



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
Craig Noel, *Artistic Director*

P.O. Box 122171 Tel 619/231-1941
San Diego, CA Fax 619/231-5879
92112-2171 www.theoldglobe.org

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Contact: Becky Biegelsen (619) 231-1941

www.theoldglobe.org

OLD GLOBE CELEBRATES 70TH ANNIVERSARY **WITH THRILLING 2005 SUMMER SEASON**

ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR DARKO TRESNJAK TO RETURN AS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF 2005 SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL, FEATURING THREE CLASSICS FIRST PERFORMED IN REPERTORY AT THE GLOBE AS PART OF THE 1935 CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION:
THE COMEDY OF ERRORS, MACBETH, AND THE WINTER'S TALE

WORLD-PREMIERE OF THE LADY WITH ALL THE ANSWERS AND WEST COAST PREMIERE OF MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS ROUND OUT SEASON

San Diego – The Tony® Award-winning Old Globe's Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Executive Director Louis Spisto are pleased to announce the Globe's **70th Anniversary Season**, including the revival of last summer's acclaimed Shakespeare Festival led by Darko Tresnjak, as well as the hilarious play, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, by Ron Hutchinson, in the Old Globe Theatre and the world-premiere of *The Lady with All the Answers*, by David Rambo, in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage.

As a kick-off to this festive summer, the Globe will host a free **Open House on June 18, 2005**, which will include short Shakespeare presentations by the 2005 Shakespeare Festival company, Elizabethan treats, family activities, and much more. Additionally, the Globe will celebrate Artistic Director **Craig Noel's 90th birthday on August 25** with a special dinner in his honor on the Old Globe stage.

Following its enormous success in 2004, the Shakespeare Festival returns this coming summer with three of the Bard's most loved plays: *The Comedy of Errors*, *Macbeth* and *The Winter's Tale*, all three of which were featured in the Globe's inaugural season in 1935 as part of the California Exposition. The plays will run in nightly rotation in the outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre from **June 19 through October 2, 2005**. **Darko Tresnjak**, director of the Globe's acclaimed 2004 Shakespeare Festival, will serve as the Festival's Artistic Director.

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“We are so fortunate to live in such a vibrant theatre community that has so warmly embraced the work of Shakespeare over the years,” said O’Brien. “To be able to follow last year’s revival of the Shakespeare Festival with yet another glorious repertory season, once again headed up by the always-innovative Darko Tresnjak, is an Artistic Director’s dream and a major theatrical triumph for the Globe!”

The Globe brought back Shakespeare in repertory during the 2004 summer season after a nearly 20-years absence, and the Theatre is thrilled to once again bring back this time-honored tradition begun by founding Globe company member and current Artistic Director Craig Noel. Shakespeare at the Globe dates back to the institution’s artistic roots, when, in its very first year of existence, the Theatre presented 50-minute versions of Shakespeare’s plays, performed in repertory, as part of the 1935 California Exposition. From 1949 to 1984, the Bard’s work became an even more integral part of the Globe’s programming, with the creation of the annual San Diego National Shakespeare Festival – an ambitious, summer-long event in which at least three Shakespeare works were presented in repertory.

The three Shakespeare plays will be performed by a resident acting company, which will be comprised of a large group of professional actors as well as the 14 graduate acting students from The Old Globe/University of San Diego Master of Fine Arts program. The productions will rotate on a nightly basis, allowing audiences the opportunity to see three different Shakespeare productions on three consecutive nights.

The Globe is also pleased to present the hilarious *Moonlight and Magnolias* in the Old Globe Theatre July 16 – August 14, 2005. Hutchinson’s delightful play takes audiences into the inner sanctum of 1939 Hollywood in a fun, fast-paced world-premiere comedy. Movie mogul David O. Selznick’s has just shut down production on his epic movie, *Gone With The Wind*, and locked himself in his office with screenwriter Ben Hecht and director Victor Fleming – whom he dragged off *The Wizard of Oz* set – to rewrite the script. The three of them work for seven days straight re-tooling the adaptation of Margaret Mitchell’s celebrated novel, wrestling over every detail, from the shape of the plantation pillars to Rhett Butler’s famous final words to Scarlett O’Hara. This funny and fascinating behind-the-scenes piece comes to vivid life as three icons of the film industry battle over what became one of greatest movies ever made.

David Rambo, last represented at the Globe in 1999 with his compelling *God’s Man in Texas*, pens the exciting world-premiere of *The Lady with All the Answers*, to play in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage August 6 – September 11, 2005. For decades, renowned advice columnist Ann Landers answered countless letters from lovelorn teens, confused couples, and a multitude of others in need of advice, regaling her readers with direct, insightful and often humorously honest columns. In an ironic twist of events, she suddenly finds herself with a deadline looming for a column on a new kind of heartbreak: her own. Drawn from Ms. Landers life and letters, *The Lady with All the Answers* is as much a look at ourselves as it is an entertaining visit with the wise, funny, no-nonsense woman who helped shape the social and sexual landscapes of the last half-century.

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Shakespeare's consummate tragedy *Macbeth* begins with the title character, the Thane of Glamis, reveling in honor and glory from his conquest over rebels who threatened the king. When three witches prophesy Macbeth's ascent to the throne, a lust for power overtakes him, and this desire, coupled with the coercion of his ambitious wife, leads to Macbeth's murder of the king. But once seated on the throne, he must commit more bloodshed to retain the crown. The transformation of this true knight into a bloody tyrant makes for one of the most profound studies of evil and ruthless ambition ever written.

The Comedy of Errors, last seen at the Globe in 1997, takes audiences on a wild ride with two sets of twins, a shipwreck, mistaken identities, and much more. The Bard's first comedy is an outrageous, farcical sample of his comic genius. Follow the misadventures of brothers separated at birth – both masters and servants – in this delightful story of errors made and unmade in the course of a single antic day, all in the name of love.

One of Shakespeare's most intriguing romances, *The Winter's Tale* seamlessly blends the comic and the tragic, the epic and the intimate. From the savage tragedy of jealous Leontes in Sicilia, to the festive comedy of Perdita and Florizel in Bohemia, this dynamic play combines elements from each dramatic genre with Shakespeare's most searing poetry and a thrilling exploration of the healing, redemptive power of time.

Darko Tresnjak has directed acclaimed works in the realms of theater, opera and dance. He is a recipient of the 2001 Alan Schneider Award for Directing Excellence, a 2002 National Theater Artist Residency Grant at the Huntington Theatre, an NEA New Forms Grant, and the Boris Sagal Directing Fellowship at Williamstown Theatre Festival. His recent directing credits include *Pericles* at The Old Globe, *Heartbreak House* and *Amphitryon* at the Huntington Theatre; *A Little Night Music* at Goodspeed Opera House; *Under Milk Wood*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Moving Picture*, *The Love of Three Oranges* and *Princess Turandot* at the Williamstown Theatre Festival, and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* at Long Wharf Theatre. His opera credits include *The Magic Flute* at Opera Theater of Saint Louis; *Orfeo ed Euridice* at Virginia Opera, *Turandot* at Opera Carolina, and *La Traviata*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *Così fan tutte*, as well as the American premiere of Rimsky-Korsakov's *May Night*, at Sarasota Opera. As a member of Philadelphia's Mum Puppettheater, he toured across the United States and Japan. Tresnjak grew up in Yugoslavia, the United States and Poland. He was educated at Swarthmore College and Columbia University.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 70 years. The Globe produces a year-round season of 14-15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including the highly-regarded Shakespeare Festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, as exemplified by Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, Tina Landau, Nora Ephron and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at the Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Jack O'Brien and Craig Noel and Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, The Old Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting the standard for excellence in American theater.