

# SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

## 2022 FACT SHEET Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Shakespeare's Globe is a world-renowned theatre, education centre, and cultural landmark on the bank of the River Thames in London, UK.

Founded by the pioneering American actor and director Sam Wanamaker, our site is home to two venues – the iconic open-air Globe Theatre and the candlelit indoor Sam Wanamaker Playhouse.

Many of our productions also enjoy an extended life online through our video-on-demand service Globe Player, in cinemas across the UK, and on television. We are also a major venue for concerts and special events, and have produced many world premieres of new plays, several of which have gone on to enjoy success in the West End, on Broadway and beyond.

Our education department has long been one of the most active in the UK. We offer a hugely diverse programme of workshops, public events, university courses, and community projects. Our Guided Tour is award-winning, and our visitors also enjoy our on-site and online Shop and Swan Bar & Restaurant.

### 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

### IMPACT OF THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

The impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic presented the greatest threat to the future of Shakespeare's Globe since its Royal opening in 1997, and its impact has been financially shocking and continues to affect us as the organisation moves into rebuilding.

### PANDEMIC IMPACT SNAPSHOT

- Globe Theatre closed for 429 days
- Loss of 90% regular income in 2020
- Social distancing in 2021 resulted in a 70% reduction of audience capacity allowed
- Total on-site visitors down by 75% from a regular year
- Pre-pandemic: The Globe regularly welcomed over 1 million visitors a year, sharing 10% of London's play-going audience, with an annual income of around £25m. It has operated for 24-years without any regular public or Arts Council England subsidy.
- Both the Globe Theatre and Sam Wanamaker Theatre closed in March 2020, eventually reopening 429 days later in May 2021. Theatre closure presented a loss of 90% regular income. The Guided Tours reopened August – October 2020 and opened again after further lockdowns with Guided Tours and education activities on-site from April 2021.
- Despite the ever-changing pandemic and its effect on the cultural sector and its operations, the Globe continued work digitally during lockdowns:

### ONLINE ACHIEVEMENTS SNAPSHOT

- 8 YouTube Globe performances released worldwide for free with 2,956,800 views
- Globe Player received almost 30,000 film streams
- Over 160 online events for teachers and schools
- 12,000 teachers receiving learning resources each month
- Delivered over 100 hours of interactive content for families and young people
- Family work reached 6 different continents, 52 different countries, and over 3,500 families

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## SURVIVAL

We would simply not have survived the year without the significant and vital support from Arts Council England and the Government's Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sport through the Cultural Recovery Fund, and the essential support from the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

The Board of Trustees, CEO, and Leadership have tirelessly worked on flexible recovery plans, both operational and financial, ensuring the continued viability and business of the organisation.

- A £3m grant and a £3m repayable loan were secured from the Cultural Recovery Fund, the first government investment in the Globe since the original Lottery Award made in 1995.
- Adapted the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse into a 'broadcast studio'.
- We sought and continue to seek support from sponsors and donors, including major support from Deutsche Bank, Garfield Weston Foundation, Warner Media, Cambridge University Press, and The Linbury Trust.
- Organisational cost reduction programme creating a £2m saving.
- Extensive use of the Government's furlough scheme until it ended in September 2021 (£3m over 2 years).
- The Board of Trustees approved extensive use of £7m reserves that were previously allocated to our next major capital project to fund the operating deficit with lockdowns further limiting income-generating opportunities.
- With 85% of staff having their mental health and wellbeing impacted over extended furlough, we introduced a new induction process, with all staff re-inducted ensuring they feel supported through this hard time.

## REOPENING SEASON 2021

From 19 May 2021, the Globe Theatre reopened with the usual 600 standing Groundlings reduced to 50 seated in the Yard and 340 in the galleries (approx. 30% of normal capacity). The season opened with a re-mount of 2019's popular *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

The Globe adapted well to restrictions, implementing the following protocols: no intervals; digital tickets; timed arrivals; temperature checks; social distanced seating (390 capacity reduced from 1,600); NHS Track and Trace; hand sanitising; and of course, playing in the open-air. 80% of audiences reported feeling safe at the Globe. In accordance with guidelines capacity returned gradually in full by early August 2021.

2021 Season: new productions included *Romeo & Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Metamorphoses* (new writing inspired by Ovid's myths), and the Globe on Tour ensemble performed three plays: *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The Tour opened at the Globe before embarking on a London-based tour reaching local communities who may not otherwise visit the theatre.

## 2021 REOPENING ACHIEVEMENT SNAPSHOT

- 8 livestreams of Globe productions reaching 69 countries.
- Education activities welcomed 24,000 students and participants.
- The Guided Tour welcomed 22,000 visitors.
- 190,000 audience members, representing 80% of maximum-allowed capacity over 295 performances
- *Time Out* recognised us as 'London Theatre of the Year' in their 'Best of the City' 2021 Awards. We also received several acting nominations in the UK West End Theatre Broadway World Awards.
- The Globe Touring Ensemble reached 8 Boroughs of London, with over 800 audience members from various local communities including: the charity Mental Fight Club, Clapham Community Centre, and Camberwell's Spring Community Hub Foodbank users and volunteers.
- Hundreds of freelancers employed across the season, the most impacted workers in our sector.

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- As part of an ongoing commitment to inclusion and diversity both onstage and off, we launched Open Meeting Days to give professional actors the opportunity to meet with the Globe's casting team.
- Internationally renowned visiting artists including Damon Albarn, James Bay, Arlo Parks, Dara O'Brien, Nitin Sawney, and The Sixteen.
- Welcomed Little Amal (a 3.5m Syrian refugee puppet) with Good Chance to the Globe, stunning hundreds on Bankside with her 8,000km journey across Europe.
- In line with ambitions to mirror London's population - 49% of the acting company from a Global Majority background. We also consistently maintain gender parity across our acting companies.
- The return of 400 volunteers helping audiences into the theatre after a long closure.
- Ever-popular 'Midnight Matinees' returned to provide London's nightlife with world-class culture.
- Critically acclaimed Access performances included integrated sign-language.
- Metamorphoses was created by the Globe's first writers-in-residence in over 400 years, Sami Ibrahim, Laura Lomas, and Sabrina Mahfouz.
- Opened the 'Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for 16,000+ students, and for many of them their first trip since the start of the pandemic.
- Our generous supporters have donated £2m, which is being invested in our ongoing educational and artistic work.
- Deepened work on Shakespeare & Race, delivering free anti-racist webinars, and committing to become an anti-racist and pro-equality organisation. We continue to develop and deliver positive actions proposed by our Anti-Racist Taskforce.
- Established an Environmental Sustainability Taskforce, endeavouring to action the Theatre Green Book and commit to climate action.

## ACCESS

The disabled community has been disproportionately negatively affected by the pandemic. We have tried our best to adapt to the circumstances, and to ensure we do not further isolate any of our audiences in the following ways:

- All livestreams offered with captioned and audio-description.
- Participated in the Royal Holloway University, VocalEyes, and the Donmar Warehouse uncovering new ways of describing actors and characters for our visually impaired audiences, addressing historic biases, and establishing future best practise.
- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* utilised integrated sign language on our main stage.

## ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO WORK TOWARDS NET ZERO SNAPSHOT

In 2021, we made a commitment to progress towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Both our theatres are innately carbon light; however, we are developing an Environmental Action Plan that will build upon what is already being undertaken to improve our carbon footprint and advocate for environmental responsibility. In 2020/21, we have focused our carbon reduction efforts on our retail function and building operations.

In March 2021, Shakespeare's Globe signed up to the Mayor's Business Climate Challenge and we are working alongside Better Bankside and a small number of London businesses who are rising to the challenge of making London net-zero and tackling the climate emergency. As part of the scheme, we are committed to reducing our building energy consumption by 10% by 2022.

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## THE GLOBE IN 2022

We are delighted that this year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Royal Opening of Shakespeare's Globe. We are celebrating with a special fundraising performance of *Much Ado about Nothing* on 18 September. We have also teamed up with the BBC to help celebrate the Anniversary, broadcasting three films from across the years on BBC Four and BBC iPlayer, and in August, BBC family favourite CBeebies will be live on stage with a special adaptation of *As You Like It*.

Our 2022 summer season, which opened on 22 April, is Shakespeare-packed with *Much Ado About Nothing*, *King Lear*, *The Tempest*, a UK tour of *Julius Caesar*, and *Henry VIII*. We also have *I, Joan*, a powerful new play premiering, written by Charlie Josephine. And for the first time, we are staging a full-scale production for families and young people in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse – *Midsummer Mechanicals*.

We are proud to continue offering one of 'the capital's great bargains' (*The Times*, 2022) with our 700 £5 Groundling tickets at every performance.

As well as being a world-renowned theatre and cultural landmark, Shakespeare's Globe has one of the largest education departments in a theatre in the country. Activities this year include: The return of the Globe's flagship Telling Tales storytelling festivals during school holidays, the 16th annual Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank project which welcomed over 25,000 students, with 21,000 free tickets and a further 4,500 subsidised tickets students, and the continuation of the vital and successful Anti-Racist Shakespeare Webinars.

We recognise with great sadness, the death of our Royal Patron, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh in April 2021. Prince Philip served as our Patron for over 40 years, with a dedicated and keen interest in our successes from the building of the Globe Theatre and the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse to the celebrations of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death in 2016. His support spanned decades and his enthusiasm was unwavering

We continue to review our future major capital projects plans, including how to deliver components of our original Project Prospero ambitions, alongside rethatching the Globe Theatre.

The landscape for 2022 onwards still remains challenging for the Globe and the performing arts and cultural sector, with longer-term impact of the pandemic remaining to be seen. We remain in recovery, with plans now developed to rebuild the organisation's sustainability and financial model over the next three years.

## 2021 FINANCIALS SNAPSHOT (year ending October 2021)

<b>Overall deficit</b>	-£1,603k (2020 deficit was -£6,336k)
<b>Expenditure</b>	£15.165k
<b>Total income</b>	£13,542k (including Culture Recovery Fund support)

**Audiences for Summer Season 2019** 290,000

**Audiences for Summer Season 2021** 173,000

**Honorary President**, Zoe Wanamaker CBE  
**Chair of the Board of Trustees**, Margaret Casely-Hayford

### Directorate

Neil Constable, Chief Executive  
Lotte Buchan, Executive Director of Theatre  
Amy Cody, Co-Director of Development  
Niki Cornwell, Chief Finance and Operating Officer  
Lucy Cuthbertson, Co-Director of Education (Learning)  
Farah Karim-Cooper, Co-Director, Education (Higher Education & Research)  
Joel Moseley, Finance Director  
Michelle Terry, Artistic Director  
Becky Wootton, Director of Audiences  
Charlotte Wren, Co-Director of Development