021/22.

Opening 21 January 2022, *Hamlet* will be directed by the Globe's Associate Artistic Director, **Sean Holmes** created with **The Globe Ensemble** (full company to be announced in due course). Performed for the first time in the intimate confines of the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, this production will shed candlelight on a country under attack, a family falling apart, a mind in turmoil, and the impact of manipulation in this tale of corruption and disruption. This ensemble will be resident for at least a year, playing in the winter season and then opening Summer 2022 in the Globe. Sean Holmes directed the critically acclaimed productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Twelfth Night* for the Globe's reopening 2021 season. 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.

The Merchant of Venice, the third Shakespeare production of the season opens on the 18 February, directed by **Abigail Graham**. This production will be a personal and political interrogation of Shylock's play. Abigail is currently directing Morgan Lloyd Malcolm's new play *MUM*, premiering at the end of this month at Theatre Royal Plymouth and Soho Theatre. Following *The Merchant of Venice*, Abigail will be directing the highly anticipated Lyric Hammersmith panto, *Aladdin* by Vikki Stone. She is currently directing the Lyric Hammersmith Ensemble, and her other theatre credits include *The Tyler Sisters* (Hampstead) and *Death of a Salesman* (Royal and Derngate / UK Tour). She was founding Artistic Director of OpenWorks Theatre from 2013 – 2017, an organisation dedicated to changing who goes to the theatre by changing who makes it.

In the Spring, the Globe's annual **Shakespeare and Race Festival** returns. It will explore vital questions about race, identity, and oppression through the prism of Shakespeare's world and words.

Our leading Education department at the Globe will present a wide-ranging programme of courses and activities for all ages and stages to engage with Shakespeare. Including storytelling sessions, workshops, webinars, academic conferences, Continued Professional Development sessions for teachers, and events in dialogue with the productions in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. Having been a dynamic support for teachers and students over the past challenging year, Education will offer exciting opportunities for further engagement for those wanting to learn more about Shakespeare's works in the context of his own time and ours.



Over the **October half term**, there will be many activities for families to enjoy at the Globe. The Globe's flagship '**Telling Tales**' **storytelling performances** will run 24 – 30 October, offering a sensory interactive adventure for younger audiences. Plays retold for children include *The Merchant of Venice*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, and *Julius Caesar*. The Globe's Fight Team will also be offering a **demonstration of Early Modern stage combat**, where families will learn all about historical sword fighting. The half-term event will allow you to handle a weapon, and even have a photo taken with a sword, although only the professionals will be able to partake in the sword play. Another activity will be '**Family Dressing Demonstrations**', where you can see how Elizabethan women got dressed and get to try on the clothes of a gentleman courtier.

ENDS

EDITORS NOTES

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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

Join the conversation on social media. Help us spread the word by tweeting **@TheGlobe #PlayByCandlelight #ThisWoodenO**

For further information on our COVID-19 procedures please visit: www.shakespearesglobe.com/visit/coronavirus-covid-19-safety-measures

Since opening in 1997, the Globe has been committed to bringing Shakespeare to all, by providing over 600 standing or 'Groundling' tickets for just £5 per each performance in The Globe Theatre. This season, for the first time, £5 standing tickets will also be available for main show performances in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. There will be 48 tickets available per show at £5, and they will be located in the upper gallery standing room space.

"London's best-value theatre ticket" – Time Out

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE WINTER SEASON

Measure for Measure by William Shakespeare
Friday 19 November - Saturday 15 January
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse
Livestream - Friday 07 January
Press Night - Thursday 02 December
#MeasureForMeasure

The Fir Tree by Hannah Khalil

Monday 20 December - Thursday 30 December
Globe Theatre
#TheFirTree

Hamlet by William Shakespeare
Friday 21 January - Saturday 09 April
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse
Livestream - Friday 11 February
Press Night - Thursday 03 February
#Hamlet

The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare
Friday 18 February - Saturday 09 April
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse
Livestream - Friday 25 March
Press Night - Wednesday 02 March
#TheMerchantOfVenice

October Half-Term 'Telling Tales'
Sunday 24 October - Saturday 30 October
#TellingTales

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

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

Measure for Measure
Audio Described – 18 December (2pm), 08 January (2pm)
Captioned – 16 December (7:30pm), 06 January (7:30pm), 13 January (7:30pm)
Relaxed – 15 January (2pm)

Hamlet
Audio Described – 19 March (2pm), 12 March (2pm)
Captioned – 05 March (7:30pm), 18 March (7:30pm)
Relaxed – 26 March (2pm)

The Merchant of Venice
Audio Described – 27 March (1pm)



Captioned – 31 March (7:30pm), 7 April (7:30pm)
Relaxed – 03 April (1pm)

Website

[Shakespearesglobe.com](https://www.shakespearesglobe.com)

#ThisWoodenO

Globe Player

[Globeplayer.tv](https://globeplayer.tv)

#GlobePlayer

Teach Shakespeare

[Teach.shakespearesglobe.com](https://teach.shakespearesglobe.com)

#TeachShakespeare

Virtual Tour

shakespearesglobe.com/globe360

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

DONATE

We need you more than ever to help secure our future. [Please donate](#) any amount, small or large.

We now have a text to donate service:

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.

MEMBERSHIP

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

SWAN BAR AND RESTAURANT INFORMATION

Swan Bar is now open is open 7 days a week. From craft beers, local artisan gins and creative cocktails to classic dishes, summery salads and delightful puddings. There are new opening times and new

menus, which 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. It is a registered charity and has operated independently since opening in 1997. The theatre closed on 18 March 2020, reopening 19 May 2021.

Continued restrictions and the delay of not being able to open at the beginning of the year has created a deficit of £3.5m for the current financial year. Alongside the support from the Cultural Recovery Fund and furloughing staff, the Globe still lost just under £4m last year. The Globe plans to recoup costs from next year. The vital Cultural Recovery Fund, incredible generosity of sponsors, donors, and the public has allowed the Globe to reopen and start to recoup the devastating impact of the pandemic.

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 inhouse 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.

