



Press Release: 23 September 2009

Shakespeare's Globe partners with Opus Arte to screen 2009 theatre productions

Shakespeare's Globe is pleased to announce its new partnership with Opus Arte to film, screen and distribute performances of *Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It* and *Love's Labour's Lost* from the Globe's 2009 theatre season. Shakespeare's Globe becomes the first theatre partner amongst Opus Arte's prestigious stable of arts collaborators for cinema distribution, including The Royal Ballet, The Royal Opera, Glyndebourne Festival Opera (also new partners this season), Kings College Cambridge, Teatro Real Madrid and Liceu Barcelona.

Opus Arte, the Royal Opera House's multi-platform arts production and distribution company has a reputation for presenting the very best arts titles in all digital media, as well as being at the forefront of digital technology and the first label to record in high definition. Opus Arte now has the most comprehensive range of partners with leaders in their own field of opera, dance, oratorio and now theatre.

Shakespeare's Globe is beloved around the world for its iconic architecture and vibrant theatre productions. *As You Like It*, directed by Thea Sharrock; *Romeo and Juliet* and *Love's Labour's Lost* – both directed by Dominic Dromgoole – have formed part of the Globe's 2009 theatre season, Young Hearts. This exciting partnership offers an opportunity to record highlights of the season in exceptional quality and share these with even more theatre-lovers around the world.

Dominic Dromgoole, artistic director of Shakespeare's Globe said: "The relationship between live performance, new recording technology, and new modes of distribution, is going to be the big story for theatre, dance and opera over the next few years. We are delighted to be in partnership with the good people of Opus Arte, and in the vanguard of that new movement."

As well as expanding its stable of partners this year, Opus Arte has increased the number of cinema sites, reaching more than 500 by the end of the Season across more than 25 countries. Already 15 countries are signed up including Canada and the US, Australia, South Africa, Israel, India, Japan, Spain and Portugal with negotiations underway in Latin and South America, and a further nine Western European countries.

Tony Hall, Chairman of Opus Arte and Chief Executive of the Royal Opera House said: "This really is an extraordinary achievement. Just last September we screened our first ever live opera into 103 cinemas across the UK and Europe, and today we are announcing a cinema season comprising six of the world's best arts organizations going into more than 500 sites around the world."

"I'm absolutely delighted that both Shakespeare's Globe and Glyndebourne have joined with us. Bringing Shakespeare's Globe really excites me in that we truly have a very diverse range of art forms. And again, the Globe is a genuinely unique organization, internationally recognized for bringing Shakespeare's work alive in the venue for which it was written".

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Screening and distribution dates for *Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It* and *Love's Labour's Lost* will be announced in due course.

For more information about Shakespeare's Globe please contact:

Francesca Eyles, Press and PR Manager

Tel: 020 7902 1491 or email fran.e@shakespearesglobe.com

For Opus Arte:

Christopher Millard, Director of Press and Communications at The Royal Opera House

Tel: 020 7212 9458 or email Christopher.millard@roh.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

Shakespeare's Globe

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Dominic Dromgoole, Shakespeare's Globe theatre season plays in repertory from April to October annually, and has gained an international reputation for performance excellence. The 2009 theatre season Young Hearts included *Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *Troilus and Cressida* and *Love's Labour's Lost* by William Shakespeare, *The Frontline* by Ché Walker, *Helen* by Euripides in a new version by Frank McGuinness and *A New World: A Life of Thomas Paine* by Trevor Griffiths. For further information please visit www.shakespeares-globe.org

Opus Arte:

Opus Arte, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Royal Opera House, was established in 1999 and grew rapidly to become one of the world's leading providers of high-quality classical music content. As well as releasing around thirty titles on DVD & Blu-ray per year, the company has produced and directed programmes that have been broadcast in over 60 countries, and won many Awards. The aim of Opus Arte has always been to work with the best possible partners in all areas of business - from broadcasters to producers; from opera houses to directors. Its continuing partnership with DigiScreen ensures that philosophy will continue, bringing outstanding performances to an enthusiastic global cinema audience. For further information please visit www.opusarte.com