



**SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE**

PRESS RELEASE

TUESDAY 24 JUNE

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ANNOUNCES SHAKESPEARE CO-PRODUCTIONS AND BRAND-NEW MUSICAL FOR AUTUMN 2025

***"Lord, what fools these mortals be"*
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act 3 Sc. 2**

Shakespeare's Globe is thrilled to announce the first part of our new season of shows for the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse and Globe Theatre, running from November 2025 to January 2026, as well as a series of events, talks, and workshops to conclude 2025:

- **Romeo a Juliet** by William Shakespeare and JT Jones runs from **5 – 8 November 2025** in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. A ground-breaking bilingual production combines Welsh and English, directed by Theatr Cymru Artistic Director Steffan Donnelly.
- **A Midsummer Night's Dream** runs from **15 November 2025 – 31 January 2026** in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, followed by a UK tour. Holly Race Roughan and Co-Director Naeem Hayat present a production by Shakespeare's Globe and Headlong Theatre, with Bristol Old Vic and Leeds Playhouse.
- New musical **Pinocchio** runs from **29 November – 4 January 2026** in the Globe Theatre, directed by Associate Artistic Director Sean Holmes, with book and lyrics by Charlie Josephine, and music and lyrics by Jim Fortune.

Shakespeare's Globe Artistic Director Michelle Terry says: *"This winter, whether in the candlelight of the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse or the moonlight of the Globe Theatre, this season of incredible artists will tell old tales anew as we all try and light our way through the dark."*

We are so proud to be hosting Theatr Cymru for the first time, with their bilingual Romeo a Juliet, translated by J.T. Jones with Theatr Cymru Artistic Director Steffan Donnelly returning to the playhouse, this time to direct this star-crossed exploration of boundaries, language, and love.

We are delighted to reunite with Headlong following the success of Henry V and of course, cannot wait to collaborate with their incredible creative team led by Holly Race-Roughan, who co-directs with Naeem Hayat, to bring their midwinter Dream to Bankside and beyond.

And continuing to bring winter magic outdoors, we are thrilled to announce the premiere of our new musical adaptation of Pinocchio with book and lyrics by Charlie Josephine, music and lyrics by Jim Fortune and directed by Globe Associate Artistic Director Sean Holmes.

Our outdoor winter shows in The Globe have become an integral part of the Globe calendar over recent years and one of the many ways we can offer families the unique experience of theatre. We know that plays, musicals, and pantomime during the winter holidays are often peoples first introduction to theatre. With hundreds of £5 tickets available for every show, we are so proud to offer that special experience at a price we hope they can afford, which of course remains a core tenet of the Globe's mission - to create theatre for all."

Romeo a Juliet runs from 5 until 8 November in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, directed by Theatr Cymru Artistic Director Steffan Donnelly. *Romeo a Juliet* is a Theatr Cymru production in association with Shakespeare's Globe, a ground-breaking bilingual production combining Welsh and English. Profound passion meets unrestrained chaos as a

violent feud between the Montagues and Capulets unravels in Wales, offering a new perspective on this timeless play exploring Welsh identity. Steffan Donnelly is the Artistic Director and Co-Chief Executive of Theatr Cymru. His recent work as a director includes *Huw Fyw*, *Dawns y Ceirw* (Wales tour and Japan), *My Name is Rachel Corrie*, *Ha/Ha*, *Parti Priodas* (winner of a UK Theatre Award 2024), *Rhinoseros*, *Kiki Cymraeg* and *Gwlad yr Asyn* (Theatr Cymru) and *Monologau'r Maes* – short films with Dame Siân Phillips and John Ogwen (National Eisteddfod Wales). *Romeo a Juliet* will be designed by Elin Steele, with Dyfan Jones as composer, music director, and sound designer, and Ceri James as Lighting Designer.

Theatr Cymru Artistic Director Steffan Donnelly says: *"It's a privilege for Theatr Cymru to collaborate with the Globe's welcoming and passionate team and I'm so grateful to Michelle for her enthusiasm and belief in this new production. The Sam Wanamaker Playhouse is a theatre like no other, and it's perfectly crafted intimacy is ideal for Romeo a Juliet. Having played many seasons there as an actor, it's a full circle moment coming back to direct this year. I'm excited that this is the first time the play has been staged at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse - and even more so, that it's being staged in a bilingual production with one of the indigenous languages of the UK. Shakespeare excels at using language to reveal insights, and so it will be fitting and thrilling to hear the Montagues and Capulets identified by the languages they choose to use - exploring character and culture. I can't wait for audiences across Wales and London to experience it."*

Running from 15 November until 31 January, ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** will be performed for the first time in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, co-directed by Headlong's Artistic Director Holly Race Roughan and Naeem Hayat. Following the acclaimed co-production of *Henry V* in 2022, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a production by Shakespeare's Globe and Headlong, with Bristol Old Vic and Leeds Playhouse. Candlelight illuminates the shadowy underbelly of one of Shakespeare's most-loved comedies, where reality becomes illusion, and as day turns to night, snow starts to fall in summer. From February 2026, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will tour to Shakespeare's North Playhouse, Leeds Playhouse, Bristol Old Vic, and Oxford Playhouse. Holly is the Artistic Director of Headlong and board member of theatre-in-prisons charity Kestrel. Holly's previous work at Shakespeare's Globe includes *Metamorphoses* and *Henry V* (Shakespeare's Globe / UK Tour). Holly's other credits include *The New Real* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Prurience* (Southbank Centre, Guggenheim New York), and *Eye of a Needle* (Southwark Playhouse). For Headlong, Holly has directed *The House Party* (Chichester Festival Theatre / UK Tour), *A View from the Bridge* (Bolton Octagon / UK Tour), *Henry V*, *Corrina Corrina* (Liverpool Everyman), *Hedda Tesman* (Chichester Festival Theatre), *People, Places & Things* (UK Tour only), and *Unprecedented* (BBC). In Autumn 2025, Holly will direct Ralph Fiennes in *Small Hotel* by Rebecca Lenkiewicz for Theatre Royal Bath. At Shakespeare's Globe, Naeem Hayat was Co-Director of *Burnt at the Stake* and *Comedy of Errors*, and Associate Director of *Macbeth* and *Henry V*. Other work for Shakespeare's Globe includes *King Lear* and *The Tempest* (both Assistant Director).

Headlong's Artistic Director Holly Race Roughan says: *"The world of A Midsummer Night's Dream is a turbulent one, the natural environment is upside down and unpredictable, and the political and social landscape is on edge, creating a sense of tension that we are all experiencing today. This new staging will explore some of the darker elements of Shakespeare's well-known comedy, turning it on its head and asking us to reexamine its themes and subject matter. Following a highly successful collaboration on Henry V, it is a joy to be partnering once again with Shakespeare's Globe and our committed national partners to allow audiences to meet this play in the moment we are in."*

The world premiere of a new musical, ***Pinocchio*** runs from 29 November to 4 January 2026 in the Globe Theatre, directed by Associate Artistic Director Sean Holmes (*Romeo and Juliet* 2025), with book and lyrics by Charlie Josephine (*Cowboys*, RSC / Royal Court), and music and lyrics by Jim Fortune (*Mr Gum and the Dancing Bear*). Sean's previous work for the Globe includes *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (2025), *Romeo and Juliet* (2025), *Much Ado About Nothing* (2024), *The Comedy of Errors* (2023 & 2024), *The Winter's Tale* (2023), *The Tempest* (2022), *Twelfth Night* (2021), *Hamlet* (2021), *Metamorphoses* (2021), *Henry VI* (2020), *Richard III* (2020), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2019). Sean and Charlie's previous collaborations include *Cowboys* (RSC / Royal Court), written by Charlie, which they co-directed. Charlie's previous work for Shakespeare's Globe includes *I, Joan* (writer, 2022), and *Metamorphoses* (actor, 2021). Their writing and performing credits include *Blush* (Underbelly Untapped Edinburgh Season 2016 and The Stage Edinburgh Award 2016) and *Bitch Boxer* (Soho Theatre Young Writers Award 2012, Old Vic New Voices Edinburgh Season 2012, British Council Showcase 2013, Holden Street Theatre's Award 2013, Clonmel Theatre Award 2014 and Adelaide Fringe Award 2014). Jim Fortune is an Olivier Award-nominated songwriter and composer of musicals. His previous work for Shakespeare's Globe includes *Twelfth Night* (2021), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2021). *Pinocchio* will be designed by Grace Smart, with Peter O'Rourke as Puppetry Designer and Director, Tony Gayle as Sound Designer, and casting by Becky Paris CDG, Head of Casting at Shakespeare's Globe.

Associate Artistic Director and Director of Pinocchio, Sean Holmes, said: *"It's a privilege to be part of the team bringing this magical new musical to the Globe this Christmas. Like the story itself we hope the production makes the impossible possible."*

THE GLOBE TALKS

Continuing a collaboration with London's international dance festival, Dance Umbrella, **The Globe Talks: Making Text Move**, will discuss and explore storytelling through words and movement. Choreographer and director Ben Duke is joined in Sam Wanamaker Playhouse by his collaborators to share live examples of his process and practice. This event is part of the **Dance Umbrella Festival 2025**. Dance Umbrella is London's international dance festival, taking place every October across the capital and online.

The Globe's conversation series will also offer the chance to hear from the creatives behind winter productions. A series of separate The Globe Talks will cover *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Returning for a second year, family event series **Telling Tales** takes place across the October Half Term. Celebrated authors and illustrators will host interactive readings, Q&A sessions, and creative writing workshops, with speakers including Michael Rosen, Piers Torday, Shelina Janmohamed, and Joseph Coelho.

Shakespeare's Globe also offers a full programme of school holiday events exploring Shakespeare for all ages. Interactive **Family Workshops** for children aged 5-8 and 9-12 and their grown-ups include *Twelfth Night* and *The Tempest*, while **On Stage Workshops** for *The Tempest* (12-14 year-olds), *Much Ado About Nothing* (14-16 year-olds), and *Othello* (17-19 year-olds) will take place onstage in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. These family events run throughout the October Half Term.

Two interactive workshops for young people and their grown-ups will perfectly accompany a festive day at the Globe. The **Pinocchio: Puppetry and Drama Workshop** for 5-8 year-olds and 9-11 year-olds will explore the story, characters, and music of the tale through fun activities led by a Globe practitioner. For young people studying Shakespeare's plays, a **GCSE Revision Boost** on *Romeo and Juliet* will run on 31 January.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

A new, ten-week course examining Shakespeare's portrayal of human experiences across different ages, **Shakespeare and the Stages of Life**, will run from 23 April, every Thursday from 6-8pm. Studying a selection of Shakespeare's plays and past Globe productions including *Macbeth*, *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, and *The Winter's Tale*, the course covers the social, medical, and other historical contexts of early modern drama and the interpretative choices involved in staging Shakespeare's work today. No prior knowledge of Shakespeare or his plays is required.

GUIDED TOURS

The **Ghosts and Ghouls Family Tour** returns in November, bringing to life the scary happenings of Shakespeare's most chilling plays, including the witches' spells in *Macbeth* and the ghostly moments in *Hamlet* and *Cymbeline*. In December, families can explore the Globe and hear how Christmas was celebrated in Shakespeare's time. The **Festive Family Tour** is a magical way to learn about the folk traditions that people practiced when welcoming in winter, from wassailing to the winter solstice to proper mince pyes.

As well as these seasonal tours, the Globe runs other tours throughout the year. Led by a guide, **Globe Theatre: Guided Tour** includes a glimpse inside the Globe Theatre to bring to life the thrilling story of our iconic Wooden 'O'. **Shakespeare's True Crimes Walking Tour** explores the intriguing criminal history of the historic Bankside community, including Shakespeare himself, duelling actors, and rival playwrights. **The Twilight Walking Tour** will visit Shakespeare's evening haunts, conjuring images of midnight revels and demons from Shakespeare's Bankside after dark. **Shakespeare's Globe's Pride Guided Tour** brings to life the queer stories and characters from Shakespeare's life and times.

ENDS

EDITOR'S NOTES

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Press – press@shakespearesglobe.com
Claudia Conway – claudia.c@shakespearesglobe.com
Alice Rickett – alice.r@shakespearesglobe.com

IMAGES:

Romeo a Juliet artwork: <https://we.tl/t-9tO0O2rr7n>
A Midsummer Night's Dream artwork: <https://we.tl/t-iuAZbK0Drn>
Pinocchio artwork: <https://we.tl/t-4YoA7zBbZa>

Globe Theatre: <https://we.tl/t-lf5l0FFdvJ>
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse: <https://we.tl/t-JyTewzFjGO>

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

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

Instagram: [@the_globe](https://www.instagram.com/the_globe)
YouTube: [/ShakespearesGlobe](https://www.youtube.com/ShakespearesGlobe)
TikTok: [@shakespearesglobe](https://www.tiktok.com/@shakespearesglobe)
Facebook: [/ShakespearesGlobe](https://www.facebook.com/ShakespearesGlobe)
LinkedIn: [/ShakespearesGlobe](https://www.linkedin.com/ShakespearesGlobe)

ON SALE DATES

Patron: 24 June 2025
Best Friends: 26 June 2025
Friends: 30 June 2025
Public Booking: 4 July 2025

Romeo a Juliet

5 November 2025 - 8 November 2025
Press Night: Thursday 6 November
#RomeoAJuliet
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

A Midsummer Night's Dream

15 November 2025 - 31 January 2026
Press Night: Thursday 27 November
#AMidsummerNightsDream
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Pinocchio

29 November 2025 - 4 January 2026
Press Night: Saturday 6 December
#Pinocchio
Globe Theatre

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

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

Romeo a Juliet

Relaxed: Saturday 8 November, 2pm

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Captioned: Thursday 11 December 7.30pm & Saturday 10 January
Audio Described: Wednesday 31 December, 2pm & Friday 9 January

BSL: Tuesday 16 December, 7.30pm, Saturday 3 January 2pm

Relaxed: Saturday 13 December, 2pm & Wednesday 7 January

Pinocchio

Captioned: Tuesday 23 December 2.30pm & Friday 2 January 6.30pm
Audio Described: Saturday 20 December 2.30pm & Sunday 28 December 5.30pm
BSL: Sunday 21 December 1.30pm & Saturday 27 December 6.30pm
Relaxed: Saturday 20 December 2.30pm & Tuesday 30 December 6.30pm

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

Website | [Shakespearesglobe.com](https://shakespearesglobe.com)
#ThisWoodenO #PlayByCandlelight

Globe Player | [Player.shakespearesglobe.com](https://player.shakespearesglobe.com)
#GlobePlayer

Teach Shakespeare | [Teach.shakespearesglobe.com](https://teach.shakespearesglobe.com)
#TeachShakespeare

Virtual Tour | shakespearesglobe.com/globe360

'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 bursting with clothing, bags, gifts, stationary, posters, books, homeware and more. Get 10% off your first online order when you sign up to the shop newsletter.

Membership

Be part of something inspiring with Membership at the Globe from £5 a month. Secure your favourite tickets first with Priority Booking and enjoy special events and discounts throughout the year as our way of saying thank you or your support.

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

Swan Bar & Restaurant

Swan Bar is open 7 days a week. Situated at the theatre on London's bustling Bankside, we serve morning coffees to evening cocktails and everything in between, including breakfast and brunch, lunch, afternoon tea, pre-theatre and a la carte dining. From craft beers, local artisan gins and

creative cocktails to classic dishes, summery salads, and delightful puddings. Opening times and menus can be viewed here: swanlondon.co.uk

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.

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 (1997) and the candlelit indoor Sam Wanamaker Playhouse (2014).

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 visiting artists, comedy, concerts and special events, and over our twenty-five-year history have produced over 43 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.

The Globe Theatre is a unique full-scale replica of Shakespeare's original 1599 Elizabethan open-air theatre. Our indoor candle-lit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse is an archetype of an indoor Jacobean theatre.

THEATR CYMRU

Theatr Cymru (previously Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru) is the Welsh-language national theatre of Wales, creating bold theatre experiences to entertain and inspire the people of Wales and beyond.

We create a place of connection for the well-known and the unexpected, for Welshness and the world, for the big conversations and the joyful moments. We also facilitate opportunities that are a means of nurturing and inspiring the next generation of Welsh theatre artists, together with opportunities for people in all parts of Wales to experience the transformative effect of creativity in their lives.

The company was founded in March 2003, with a grant from the Arts Council of Wales. From the very beginning, one thing was clear – that it would be a touring company, taking Welsh-language theatre into the heart of communities up and down the country. The company would celebrate our identities and our language in all its diversity.

Over the last two decades, Theatr Cymru has embraced the classics of Welsh-language theatre as well as new and experimental work, performing in traditional theatres and in unexpected locations. The company also facilitates creative, wellbeing and participatory projects across the country. Theatr Cymru is now an acclaimed touring theatre, placing Wales and its people on the map, and welcoming to all. With Steffan Donnelly taking the reins as Artistic Director in 2022, alongside Joint Chief Executive Angharad Jones Leefe, and a new name for the company, a new era is dawning. The company won the 2024 UK Theatre Award for Excellence in Touring and was also nominated as Producer of Year at The Stage Awards 2024.

Theatr Cymru's main office is in Canolfan S4C Yr Egin, Carmarthen. The company is a registered charity, charity number 1106032 / Registered company: 04784488

www.theatr.cymru

Headlong

About Headlong

We're Headlong.

We make theatre with the power to move.

Big, exhilarating productions that use the unexpected to connect everyone we reach, right across the nation.

Whether a work is old or new, there are always different questions we can ask. So our productions are an invitation: to come and see something in a new way. Join us.

Previous Headlong productions include The House Party, People, Places & Things and Enron.

Artistic Director - Holly Race Roughan
Executive Director - Lisa Maguire

Publicly supported by Arts Council England



Dance Umbrella is a London festival 45 years in the making and moving with the times. Every year our festival ignites London and online with the next generation of trailblazing artists. Since 1978, we have been an international home for dance across a global city, presenting more than 1000 artists from 45 countries to over one million people. We have brought outstanding dance to more than 145 venues throughout London and online; from the high-profile stages of Sadler's Wells, Southbank Centre and Barbican to local arts centres – and taking in the more unexpected locations of canal boats, ice rinks and car park rooftops in between.

Since 2020, we have also given online audiences the chance to experience the festival through a curated programme including dance films and artist encounters. Dance Umbrella is also a commissioner of new work, co-producing with partners based in the UK and abroad, to invest in the next wave of international choreographic talent. Alongside this, we create year-round creative learning initiatives for all ages and nurture the development of arts professionals.

Appointed in 2021, Dance Umbrella's Artistic Director/co-CEO Freddie Opoku-Addaie's vision for the festival builds on its 45-year track record of commissioning and producing excellent work. This current chapter introduces a programme that puts emerging and diverse talent at its heart, reflecting the global identity of our London home. In 2024, Tanya Wilmer joined Freddie as co-CEO.

Dance Umbrella Festival 2025 will take place in October, across London and online.

[Danceumbrella.co.uk](https://danceumbrella.co.uk)