



**SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE**

PRESS RELEASE

TUESDAY 30 JUNE

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ANNOUNCES WINTER SEASON 2026-27

"Be great in act, as you have been in thought"
King John, Act. 5 Sc.1

- **Julius Caesar** opens the 2026-27 Winter Season directed by **Joe Hill-Gibbins**, running from **6 November 2026 – 14 February 2027** in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse.
- **The Seagull** runs from **17 January – 12 April 2027** in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, reuniting **Caroline Steinbeis and Rory Mullarkey** (*Three Sisters*, 2025).
- **King John** runs from **7 February – 11 April 2027** in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. **Jaz Woodcock-Stewart** makes her Globe directorial debut.
- The season is completed by the previously announced return of **Pinocchio** in the Globe Theatre and the premiere of **Timberlake Wertenbaker's The Animals Come to the Table** in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse.
- **Shakespeare and Race Festival** returns for 2026, running throughout October.

Shakespeare's Globe Artistic Director Michelle Terry says: *"This new season of plays in our candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse is a season of debuts. The premiere of Timberlake Wertenbaker's new play, the first time Chekhov's The Seagull has been performed at the Globe, and the first time the epic history plays Julius Caesar and King John have been performed in the intimate indoor playhouse. And we are thrilled to once again bring families together outside in our Globe Theatre for the return of our enchanting musical Pinocchio. This collection of brave and brilliant plays promise us nothing less than a winter of politics, provocation, passion, and pleasure."*

Julius Caesar opens the Winter Season, running from 6 November 2026 – 14 February 2027. **Joe Hill-Gibbins** (*Ghosts*, Sam Wanamaker Playhouse) returns to direct Shakespeare's brutal and timely tale of friendship, betrayal and political violence, staged for the first time ever in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. In the corridors of the Senate, a murderous plot builds amidst concerns over the growing ambition of dictator Julius Caesar. But when the tide of public opinion turns against his enemies, political in-fighting unfolds into civil war. Joe Hill-Gibbins is a theatre and opera director based in London. He directed his first professional production in 2002 as winner of the James Menzies-Kitchen Young Director Award. Between 2000 and 2004 he worked for the Royal Court Theatre as an assistant director and then Trainee Associate Director. Between 2007 and 2013 he was a resident director at the Young Vic Theatre, becoming Deputy Artistic Director in 2010. In 2023 he directed a new production of *A View from the Bridge* for Parco Japan. Additional theatre credits include *A Doll's House*, *The Tragedy of King Richard the Second*, *Little Revolution* (Almeida); *Summerfolk* (Residenztheater Munich); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Changeling*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (Young Vic); *Absolute Hell*, *Edward II* (National Theatre); *Mary Page Marlowe* (Theater Basel); *The Village Bike*, *The Girlfriend Experience* (Royal Court).

Opera credits include: *Giustino* (Royal Opera House); *Powder Her Face*, *Duke Bluebeard's Castle* (ENO, Olivier Award nomination for Best New Opera); *The Marriage of Figaro* (ENO/ Wuppertal Bühnen); *Lear*, *Greek* (Staatsoper Hannover); *Greek* (Edinburgh International Festival/ BAM, New York/ Scottish Opera).

The Seagull will run from 15 January – 10 April 2027. The team behind the 2025 production of *Three Sisters*, **Caroline Steinbeis and Rory Mullarkey** will reunite as director and translator for Chekhov's timeless story of ambition and desire, inspired by Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. **Caroline Steinbeis** is a freelance theatre and screen

director, writer and dramaturge, and previously a winner of the prestigious JMK Award for Outstanding Directors. Caroline was International Associate at the Royal Court Theatre from 2011-2013 and Associate Director at Sheffield Theatres from 2017-2023. Previous theatre credits include *Till the Stars Come Down* (Nottingham Playhouse), *Black Comedy* (Orange Tree Theatre), *The Contingency Plan/ Resilience* (Sheffield Theatres), *Rutherford and Son*, and *Love and Information* (Sheffield Theatres), *Edward II* (Cambridge Arts Theatre), *The Tempest* (Royal & Derngate), *The Crucible* and *Brilliant Adventures* (Manchester Royal Exchange), *We Want You To Watch* (National Theatre), *The Broken Heart* (Globe Theatre, Sam Wannamaker), *Take, Love, Run* (Molodiy Theatre, Kiev), *Show 6* (Lyric Hammersmith and UK Tour), *Talkshow*, and *Mint* (Royal Court, Downstairs), *A Time To Reap* (Royal Court, Upstairs), *Earthquakes in London* (UK Tour for Headlong Theatre and NT), *Fatherland* (Gate Theatre), *Charged* (Soho), *Mad Forest*, *Photo Story* (BAC), and *Mile End* (Southwark Playhouse and UK Tour). **Rory Mullarkey** is a playwright and translator. His previous work at Shakespeare's Globe includes a translation of *Three Sisters* and an adaptation of *The Oresteia*. His original plays include *Even These Things*, *Mates in Chelsea*, *Pity*, *Saint George and the Dragon*, *Each Slow Dusk*, *The Wolf from the Door*, *Cannibals*, *Single Sex* and *The Grandfathers*. He has also translated *The Cherry Orchard* for Bristol Old Vic and Manchester Royal Exchange, and *Remembrance Day* for the Royal Court, and has written the libretti for three operas: *The Skating Rink*, *Coraline* and *The Way Back Home*. His work has won him the James Tait Black Prize for Drama, the Harold Pinter Commission for the Royal Court, a Pearson Playwrights' Bursary for the Royal Exchange, and has co-won him the Abraham Woursell Prize and the George Devine Award for Most Promising Playwright.

King John runs from 20 February – 11 April 2027. Olivier-nominated director **Jaz Woodcock-Stewart** (*Paradise Now!*, Bush Theatre) makes her Globe directorial debut with Shakespeare's rarely performed masterpiece. Desperate to carve out an identity of his own to escape the shadow of his adored older brother, King John must step into the role he claims the right to, and attempt to rule his England. Jaz Woodcock-Stewart is a director working in theatre and screen. Her production of *Die Glasmenerie* (The Glass Menagerie) with Theater Basel was invited to the 2026 Theatertreffen. Further theatre credits include: *The Virgins* (Soho Theatre); *Gulliver's Travels* (Deutsches Nationaltheater Weimar); *The Attempts* (jwscompany); *Grud* (Hampstead Theatre); *Multiple Casualty Incident* (Yard Theatre); *Jason Medea Medley* (Dresden Staatschauspiel); *Electric Rosary* (Manchester Royal Exchange); *Gulliver's Travels* (Unicorn); *Civilisation* (jwscompany/UK and International Tour); *Something New* (Thomas Bernhard Institut); *Learning Piece* (The Place); *Lands* (Bush Theatre). She is a Resident Artist with House Productions (Conclave, Zone of Interest) and is the recipient of a Berlin Fellowship at the Akademie der Künste. Her production *Civilisation* (jwscompany) was selected for Radikal Jung/Munich Volkstheater and won the Jury Prize at Fast Forward Festival/Dresden Staatschauspiel.

As previously announced, the premiere of **Timberlake Wertenbaker's** *The Animals Come to the Table* will open on 11 December 2026 and runs until 24 January 2027. Originally conceived as part of *Burnt at the Stake, or the Whole of the Truth* (2023) where playwrights were invited to share new work anonymously, *The Animals Come to the Table* marks the latest in a new writing lineage at Shakespeare's Globe, following on from *Hakawatis: Women of the Arabian Nights* (2022), *Princess Essex* (2024), *Pinocchio* (2025), and *Deep Azure* (2026). By the candlelight of the Playhouse, animals summon humanity to the negotiating table. Waiting for them are an army of voices from the natural world demanding an end to exploitation and ecological destruction. Timberlake Wertenbaker is one of the UK's leading playwrights whose work is studied and performed worldwide. Her previous work includes *Our Country's Good*, *Jefferson's Garden*, *The Love of the Nightingale* and *Little Brother*. Bringing together politics, wit, philosophy and mischief, this new work is an audacious experiment of stepping into someone else's shoes.

The critically acclaimed new musical ***Pinocchio*** returns for the 2026 festive season in the open-air Globe Theatre, running from 28 November 2026 – 3 January 2027. Based on Carlo Collodi's original stories, *Pinocchio* is 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*).

SHAKESPEARE AND RACE FESTIVAL 2026

Hanh Bui, Head of Research, says: “*Shakespeare and Race* goes well beyond just thinking about the plays. It's about bringing together diverse voices and perspectives that open up exciting new meanings. So really, people are the beating heart of our festival – the artists and scholars, students and professionals, who are reimagining what Shakespeare can do today”.

Shakespeare and Race Festival returns for 2026 with a dynamic programme of talks and performances showcasing new and diverse voices shaping Shakespeare today.

On 7 October, **Research in Action: Global Early Modern Stage** reconsiders the global nature of early modern English drama and how playwrights engaged with cross-cultural encounters and identities. Led by Professor Matthew

Dimmock (University of Sussex) and Dr Sarah Dustagheer (University of Kent), the evening brings together artists and academics in the candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse to explore how staging choices shape theatrical meaning.

On 10-11 October, **Globe Young Company** presents **Pineapple**, a new work by award-winning playwright Anne Odeke (*Princess Essex*), representing the next generation of theatre-makers.

From 16-17 October, **Symposium: Contested Futures** brings together international scholars, from early career researchers to leading voices in the field, for a two-day hybrid symposium exploring the contested meanings of Shakespeare in our present and future.

On 20 October, New Earth Theatre presents a staged work-in-progress, **Samurai Othello**, inspired by the real life of African samurai Yasuke, with a post-show discussion with members of the cast and creative team.

On 22 October, **Shakespeare and Windrush** brings together creatives and academics for a roundtable discussion celebrating the British Caribbean community and its contributions to theatre, performance and the study of Shakespeare. The conversation will explore the enduring legacies of Caribbean migration, British identity and their connections to Shakespeare.

On 29 October, **Youths that Thunder** introduces two scholars shaping the next generation of early modern race studies. Dr Eli Cumings (King's College London) and Dr Lydia Valentine (Shakespeare's Globe) present new research for anyone curious about Shakespeare, race and performance. The winner of the Globe's inaugural One Globe First Book Fellowship, sponsored by Cambridge University Press, will also be announced.

HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Dr Will Tosh, Director of Education, says: *"This is a hugely exciting time for Higher Education and Research at Shakespeare's Globe. Not only are we expanding our free workshops to help applicants into the UK's leading drama schools, but we're developing new courses for working theatre artists in voice and movement. Our cohort of students will be working in beautifully renovated spaces, and everyone is welcome in our brand-new Research and Collections Centre, featuring London's only dedicated Shakespeare library. The Globe is open to all for learning, discovery, challenge and discussion, and I can't wait for our autumn events and activities including our biennial Shakespeare and Race Festival."*

Led by the Globe's Voice Faculty, **Voice for Classical Performance** runs from 5 – 14 November. The one-day course explores how Shakespeare's language functions, builds thought and carries intention, helping professional actors develop a voice that can carry in any theatre without amplification. From 6 – 8 November, **Playing the Globe** explores the performance potential of the open-air Globe Theatre, working across acting, voice, movement and text sessions to help actors navigate Shakespeare's complex texts with confidence, alongside a Q&A with an actor who has performed on the Globe stage. **Movement for Classical Performance**, a practical one-day course running 9 – 21 November, turns from analysis to action. Working with the Globe's Movement Faculty, professional actors will explore how Shakespeare's language triggers movement and how character and intention land through the body. From 14 November – 7 December, monthly **Introduction to Globe Performance Practice** workshops offer professional actors a practical introduction to performing in Shakespeare's wooden 'O', exploring the distinctive actor-audience relationship of the outdoor playhouse. three-day course led by theatre director Professor Rob Swain, **Directing for the Globe Theatre**, runs from 20 – 22 November. Alongside sessions on voice, movement and text, and a Q&A with a Globe director, the course culminates with each director staging two professional actors in a short scene on the Globe stage.

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Lucy Cuthbertson, Director of Education, says: *"I am so pleased to welcome back Telling Tales this October Half Term. Here at the Globe, we support the aims of the National Year of Reading and want to actively encourage more children and young people to read for pleasure. We have an outstanding line-up of celebrated authors and illustrators who will bring their stories, creativity and passion for reading directly to our young audiences. This year's spooky Halloween edition with Terry Deary in the candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse is something genuinely special. Alongside Telling Tales, we offer a rich and varied programme of family workshops, study sessions and young actors' courses throughout the school holidays, all designed to make Shakespeare's world vivid and accessible, whether you are five years old or preparing for your A Levels."*

The Globe's family event series, **Telling Tales** returns across October Half Term. Celebrated authors and illustrators will host interactive readings, Q&A sessions, and creative writing workshops, with speakers including Faridah Àbíké-Íyímíde, Joseph Coelho, Sita Brahmachari and Jane Ray, Rob Biddulph, and Mariajo Ilustrajo. This year, there will be

a spooky edition of Telling Tales with the bestselling creator of Horrible Histories and author of over 150 fiction books, **Terry Deary**, in the candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse on Halloween.

Shakespeare's Globe offers a full programme of school holiday events and workshops for young people in October and during this festive season. **Family Workshops** for children aged 5-8 and 9-11 and their grown-ups include *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night* and *Pinocchio*, with additional workshops on *Pinocchio* 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), *The Tempest* (12-14), *Romeo and Juliet* (14-16), *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 Courses for ages 8-10 and 11-13**, running from 15-19 February 2027. 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.

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. These tours will also run alongside the **Pride Guided Tour**, **Ghosts and Ghouls Family Tour**, **Shakespeare's True Crimes Walking Tour**, **16th and 17th Century Women 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

EDITOR'S NOTES

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IMAGES

[Julius Caesar artwork](#)

[The Animals Come to the Table artwork](#)

[Pinocchio artwork](#)

[The Seagull artwork](#)

[King John artwork](#)

[Globe Theatre](#)

[Sam Wanamaker Playhouse](#)

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

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE SOCIALS

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[YouTube: @ShakespearesGlobe](#)

ON SALE DATES

Patron: 10am, 30 June 2026

Friends: 10am, 8 July 2026

Public Booking: 10am, 14 July 2026

Julius Caesar

Press Night: 17 November 2026

Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

All the Animals Come to the Table

Press Night: 17 December 2026

Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

Pinocchio

Press Night: 5 December 2026

Globe Theatre

The Seagull

Press Night: 27 January 2027

Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

King John

Press Night: 5 March 2027

Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

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

Julius Caesar

Captioned: Sunday 13 December 6:30pm, Monday 4 February 7:30pm

Audio Described: Saturday 5 December 2pm, Thursday 7 January 2pm

BSL: Friday 4 December 7:30pm, Sunday 31 January 1pm

Relaxed: Friday 18 December 2pm, Wednesday 27 January 2pm

All the Animals Come to the Table

Captioned: Monday 4 January 7:30pm, Saturday 23 January 7:30pm

Audio Described: Sunday 17 January 6:30pm,

BSL: Friday 22 January 2pm, Saturday 23 January 7:30pm

Relaxed: Friday 8 January 7:30pm, Sunday 17 January 1pm

Pinocchio

Captioned: Sunday 20 December 1:30pm, Wednesday 30 December 6:30pm

Audio Described: Saturday 19 December 2:30pm, Saturday 2 January 2:30pm

BSL: Thursday 17 December 6:30pm, Sunday 27 December 1:30pm

Relaxed: Thursday 3 December 11am, Wednesday 23 December 2:30pm

The Seagull

Captioned: Sunday 27 February 7:30pm, Saturday 6 March 2pm, Monday 15 March 7:30pm, Tuesday 30 March 7:30pm

Audio Described: Tuesday 9 March 2pm, Saturday 13 March 2pm

Relaxed: Wednesday 13 February 2pm, Wednesday 24 March 7:30pm

King John

Captioned: Thursday 11 March 7:30pm, Sunday 28 March 1pm

Audio Described: Sunday 14 March 6:30pm, Friday 2 April 2pm

BSL: Thursday 25 March 7:30pm, Sunday 4 April 1pm

Relaxed: Friday 12 March 2pm, Sunday 21 March 1pm

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

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

#ThisWoodenO

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

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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

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 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.