



Press Release: 24 March 2008

Shakespeare's Sparkling Comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream* Plays at the Globe this Summer

Saturday 10 May – Saturday 4 October 2008

Shakespeare's Globe's 2008 Theatre Season continues with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by **Jonathan Munby**. **Siobhan Redmond**, known for her extensive stage and TV work, will play Titania/Hippolyta, with **Tom Mannion** as Oberon/Theseus. Cast as the lovers, **Christopher Brandon** will play Lysander, with **Pippa Nixon** as Hermia, **Oliver Boot** as Demetrius and **Laura Rogers** as Helena. **Michael Jibson** will be taking the role of Puck and **Paul Hunter** will be playing Bottom.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is one of Shakespeare's most sparkling comedies and contains some of his most dazzling dramatic poetry. From the harsh Draconian court of Athens to the wild freedom of the woods, individuals fight to establish who they are. Sexuality, identity and trust are explored in a world where nothing is quite what it seems, where the boundaries of reality are blurred and where our worst fears become a living nightmare. This production will use live music, dance and use of every inch of the Globe's unique space in order to take a fresh new look at this magical play. This production reunites long-term, award-winning collaborators **Jonathan Munby** (Director), **Mike Britton** (Designer) and **Olly Fox** (Composer).

Siobhan Redmond's stage career includes *Much Ado About Nothing* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Perfect Days* (West End), *An Experienced Woman Gives Advice* (Manchester Royal Exchange), and *Mary Stuart* (National Theatre of Scotland). Her extensive work in television includes *The Smoking Room* and *Holby City* (BBC), *The Bill* (ITV) and her role as Detective Sergeant Maureen Connell in the BBC series *Between The Lines*.

Tom Mannion's recent television credits include *Casualty* and *New Tricks* (BBC), *Taggart* and *Belle de Jour* (ITV). His stage work includes Lophakin in *The Cherry Orchard* (Crucible Theatre), Antony in *Antony and Cleopatra* (Manchester Royal Exchange) Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Open Air Regent's Park) and Ford in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Royal Shakespeare Company).

Jonathan Munby's directing credits include *Henry V* (Royal Exchange, Manchester) and *The Canterbury Tales* (RSC Stratford, Washington USA and West End as one of three directors presenting the complete tales), *A Number* and *The Comedy of Errors* (Crucible). Jonathan has worked extensively at the Watermill Theatre in Newbury, where productions include *Tartuffe*, *The Venetian Twins* and *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

Mike Britton's work includes *The Vertical Hour* (Royal Court), *That Face* (Royal Court) and *Coriolanus* and *Antony and Cleopatra* (Shakespeare's Globe). Composer **Olly Fox** has worked

on numerous projects with the National Theatre, Old Vic, Royal Court and The Royal Shakespeare Company.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is part of the **Totus Mundus** theatre season, which opens early this year on April 23 to mark Shakespeare's Birthday, and includes Shakespeare's *King Lear*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Timon of Athens*, and three world premières, *The Frontline* (by Ché Walker) and *Liberty* (by Glyn Maxwell) and Footsbarn Theatre's *Shakespeare Party*.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

***A Midsummer Night's Dream* cast and creative team:**

The full cast is – Peter Bankolé, Jonathan Bond, Oliver Boot, Christopher Brandon, Adam Burton, Richard Clews, Robert Goodale, Paul Hunter, Michael Jibson, Tom Mannion, Michael Matus, Pippa Nixon, Sam Parks, Siobhan Redmond, Laura Rogers, Bethan Walker and Sian Williams.

Director	Jonathan Munby
Designer	Mike Britton
Composer	Olly Fox

Listings information:

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare
10 May – 4 October at Shakespeare's Globe
Press night – Wednesday 21 May at 7.30pm
Midnight Matinee – Saturday 21 June

Booking:

Phone	020 7401 9919 or 020 7087 7398
In person	Mon-Fri 10am-6pm (8pm on performance days) Sundays from 27 April 10am-5pm (7pm on performances days)
On-line	www.shakespeares-globe.org
Tickets	£5.00 - £33.00

Education Events:

Childsplay Workshops (8-11 year olds) at 1.30 pm – Saturday 17 May, Saturday 31 May, Saturday 28 June, Saturday 16 August, Saturday 6 September
Setting the Scene pre-performance at 6.00pm – Tuesday 20 May, Tuesday 27 May, Tuesday 1 July, Tuesday 26 August, Tuesday 23 September
Talking Theatre (post matinee) – Wednesday 28 May, Saturday 31 May, Saturday 28 June, Saturday 16 August, Saturday 6 September, Wednesday 24 September
'Around' *A Midsummer Night's Dream* weekend course: 5 – 7 September

Access:

Sign Language-interpreted performance – Saturday 28 June at 2pm
Audio Described performance – Saturday 31 May at 2pm

Shakespeare's Globe Access Line 020 7902 1409 or email sally@shakespearesglobe.com

Website:

Please go to the Press Room at www.shakespeares-globe.org for recent press releases.

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Notes to Editors:

- **Globe Education** offers workshops, lectures and evening courses to over 90,000 students of all ages.
- **Shakespeare's Globe Exhibition** is open daily – May to Sept 9am to 5pm. Oct to April from 10am to 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. Shakespeare's Globe is a registered charity and all profits from sales go towards supporting our educational mission. Items can be bought at the onsite shop or online at www.globe-shop.com
- **Shakespeare's Globe Bar and Brasserie** are open all year round. For reservations please call 020 7928 9444.
- **Shakespeare's Globe Trust** is a registered charity No.266916.