



Issued 14 June 2007

**KIRSTY BESTERMAN TAKES ON THE ROLE OF PORTIA IN REBECCA  
GATWARD'S PRODUCTION OF *THE MERCHANT OF VENICE***

**Kirsty Besterman** takes on the role of Portia – she has been playing the role since **Michelle Duncan** left the company on 8 June due to unforeseen circumstances. Besterman plays opposite **John McEnery** as Shylock in **Rebecca Gatward's** production. **Jennifer Kidd** joins the company as Nerissa. Currently previewing, the production will now open on 28 June.

Besterman's theatre credits include *The Rivals* (Theatre Royal, Bath), *Othello* (Cheek by Jowl) and *King Lear* (RSC Academy). For television, her work includes *Peter Ackroyd's London*.

For further information, please contact:

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## *The Merchant of Venice* cast and creative team

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The full cast includes **Kirsty Besterman, Philip Bird, Cornelius Booth, Jim Bywater, Philip Cumbus, Leander Deeny, Craig Gazey, Adam Kay, Jennifer Kidd, John McEnery, Pippa Nixon, Chris Obi, Dale Rapley, Mark Rice-Oxley** and **Nicholas Shaw**.

Director  
Designer  
Composer

**Rebecca Gatward**  
**Liz Cooke**  
**Adrian Lee**

### **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](http://www.shakespeares-globe.org)  
Tickets £5.00 - £32.00

#### **Performances**

Performances of *The Merchant of Venice* take place every day, Monday – Saturday

#### ***The Merchant of Venice* – until 6 October 2007**

##### **Access Performances**

BSL interpreted performance: Wednesday 20 June at 2pm  
Audio Described performance: Saturday 15 September at 2pm  
Shakespeare's Globe Access Line 020 7902 1409 or email [sally@shakespearesglobe.com](mailto:sally@shakespearesglobe.com)

#### **Website**

Please go to the Press Room at [www.shakespeares-globe.org](http://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.

- ***Love's Labour's Lost*** - Wednesday 11 July
- ***Holding Fire!*** - Friday 3 August
- ***We The People*** – Thursday 6 September

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#### **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.**