



PRESS RELEASE

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ANNOUNCES SUMMER SEASON 2026

“Are we all met?”
A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Act. 3 Sc.1

This summer, join us for a season bursting with world-class artists, lesser-known classics, and much-loved plays, in two of the most iconic theatres in the world. Across the summer more than 180,000 tickets will be available at £10 or less, with hundreds of tickets at £5 for every performance.

- **Emily Lim** directs *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, running from 23 April until 29 August.
- **Michelle Terry** plays Mother Courage in **Anna Jordan**’s translation of *Mother Courage and Her Children* by **Bertolt Brecht**, directed by Globe Associate Artist **Elle While**, running from 7 May until 27 June.
- **Chelsea Walker** returns to direct *Much Ado About Nothing*, running from 11 June until 24 October.
- Globe Associate Artist **Indiana Lown-Collins** makes her Globe directorial debut with *Love’s Labour’s Lost*, running from 17 July until 13 September.
- Associate Artistic Director **Sean Holmes** and Globe Associate Artist **Charlie Josephine** co-direct *As You Like It*, running from 14 August until 25 October with Charlie Josephine as Orlando and **Lola Shalam** as Rosalind.
- Globe Director of Education **Lucy Cuthbertson** directs *A World Elsewhere* by **Kerry Frampton** and **Ben Hales**, co-produced with Splendid Productions, running from 25 July until 30 August in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse.
- *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet* returns for the 20th year, directed by Globe Director of Education **Lucy Cuthbertson**, running from 5 March until 12 April.

Michelle Terry, Artistic Director, says: “All the plays this season were born out of a world in chaos whether that was the chaos of Shakespeare’s 1599 or Brecht’s 1939. The questions these plays ask are an attempt to make sense of that world: what is love? What is evil? What is power? What is tyranny? What is this life?

Neither Shakespeare nor Brecht give us an answer, but they do demand we ask the questions, and as importantly, ask them in a Theatre, where at the very least we are asking them together.

Our beautiful wooden ‘O’ stands proudly on the banks of the Thames, connecting 1,600 people at every performance. This human connection is profound: profoundly exciting, profoundly real, and in a world of increasing division, profoundly necessary.

If you’ve been before, come again! If you’ve never been, try it! Come and experience for yourself the visceral impact of being together, in these magical spaces with these powerful plays, the huge questions they ask, and the hope, courage and comfort that comes from trying to answer them together.

And all of that for a fiver.”

A Midsummer Night’s Dream runs from 23 April May to 29 August, directed by **Emily Lim** (*The Odyssey*, National Theatre). Under starry, summer skies the Globe Theatre becomes a gathering place where hearts unravel, chaos reigns and spells go awry. Emily was Director of Public Acts at the National Theatre from 2018–2025. Her previous credits include *Brighter Still* (closing ceremony for UK City of Culture, 2025), *Public Record* (National Theatre/The Fire

Station/Public Acts, 2025), *The Enormous Crocodile* (Roald Dahl Story Company/Leeds Playhouse/Regent's Park Open Air Theatre/USA Tour, 2023–2024), *The Odyssey* (National Theatre/Public Acts, 2023), *Yoko Ono's Bells for Peace* (Manchester International Festival, 2019), and *Pericles* (National Theatre/Public Acts, 2018). The set for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is designed by Aldo Vazquez (*The Beautiful Future is Coming*, Bristol Old Vic), and costumes by Fly Davis (*Paranormal Activity*, Ambassadors Theatre).

***Mother Courage and Her Children* by Bertolt Brecht and translated by Anna Jordan** runs from 7 May until 27 June, directed by **Globe Associate Artist Elle While** (*Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Globe*) featuring **Globe Artistic Director Michelle Terry** as Mother Courage, and with music by **James Maloney**. Staged at the *Globe* for the first time, Brecht's revolutionary anti-war masterpiece unfolds across a wasteland stripped bare by greed and conflict, as Mother Courage drags her cart through the wreckage – a mother, fighter and survivor. Elle is the Artistic Director of Pentabus Theatre, as well as a *Globe* Associate Artist of Shakespeare's *Globe*. Her directing credits include *Driftwood*, *Make Good*, *One Of Them Ones* and *Idyll* (Pentabus), *Pinocchio* (Watermill Theatre), *As You Like It* - BAFTA Winner and International Kidscreen Nominee (BBC/CBeebies), *Private Peaceful* (Nottingham Playhouse & UK Tour), *The Silence and The Noise* – OFFIE Winner, *Destiny* (Pentabus/Rural Media), *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* - Ian Charleson Award Winner, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *As You Like It* and *Hamlet* (*Globe*), *Blue Stockings* (Chester Storyhouse), *Glory Dazed* – Holden Street Theatre Award and Critics' Choice Award Winner (Soho Theatre, Adelaide Festival, Underbelly Edinburgh), and *Country Music* (West Yorkshire Playhouse). *Mother Courage and Her Children* is designed by takis (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Globe*).

Much Ado About Nothing runs from 11 June to 24 October, directed by **Chelsea Walker** (*All's Well That Ends Well*, 2024). Set in a sun-soaked world of style, status and sharp tongues, old wounds surface, and reputations hang by a thread beneath Messina's polished exterior. Chelsea is an award-winning theatre director and the winner of the RTST Sir Peter Hall Director Award. Her previous work includes *A Streetcar Named Desire* (UK Tour), *All's Well That Ends Well* (Shakespeare's *Globe*), *Visit from an Unknown Woman*, *This Much I Know*, *The Contingency Plan*, *Missing Julie*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Cougar*, *Low Level Panic*, and her short film *Latch*. *Much Ado About Nothing* is designed by Sami Fendall (*Brigadoon*, Regent's Park Open Air Theatre).

Love's Labour's Lost runs from 17 July to 13 September, directed by **Globe Associate Artist Indiana Lown-Collins** (*Globe* Resident Associate Director, 2023). Shakespeare's rarely staged comedy of love, desire and wit is reimagined in a blazing, flamenco-inspired production, as four women arrive in Navarre on a diplomatic mission and set the court alight with passion, power and poetry. Indiana is the winner of the 2022 JMK Directors Award for *The Solid Life of Sugar Water* (Orange Tree Theatre), which won the OFFIE for Best Production and earned her a nomination for Best Debut Director at The Stage Debut Awards. She is an Associate Artist at Shakespeare's *Globe* and the Orange Tree Theatre, with recent work including *Pinocchio* (Watermill Theatre, 2024). *Love's Labour's Lost* is designed by Katie Lias (*Burnt at the Stake*, Shakespeare's *Globe*).

As You Like It runs from 14 August to 25 October, directed by **Associate Artistic Director Sean Holmes** (*Romeo and Juliet*, 2025) and **Globe Associate Artist Charlie Josephine** (*Pinocchio*, 2025). Charlie will play Orlando, alongside **Lola Shalam** (*Romeo and Juliet*, 2025) as Rosalind. The *Globe* Theatre transforms into the wild and magical Forest of Arden, where Rosalind, Celia, and their friends flee the Duke's cold court and enter a place alive with joy, music, and unexpected possibilities. Sean's previous work for the *Globe* includes *Pinocchio* (2025, book and lyrics by Charlie Josephine), *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). Before the *Globe*, Sean was the Artistic Director of the Lyric Hammersmith. 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 *Pinocchio* (2025), *I, Joan* (2022), and *Metamorphoses* (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). *As You Like It* is designed by Paul Wills (*Romeo and Juliet*, Shakespeare's *Globe*).

A World Elsewhere runs from 25 July to 30 August in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, directed by **Globe Director of Education Lucy Cuthbertson**, co-produced by Shakespeare's *Globe* and Splendid Productions. This epic family show follows Cass, a boy whose imagination has taken him and his imaginary friends on magical adventures inspired by his Grandma's love of Shakespeare. But when his stories begin to lose their spark Cass faces new challenges to restore the magic of his imagination. The Olivier-nominated team behind *Rough Magic* and *Midsummer Mechanicals* return with a celebration of the magical world of storytelling, bursting with music and friendship, written by **Kerry Frampton and Ben Hales**. *A World Elsewhere* is designed by Rose Revitt (*Midsummer Mechanicals*, *Rough Magic*, Shakespeare's *Globe*).

Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet runs from 5 March to 12 April, **directed by Globe Director of Education Lucy Cuthbertson** (*Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Macbeth*, Globe; Olivier Award-nominated *Rough Magic*, Globe). This fast-paced 90-minute production, created especially for young people and designed to support the curriculum, returns to the Globe Theatre to mark the 20th year of *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank*. Set amid rising violence between the Montagues and the Capulets, two young lovers struggle to break free from hatred and revenge. Public performances run alongside dedicated schools' performances, with over 26,000 free tickets available for pupils aged 11–16 in London and Birmingham, subsidised tickets for schools nationwide, and accessible performances including Integrated BSL. Lucy's previous work for Shakespeare's Globe includes *Midsummer Mechanicals* and *Rough Magic* (both co-produced with Splendid Productions and nominated for Olivier Awards), as well as *Romeo and Juliet* (2024) and *Macbeth* (2025) for Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank. *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet* is designed by Natalie Pryce (*Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Macbeth*, Shakespeare's Globe).

THE GLOBE TALKS

As part of its ongoing conversation series, Shakespeare's Globe presents **The Globe Talks**, bringing together creatives from Summer Season shows to explore the work on stage and its relevance to the world today through discussions and Q&As. This year, the series includes *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on 27 May, *Mother Courage and Her Children* on 24 June, *Much Ado About Nothing* on 7 July, *Love's Labour's Lost* on 2 September, and *As You Like It* on 16 September, all held in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse.

OTHER EVENTS AND CONVERSATIONS

On Tuesday, 28 April, Shakespeare's Globe presents ***Staging Islam: Past, Present and Future***, a panel discussion on the representation of Muslim themes and identities in Shakespeare's plays and beyond. The evening brings together award-winning playwright **Hannah Khalil** (*Hakawatis: Women of the Arabian Nights*; *The Fir Tree*); actor, poet, and award-winning playwright **Azan Ahmed** (*Deen & Dunya*); and **Dr Lubaaba Al-Azami** (*Travellers in the Golden Realm: How Mughal India Connected England to the World*). Drawing on Khalil's BBC Radio 4 drama *Margaret White and the Alcoran of Mahomet*, which reimagines events around the first English publication of the Qur'an in 1649, the conversation explores the history, possibilities, and ethics around 'Staging Islam' today.

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Lucy Cuthbertson, Director of Education, says: "I am so pleased to announce our forthcoming programme of exciting activities and events made especially for a family audience. All these unique experiences make Shakespeare's stories, language and themes accessible, fun and active for participants of all ages. You can choose a practical workshop, exploring a play together, through text and games; or watch and interact with a storytelling performance. As we start the National Year of Reading, the Globe will play its part in promoting the joy and many, known benefits of reading for pleasure amongst children. Budding authors can develop their skills in one of our creative writing workshops, while young people can delve deeper into their play of choice with our study boost practical sessions. Look out for our new, summer family show *A World Elsewhere*, made again in collaboration with Splendid Productions, the twice Olivier-nominated team behind *Midsummer Mechanicals* and *Rough Magic*, with accompanying workshops."

The Globe's family event series, **Telling Tales** returns across May Half Term. Celebrated authors and illustrators will host interactive readings, Q&A sessions, and creative writing workshops, with speakers including Sophie Anderson, Tom Read Wilson, Ian Wilkinson, Ravena Guron, Fiona Dixon, Jo Arnold and Maz Evans.

Shakespeare's Globe offers a full programme of school holiday events and workshops for young people. **Family Workshops** for children aged 5-8 and 9-11 and their grown-ups include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, *Twelfth Night* and *A World Elsewhere*, with additional workshops on *A World Elsewhere* designed for the Deaf and British Sign Language users. Workshops use storytelling, interactive games and practical drama activities to explore the language, characters and themes of each play, and are led by the Globe's highly experienced educational practitioners, who include actors, teachers and directors. Many workshops also include a peek behind the scenes on a Globe Theatre Guided Tour, giving participants a unique insight into the theatre's history.

Providing the perfect accompaniment to **GCSE and A Level** English Literature studies, **On Stage Workshops and Young People's Workshops** will take place either in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse or Globe Theatre, covering *Macbeth* (12-16), *Romeo and Juliet* (14-16), *King Lear* (14-16), *The Tempest* (12-14), *Hamlet* (14-16), and *Othello* (17-

19). These sessions combine discussion, practical drama activities and performance exercises to develop a deeper understanding of the plays. For students revising for exams, **GCSE and A Level Revision Boosts** offer intensive, interactive workshops on *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Othello*, offering practical tools for studying Shakespeare as a performed text.

Young people can also take part in the **Young Actors Short Course**, running from 3 August to 30 October. Participants will spend the week working with Globe practitioners in an immersive, interactive experience designed especially for aspiring actors. These courses include practical exploration of Shakespeare's texts, creative exercises and performance opportunities, culminating in a small sharing of work on stage.

HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Dr Will Tosh, Director of Education, says: “Scholarship and performance have always gone hand-in-hand at Shakespeare’s Globe, and this summer we are making good on that connection with the opening of our beautiful Research and Collections Centre. The purpose-built new reading rooms, lecture theatre and public foyer are a home for our bespoke courses and thriving Shakespeare Studies MA, but more importantly they are a welcoming space for anyone who wants to delve into the stories of Shakespeare and the Globe. Whether you attend a Research in Action workshop, work on your craft as an actor, pursue a research project or sign up to a lifelong learner course, you’ll find soul-enhancing treasures waiting to be discovered at the Globe.”

From 9 May to 19 October, monthly **Introduction to Globe Performance Practice** workshops will explore the unique actor-audience relationship in the amphitheatre and the ways in which the Globe’s playing conditions shape performance. Taking place in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, professional actors will experiment with a bare stage, where minimal intervention relies on the performer’s connection with the audience. These workshops are aimed at trained actors seeking to deepen their experience of Shakespeare, including those who have not worked with the texts before, and provide a safe, supportive space to explore, play, and connect creatively.

A new, three-day course led by Globe faculty, **Directing in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse** will run from 15 to 17 May. Designed for directors with some experience of Shakespeare, the programme will begin with an introduction to the theatre and its unique playing conditions followed by three days of focused, practical exploration. The course investigates the distinctive actor-audience relationship in an indoor playhouse and the ways in which this environment shapes interpretation, staging, and creative decision-making. The programme culminates with each director directing two actors in a short scene under candlelight.

On 12 May, **Research in Action: University Drama in the Age of Shakespeare** explores university drama translated from Latin, influenced by Shakespeare and early modern attitudes towards disability, offering an evening of collaborative discovery in the candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse for researchers, students and curious theatregoers alike.

On 17 September, **Research in Action: Editing in Action - The New Variorum Shakespeare** investigates how live performance can illuminate and reshape the editing of Shakespeare, bringing together theatre practitioners and scholars from the New Variorum project to explore collaboration between actors, directors and editors.

GUIDED TOURS

Shakespeare’s Globe Guided Tour runs throughout the year, transporting visitors 400 years into the past. Expert guides lead guests into the iconic Globe Theatre and bring to life the thrilling story of the wooden ‘O’. **The Premium Globe Tour** allows visitors to follow the actor’s journey, bringing them from backstage and onto the wooden boards of the Globe Theatre. Guided tours focussing on each of the Summer Season productions offer audiences a greater understanding of some of Shakespeare’s most-loved titles including *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Love’s Labour’s Lost* and *As You Like It*. These new tours for Summer 2026 run alongside the **Pride Guided Tour**, **Ghosts and Ghouls Family Tour**, **Shakespeare’s True Crimes Walking Tour**, and **Twilight Walking Tour**. Families can also experience the Globe and its history through a **Sword Fighting Demonstration** with the Globe Fight Team.

ENDS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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IMAGES

[A Midsummer Night's Dream artwork](#)
[Mother Courage and Her Children artwork](#)
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[Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: Romeo and Juliet artwork](#)

[Globe Theatre](#)
[Sam Wanamaker Playhouse](#)

“London’s best-value theatre ticket” – Time Out

SHAKESPEARE’S GLOBE SOCIALS

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[LinkedIn: /Shakespeare's-Globe](#)
[TikTok: @ShakespearesGlobe](#)
[YouTube: @ShakespearesGlobe](#)

ON SALE DATES

Patron: 10am, 27 January 2026
Best Friends: 10am, 30 January 2026
Friends: 10am, 3 February 2026
Public Booking: 10am, 10 February 2026

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Written by William Shakespeare
23 April - 29 August 2026
Press Night: 30 April 2026
Globe Theatre

Mother Courage and Her Children
Written by Bertolt Brecht
Translated by Anna Jordan
7 May - 27 June 2026
Press Night: 15 May 2026
Globe Theatre

Much Ado About Nothing
Written by William Shakespeare
11 June – 24 October 2026
Press Night: 19 June 2026
Globe Theatre

Love's Labour's Lost
Written by William Shakespeare
17 July – 13 September 2026
Press Night: 29 July 2026
Globe Theatre

As You Like It
Written by William Shakespeare
14 August – 25 October 2026
Press Night: 21 August 2026
Globe Theatre

A World Elsewhere
Written by Kerry Frampton and Ben Hales
25 July – 30 August

Press Night: 30 July 2026
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

MIDNIGHT MATINEES

A Midsummer Night's Dream: Saturday 20 June
Much Ado About Nothing: Friday 31 July
As You Like It: Friday 11 September

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

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

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Captioned: Sunday 24 May 1pm, Thursday 9 July 7:30pm
BSL: Thursday 28 May 7:30pm, Friday 3 July 2pm
Relaxed: Friday 15 May 2pm, Saturday 27 June 2pm
Audio Described: Thursday 25 June 2pm, Saturday 25 July 2pm

Mother Courage and Her Children

Captioned: Saturday 30 May 7:30pm, Thursday 4 June 7:30pm
BSL: Monday 1 June 7:30pm, Sunday 20 June 2pm
Relaxed: Saturday 6 June 2pm, Saturday 19 June 2pm
Audio Described: Wednesday 24 June 2pm

Much Ado About Nothing

Captioned: Saturday 4 July 2pm, Wednesday 30 September 7:30pm
BSL: Monday 27 July 7:30pm, Thursday 17 September 2pm
Relaxed: Wednesday 2 September 7:30pm, Saturday 17 October 2pm
Audio Described: Tuesday 8 September 2pm, Saturday 19 September 2pm

Love's Labour's Lost

Captioned: Friday 28 August 7:30pm, Saturday 5 September 7:30pm
BSL: Sunday 30 August 1pm, Thursday 3 September 7:30pm
Relaxed: Saturday 29 August 2pm, Tuesday 8 September 7:30pm
Audio Described: Sunday 6 September 1pm

As You Like It

Captioned: Wednesday 16 September 2pm, Sunday 11 October 1pm
BSL: Wednesday 23 September 2pm, Sunday 18 October 1pm
Relaxed: Sunday 20 September 1pm, Tuesday 29 September 7:30pm
Audio Described: Thursday 10 September 2pm, Sunday 4 October 6:30pm

A World Elsewhere

Captioned: Thursday 20 August 1:30pm
BSL: Wednesday 26 August 1:30pm
Relaxed: Thursday 13 August 3pm, Thursday 27 August 11am
Audio Described: Tuesday 18 August 3pm

SHAKESPEARE’S GLOBE

Website | [Shakespearesglobe.com](#)
#ThisWoodenO

Globe Player | [Player.shakespearesglobe.com](#)

#GlobePlayer

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 transformative with Membership and support our productions, education work and community outreach from £5 a month. Members also enjoy Priority Booking, exclusive backstage tours, insights from creatives, discounts and more 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

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

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).

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.

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.