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Artistic Director Dominic Dromgoole directs a young company of rising talent in the Globe's first production of *Love's Labour's Lost*

Artistic Director of Shakespeare's Globe, **Dominic Dromgoole**, directs his first production of the 2007 season, *Love's Labour's Lost*. Dromgoole has assembled a cast of rising talent – **Gemma Arterton** who joins the company straight from Cannes where she was unveiled as the lead in the new *St Trinian's* film. Also joining Arterton direct from drama school are **Oona Chaplin** and **David Oakes**.

They are joined by **Trystan Gravelle**, recently nominated for the Ian Charleson Award, **Michelle Terry** who won great critical acclaim for her roles in the RSC's *The Crucible* and *The Winter's Tale* last year, and **Kobna Holdbrook-Smith** – acclaimed for his work at the Tricycle and Manchester Royal Exchange.

The young cast of new talent is ably supported by a company including **John Bett**, **Christopher Godwin**, **William Mannering** and **Timothy Walker**.

Self-denial is in fashion at the court of Navarre where the young King and three of his courtiers solemnly forswear all pleasures in favour of serious study. But the Princess of France and her all-too-lovely entourage have other ideas and it isn't long before young love, with its glad eyes, hesitations and embarrassments, has broken every self-imposed rule of the all-male 'academe'.

Shakespeare's boisterous send-up of all those who try to turn their back on life, is a festive parade of every weapon in the youthful playwright's comic arsenal: from excruciating cross-purposes and impersonations, to drunkenness, bust-ups and pratfalls. Even more, it is a joyful banquet of language, groaning with puns, rhymes, bizarre syntax, grotesque coinages and parodies. This heady combination enjoys its first ever outing at the Globe this season.

The production opens on 11 July, with previews from 1 July, and runs until 7 October.

Gemma Arterton makes her Globe debut as Rosaline. Arterton will soon be seen in Poliakoff's *Capturing Mary*, and as Kelly the Head Girl in the forthcoming *St Trinian's* film. **Michelle Terry** who plays the Princess of France has worked extensively for the RSC including roles in *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale* and the acclaimed recent production of *The Crucible*. For television, her credits include *Extras*.

Kobna Holdbrook-Smith plays Ferdinand, King of Navarre. His theatre credits include *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (Royal Exchange Manchester, MEN Award Nomination) and *Fabulation*; *Gem of the Ocean*; and *Walk Hard, Talk Loud* (Tricycle Theatre). For television his work includes *Whistleblowers*, *Star Stories*, *Little Britain* and *Absolute Power*. **Trystan Gravelle** plays Berowne. Since recently graduating from drama school, Gravelle has worked almost exclusively for the RSC appearing in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It*, *Frobisher's Gold*, *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*.

William Mannering returns to the Globe to play Longaville. This production reunites him with Dominic Dromgoole. The two have worked together on many occasions including *Antony and Cleopatra* (Globe) and *Present Laughter* (Theatre Royal Bath). Also returning is **John Bett** to play Sir Nathaniel. His other work for the Globe includes *In Extremis* and *Antony and Cleopatra*. Perhaps best known for playing Angus in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, **Timothy Walker** plays Don Armado. His theatre work includes the title role in *Richard II* for Steven Berkoff, *Twelfth Night* (Globe), and *Hamlet* and *The Tempest* (Cheek by Jowl). **Christopher Godwin** plays Holofernes. His many theatre credits include *The Canterbury Tales*, *The Tamer Tamed* and *The Taming of the Shrew* – all for the RSC.

Directed by **Dominic Dromgoole**, with designs by **Jonathan Fensom** and music by **Claire van Kampen** the production will employ Renaissance staging, costume and music.

Tony Award nominee **Jonathan Fensom**'s recent theatre work includes *Journey's End* (West End and Broadway – Tony Award nomination), *Talking to Terrorists* (Royal Court and tour) and *Smaller* (West End). The Globe are thrilled to announce the return of **Claire Van Kampen** to the Globe where she was Director of Music from 1997 to 2005. For the company she composed both period and contemporary music for over 29 productions. She was the first female Music Director of the National Theatre and RSC and also composes prolifically for film and television.

Dominic Dromgoole, Artistic Director of Shakespeare's Globe, directed *Coriolanus* and *Antony and Cleopatra* for the 2006 season. He was Artistic Director of the Oxford Stage Company, 1999 - 2005, and the Bush Theatre 1990-1996, and Director of New Plays for the Peter Hall Company in 1996/7. In addition he has directed at the Tricycle Theatre, in the West-End, and in America and Romania. Also an author, his books include *The Full Room* (2001) and *Will and Me* (2006).

Love's Labour's Lost is part of the **Renaissance + Revolution** theatre season this year at Shakespeare's Globe which includes Shakespeare's *Othello* and *The Merchant of Venice*, and two world premières, *Holding Fire!* (by Jack Shepherd) and *We The People* (by Eric Schlosser).

Love's Labour's Lost cast and creative team

The full cast is **Gemma Arterton, John Bett, Joe Caffrey, Oona Chaplin, Seroca Davis, Christopher Godwin, Trystan Gravelle, Kobna Holdbrook-Smith, Cush Jumbo, William Mannering, David Oakes, Rhiannon Oliver, Paul Rider, Michelle Terry, Andrew Vincent** and **Timothy Walker**.

Director	Dominic Dromgoole
Designer	Jonathan Fensom
Composer	Claire van Kampen

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Box Office

Phone	020 7401 9919 or 020 7087 7398
In person	Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (8pm on performance days) Sundays 10am-5pm (7pm on performances days)
On-line	www.shakespeares-globe.org
Tickets	£5.00 - £32.00

Performances

Performances of *Love's Labour's Lost* take place every day, Tuesday – Sunday

Love's Labour's Lost – 1 July – 7 October 2007

Access Performances

BSL interpreted performance: 14 July at 2pm
Audio Described performance: Sunday 5 August at 1pm
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.

Press Night Dates

All performances at 7.30pm. Drinks are served from 6.30pm on press nights only.

- *The Merchant of Venice* – Tuesday 12 June
- *Love's Labour's Lost* - Wednesday 11 July
- *Holding Fire!* - Friday 3 August
- *We The People* – Thursday 6 September

For further information, please contact:

Kate Morley at Blueprint PR 07970 465 648 / kate@blueprintpr.co.uk

Notes to Editors

- **Shakespeare's Globe theatre season**, *Renaissance + Revolution*, runs from 4 May – 7 October 2007.
- **Globe Education** offers workshops, lectures and evening courses to students of all ages. For further information, telephone 020 7902 1433.
- **Shakespeare's Globe Exhibition** is open daily – May to September from 9am to 5pm and October to April from 10am to 5pm. Admission includes a guided tour of the Theatre. For further information, telephone 020 7902 1500.
- **The Shakespeare Globe Trust** is a registered charity No.266916. **The Globe receives no public subsidy.**