



**SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE**

PRESS RELEASE

TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ANNOUNCES RETURN OF CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED *PLAYING SHAKESPEARE WITH DEUTSCHE BANK: ROMEO AND JULIET* FOR PROJECT'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY



Critically acclaimed *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet*, directed by Globe Director of Education **Lucy Cuthbertson**, returns to the Globe Theatre from **5 March – 12 April 2026**. For families, half-price seated tickets for under-16s are available for all performances of this 'stunt-riding thriller' ★★★★★ (The Guardian) revival.

Hayden Mampasi playing **Romeo** and **Felix Forde** playing **Juliet** will be returning to the Globe stage following their lead roles in 2024. Also returning are **Sharon Ballard** as Lady Capulet, **Simeon Desvignes** as Paris, **Marième Diouf** as Friar, **Miriam Grace Edwards** as Nurse, and **Liam King** as Tybalt.

Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet returns from 5 March until 12 April 2026 in the Globe Theatre, **directed by Lucy Cuthbertson**. Celebrating the 20th year of the Globe's flagship education programme, this fast-paced, 90-minute version of *Romeo and Juliet* (first staged in 2024) is created especially for young people and is the perfect introduction to Shakespeare for everyone. Delving into the impact broken society has on young people's lives, Romeo and Juliet's intense passion lights up a world of increasing violence between rival gangs: the Montagues and the Capulets. Lucy is the Globe Director of Education. Her directorial credits include *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Macbeth*, the Olivier award-nominated *Rough Magic*, and the Olivier award-nominated *Midsummer Mechanicals*.

Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank offers **over 26,000 free-to-access tickets for pupils aged 11–16 at non-selective state secondary schools in London and Birmingham every year** to watch a dynamic 90-minute Shakespeare production in London's iconic Globe Theatre. The production is created especially for young people and is designed to help students from KS3 upwards as they build towards their GCSEs. The project also offers thousands of subsidised tickets for all other schools nationwide, plus CPD sessions, student workshops and free learning resources to help teachers and students get the most out of their visit to Shakespeare's Globe. Dedicated schools' performances will take place from Thursday 26 February – Wednesday 25 March.

Over 20 years of the project, the Globe has staged **245 performances**, reaching **307,648 children** with **free tickets** from London and Birmingham state secondary schools. A further **59,902 students** have attended a *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank* performance with **subsidised tickets**. The project has also delivered over **2,000 free-to-access workshops** for almost **55,000 students** and over **85 CPDs** for **2,441 teachers** across **400 schools**.

Director of *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet*, Lucy Cuthbertson, said: “I’m delighted to revive our fast-paced, heart-breaking, bike-stunt wheeling production of *Romeo and Juliet* to celebrate the unique 20-year anniversary of *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank*. This contemporary interpretation of the most famous of all plays gives young people a thrilling theatrical experience. Deutsche Bank’s funding for this project makes it possible for many state schools to bring large groups of students to the show for free, the scale of which would otherwise be impossible. We are also proud to continue our support and make a significant contribution to SOLT’s #TheatreForEveryChild campaign, advocating for every child to experience live theatre during their time at school.” We are excited to be working once again with the incredible Mayor of London’s Violence Reduction Unit, who bring people together across London to better understand why violence happens and to take action to prevent it now, and in the future. It sadly remains important for us to amplify the potential and hope for a violence-free future for all young people.

Lib Peck, Director of London’s Violence Reduction Unit, said: “We are grateful to once again be working with Shakespeare’s Globe and for our Young People’s Action Group to bring their lived experience, insight, and ideas to ensure this *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank* production truly resonates with young people.

“Progress has been made in tackling violence in London, with 10,000 fewer incidents in the last 12 months and homicides involving young people at their lowest levels for more than two decades. But one violent incident is one too many and that’s why it’s crucial that we strengthen our focus on prevention and to raise awareness about the complex root causes of violence and its devastating impact on young people and communities. We remain deeply committed to working with the Globe and others across London to show why prevention is vital to keeping young people safe and supported to thrive.”

Vathany Vijayaratna, Chief Executive Officer, UK & Ireland, Deutsche Bank, said: “We are incredibly proud of our 20-year partnership with Shakespeare’s Globe, which has helped remove the barriers for so many young people to experience the magic of theatre. *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank* sits at the heart of our global Corporate Social Responsibility Education strategy, through which we are dedicated to enabling people to reach their full potential. The revival of Lucy’s celebrated *Romeo & Juliet* is the perfect way to mark a milestone moment for the programme and bring important themes to life in a contemporary way.”

Shakespeare’s Globe also offers a full programme of **family workshops** for children and their grown-ups. *Romeo and Juliet: Family Workshop* will run for children aged 9-11 and 12-14, using interactive games and activities to explore the play’s language, characters, and themes. Led by experienced Globe practitioners including actors, teachers and directors, these workshops encourage families to participate together and can be extended with a visit to see *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet*, or a guided tour of the Globe Theatre. These family events run throughout the Easter Half Term.

Lucy is the Director of Education at Shakespeare’s Globe with 30 years’ experience of making theatre, teaching drama and directing, both professionally and in schools, specialising in work with and for young people. She is a founder member of Ridiculusmus Theatre Company, with whom she has toured extensively in the UK & Ireland. She is a long-time collaborator with Splendid Productions, having directed and co-directed many of their touring productions for students, as well as their pantomimes with mixed professional and student casts: *The Epic Adventures of Robin Hood* and *Red Riding versus The Wolf* (both at Stantonbury Theatre, where she was Artistic Director from 2017 to 2019). For Shakespeare’s Globe, Lucy has led learning and family work since 2019. She directed the Globe’s family shows in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse - *Midsummer Mechanicals* and *Rough Magic* – which were both co-produced with Splendid Productions and nominated for Olivier Awards. For *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank*, Lucy directed *Romeo and Juliet* in the Globe Theatre in Spring 2024 and *Macbeth* in 2025.

NOTES TO EDITORS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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IMAGES:

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

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE SOCIALS

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ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

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

Public Assisted Performance:

Captioned: Saturday 21 March, 2pm
Captioned & IBSL: Saturday 28 March, 2pm
Audio Described: Thursday 2 April, 2pm
Relaxed: Saturday 4 April, 2pm & 7pm; Wednesday 8 April 2pm
Audio Described: Thursday 10 April 7 pm

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

Website | [Shakespearesglobe.com](https://www.shakespearesglobe.com)
Globe Player | [Player.shakespearesglobe.com](https://player.shakespearesglobe.com)

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

Shop

Our award-winning shop at Shakespeare's Globe features an enticing selection of hand-picked gifts, stationery, posters, books, and more. Both our in-house and online shop are full of Shakespeare and theatre gifts you can't get anywhere else. Over 80% of our clothing, bags, and homeware are exclusive to us! There's also 10% off your first online order when you sign up to the shop newsletter.

Supporting Shakespeare's Globe

Be part of something inspiring with Membership and support our productions, education work and community outreach from £5 a month. Members also enjoy backstage exclusive content, special events and discounts throughout the year as a thank you for their 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

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

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](https://www.swanlondon.co.uk)

Background Information: Shakespeare's Globe

Shakespeare's Globe strives to make Shakespeare 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).

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.

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-eight-year history have produced over 45 world premieres of new plays, several of which have gone on to enjoy success in the West End, on Broadway and beyond.