



Press Release – 15 February 2010

Shakespeare's Globe presents plans for 2010 Theatre Season 23 April – 3 October 2010

Shakespeare's Globe confirms further details of the 2010 *Kings and Rogues* theatre season, following a record-breaking 2009 which achieved the highest attendance figures ever in its 13 year history, as well as seeing the Globe reach new audiences all over the UK, Europe and the US through touring, and having its productions filmed for the first time.

Shakespeare's masterpieces *Henry IV Parts 1 and 2* will premiere at the new Globe, as will the rarely performed *Henry VIII*, which was responsible for burning down the original Globe. Henry VIII will be played by **Dominic Rowan** who is currently performing in the west-end production of *The Misanthrope*, following his celebrated performance as Touchstone in the Globe's 2009 production of *As You Like It*. *Henry VIII* will be directed by **Mark Rosenblatt** (*Holding Fire!* at Shakespeare's Globe) and composed by **Nigel Hess** (*Romeo and Juliet* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at Shakespeare's Globe).

Artistic Director of the Globe, Dominic Dromgoole, will direct **Jamie Parker** as Prince Hal and **William Gaunt** as Worcester and Shallow in *Henry IV Parts 1 and 2*. Parker (*History Boys* at the National Theatre and on Broadway) was last seen in the Globe season's *As You Like It* and *A New World*. William Gaunt starred in the popular BBC series *Next of Kin*, and his recent stage work includes *The Family Reunion* at the Donmar, *The Cherry Orchard* at Chichester and *King Lear* and *The Seagull* for the RSC. Designer **Jonathan Fensom** and composer **Claire van Kampen** return to collaborate with Dromgoole following their recent partnerships on *Love's Labour's Lost* and *King Lear* at Shakespeare's Globe.

Launching the season on Shakespeare's birthday, 23 April, will be **Lucy Bailey's** production of *Macbeth* with **Elliot Cowan**. Cowan recently played Stanley Kowalski in the Donmar's award-winning *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and his screen credits include Mr Darcy in the TV drama series *Lost in Austen* and Ptolemy in the film *Alexander*. Bailey's previous credits at the Globe include *Timon of Athens* and *Titus Andronicus* and she now returns to collaborate with the mischievous Venezuelan choreographer **Javier De Frutos**. De Frutos received the Olivier Award for 'Best Theatre Choreographer' for *Cabaret*, and last year he premiered a sensational new work at Sadler's Wells for the Diaghilev centenary. Lady Macbeth will be played by **Laura Rogers**, who received critical acclaim for her performance as Celia in the Globe's 2009 production of *As You Like It*. **Orlando Gough** is composing with design by **Katrina Lindsay**.

Christopher Luscombe's charming and exuberant production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* returns in 2010, following its triumphant 2008 Globe premiere. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* celebrates the foundations of the modern TV sitcom and features many characters from *Henry IV Parts 1 and 2*. This highly entertaining production will again feature vibrant designs from **Janet Bird** and **Nigel Hess'** delightful score.

New writing remains at the core of Dromgoole's vision for Shakespeare's Globe and the 2010 season hosts two world premieres. Award-winning playwright **Howard Brenton** presents his new play *Anne Boleyn* which dramatises the life and legacy of Henry VIII's notorious second wife as both a sexually ambitious woman and a religious reformer. *Anne Boleyn* will re-unite Brenton with director **John Dove** following their successful partnership on *In Extremis* at the Globe.

Bedlam by **Nell Leyshon** marks the Globe's first ever staging of a known female playwright in its entire history, which will be directed by **Jessica Swale**, who recently scored a big hit with *The Rivals* at Southwark Playhouse. Leyshon's new play is a fictional portrayal of a London hospital for the insane, and explores the link between art and madness. Nell Leyshon won the Evening Standard Most Promising Playwright Award for *Comfort Me With Apples*.

In 2009, both new plays – *Helen* by Euripides in a new version by Frank McGuinness and *A New World* by Trevor Griffiths – smashed their targets and played to packed audiences, indicating the growing audience for new writing at Shakespeare's Globe.

In addition to its main-stage programme, Shakespeare's Globe will revive its 2009 touring productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by Raz Shaw and *The Comedy of Errors* directed by Rebecca Gatward. Approximately 35,000 people, at over 30 beautiful venues across the UK and Europe attended a performance of the 2009 tour. In 2010, the tours will exchange venue circuits to reach new audiences and both will play two separate weeks at Shakespeare's Globe.

Dominic Dromgoole, Artistic Director of Shakespeare's Globe commented:

"Our building continues to embrace the most democratic audience in the world – all of us a rogue and a king in our own way – much like William Shakespeare. The 2010 theatre season offers a flavour of some of his wild, warm, violent and virtuous kings and rogues – plus new creations from two of our most rousing, contemporary playwrights. We are proud to continue our national and international touring, reaching out to new audiences for the Globe."

Public booking for the theatre season opens today – 15 February 2010. Tickets are available through the box office: 020 7901 9919 / 020 7087 7398 or online: www.shakespeares-globe.org.

Shakespeare's Globe 2010 Theatre Diary

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

23 April – 27 June

Directed by Lucy Bailey; Designed by Katrina Lindsay; Composed by Orlando Gough; Choreographed by Javier De Frutos

Press night: Thursday 29 April

Henry VIII by William Shakespeare

15 May – 21 August

Directed by Mark Rosenblatt; Designed by Angela Davies; Composed by Nigel Hess

Press night: Monday 24 May

Henry IV Parts 1 and 2 by William Shakespeare

Part 1: 6 June – 2 October

Part 2: 3 July – 3 October

Directed by Dominic Dromgoole; Designed by Jonathan Fensom; Composed by Claire van Kampen

Press nights: 2pm and 7.30pm on Wednesday 14 July

Anne Boleyn by Howard Brenton

WORLD PREMIERE

24 July – 21 August

Directed by John Dove; Designed by Michael Taylor

Press night: Wednesday 28 July

The Merry Wives of Windsor by William Shakespeare

14 August – 2 October

Directed by Christopher Luscombe; Designed by Janet Bird; Composed by Nigel Hess

Press night: Thursday 19 August

Bedlam by Nell Leyshon

WORLD PREMIERE

5 September – 1 October

Press night: Thursday 9 September

Directed by Jessica Swale

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Notes to Editors:

- **Shakespeare's Globe on film** - Three productions from Shakespeare's Globe's 2009 theatre season will be screened in cinemas and available on DVD and Blu-ray this spring and summer, as part of its new partnership with Opus Arte. For more information visit www.shakespeares-globe.org/onfilm
- **Globe Education** presents a programme of workshops, lectures, events and staged readings all year round. For general enquires about Globe Education please call 020 7902 1430 or visit www.globe-education.org
- **Shakespeare's Globe Exhibition** is open daily – Oct to Apr from 10am to 5pm. May to Sep 9am – 5pm. Admission includes a guided tour of the Theatre. For further information, telephone 020 7902 1500.
- **Shakespeare's Globe Shop** stocks a variety of products, including season specific merchandise. Items can be bought at the on-site shop or on-line at www.globe-shop.com.
- **Capital Campaign** – Shakespeare's Globe is currently fundraising for a major development project. The first part of the campaign – to develop a Globe Education and Rehearsal Centre – is underway. To find out more visit www.shakespeares-globe.org/thesecondstage
- **The Shakespeare Globe Trust** is a registered charity No.266916. **The Globe receives no public subsidy.**