



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](http://www.theoldglobe.org)

For Immediate Release: October 24, 2005  
Contact: Becky Biegelsen (619) 231-1941, x2352  
[www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org)

## **THE OLD GLOBE ANNOUNCES 2006 SUMMER SEASON**

**GLOBE'S RENOWNED SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL FEATURES  
*A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, OTHELLO AND TITUS ANDRONICUS***

**PULITZER PRIZE-WINNER WENDY WASSERSTEIN'S  
*THE SISTERS ROSENSWEIG* AND WORLD PREMIERE OF *LINCOLNESQUE*  
ROUND OUT SEASON**

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe's Executive Director Louis Spisto and Artistic Director Jack O'Brien are pleased to announce the Theatre's 2006 Summer Season. Three dynamic Shakespeare productions, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Othello* and *Titus Andronicus* – in its debut production at the Globe – will be performed in nightly rotation in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre **June 18 – October 1, 2006**. Darko Tresnjak will once again serve as the Festival's Artistic Director, helming *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Titus Andronicus*. Wendy Wasserstein's Tony-nominated play, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, will run in the Old Globe Theatre **July 15 – August 20, 2006**, and the world premiere of *Lincolnesque*, by John Strand, will play in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage **August 5 – September 10, 2006**.

“We are delighted to present this particularly strong summer season, which follows the enormous success of our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Summer Season. This success is evidenced by significant increases in both subscription and single ticket sales over the previous year, as well as extraordinary critical acclaim for all five plays. The 2006 Shakespeare Festival, along with *The Sisters Rosensweig* and *Lincolnesque*, will build upon past artistic achievements and continue to grow our local, regional and national audience,” said Spisto.

“What a thrill it is to welcome back Darko Tresnjak for his third consecutive year as Artistic Director of The Old Globe Shakespeare Festival,” said O'Brien. These three breathtaking selections – from the fanciful *Midsummer*, to the mesmerizing *Othello*, to the visceral *Titus* – brilliantly show the Bard's incredible gift of language and depth of character. Add to these Wendy Wasserstein's delightful, smart comedy and John Strand's fascinating new play about politics and family, and we've got a summer season that will have audiences leaping to their feet!”

For more information or to subscribe to The Old Globe's 2006 Summer Festival, please contact Globe Ticket Services at (619) 23-GLOBE or visit [www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org).

-- more --

The Shakespeare Festival productions will be performed by a resident acting company comprised of professional actors along with the graduate acting students from The Old Globe/University of San Diego Master of Fine Arts program. The Globe brought back Shakespeare in repertory during the 2004 summer season after a nearly 20-year absence, and the Theatre is thrilled to continue offering this time-honored tradition begun by Globe Founding Director Craig Noel.

The three Shakespeare plays will rotate on a nightly basis, allowing local audiences and tourists multiple opportunities to see three different productions on three consecutive nights. There are also two weekends during the summer when patrons can see all five Globe productions over a Friday/Saturday/Sunday period (August 11-13 and August 18-20).

In *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (June 18 – September 29; press opening: July 5), four young lovers flee the city of Athens to find freedom and happiness in the forest. There they discover a place of enchantment, inhabited by fairies whose mischief only further confuses their affairs. A group of rustics then stumbles onto the scene to rehearse a play, but their plans are interrupted when the impish fairy Puck transforms their friend Bottom into an ass. One of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* evokes a world of wonder, magic and romance, where chaos erupts, lovers are mismatched, and all is reconciled through midsummer night revelries and faith in the power of nature.

Written at the height of Shakespeare's creativity, *Othello* (June 23 – October 1; press opening: July 7) explores the tragedy of a love destroyed by jealousy. Provoked by the lies of the treacherous Iago, who mounts a campaign to poison Othello against his wife Desdemona, Othello begins to mistrust his loyal bride. As his suspicions rise, Othello surrenders to self-doubt, eventually destroying his once-happy marriage. In this much-loved Shakespeare classic, the Bard weaves a bloody tapestry of deception and betrayal where love and honor hang in the balance.

*Titus Andronicus* (June 28 – September 30; press opening: July 9) was the single most popular play in Shakespeare's theatre during his lifetime. Today it is considered one of his bloodiest. Made popular in 1999 with Julie Taymor's acclaimed film version, the play is set in late-imperial Rome, where the Roman general Titus Andronicus has returned triumphant from the Gothic wars. Leading the fallen Goth queen, Tamora, and her sons as prisoners, Titus stumbles into a power struggle between the late emperors' sons Saturninus and Bassianus. Titus fatally backs Saturninus, who promptly turns on the general and marries Tamora. The crimes against Titus' family escalate as his sons are killed and his daughter Lavinia brutally raped by Tamora's sons. Yet for all the violence, Shakespeare's passionate language balances beauty and barbarity, humanity and atrocity.

The Old Globe Theatre will host Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning playwright Wendy Wasserstein's *The Sisters Rosensweig* (July 15 – August 20, 2006; press opening: July 20). This hilarious play tells the story of three brilliant, eccentric Jewish sisters who have come together in London to celebrate the birthday of the eldest, Sara, a successful international banker. When a Brooklyn-born furrier named Mervyn Kant enters the sisters' lives, Sara finds that even at 54 there are possibilities for romance. Nominated for five Tony Awards, this endearing and intelligent play is, as *The New York Times* wrote, "a captivating look at three uncommon women and their quest for love, self-definition and fulfillment."

Making its world premiere in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage is *Lincolnesque* (August 5 – September 10, 2006; press opening: August 10), a new play that shows audiences the intriguing world of Washington election campaigns through the eyes of two brothers: Leo – a speech writer for a struggling congressional candidate; and Francis, an intelligent and passionate individual, who just happens to believe he’s Abraham Lincoln. When Leo begins to use some of Francis’ historical words for inspiration, the level of politics is raised to new heights...but the truth behind Francis’ famous alter ego could be exposed in this touching and funny new play about brotherhood, loyalty and the corruption of politics in America.

Artistic Director of the Globe’s 2004 and 2005 Shakespeare Festivals, **Darko Tresnjak** has directed acclaimed works in the realms of theater, opera and dance. His theater credits include: *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Winter’s Tale*, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Pericles* at The Old Globe, *The Two Noble Kinsmen* at The Public Theater, *Princess Turandot*, *Hotel Universe* at the Blue Light Theater Company, *More Lies About Jerzy* at the Vineyard Theater Company, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *The Winter’s Tale*, *Under Milk Wood*, *Moving Picture*, *The Blue Demon*, *Princess Turandot*, *The Love of Three Oranges* at Williamstown Theater Festival, *Heartbreak House*, *What the Butler Saw*, *Amphitryon*, *The Blue Demon*, at the Huntington Theater Company, *Hay Fever*, *Princess Turandot* at the Westport Country Playhouse, *ROSE Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at the Long Wharf Theater Company, *A Little Night Music* at Goodspeed Musicals, and *La Dispute* at UCSD. His opera credits include *Die Zauberflöte*, Opera Theater of St. Louis, *Orfeo ed Euridice*, *Il Trovatore* and *Turandot* at Virginia Opera, *Turandot*, Opera Carolina, *Die Zauberflöte*, Florentine Opera Company, and *La Traviata*, *Der Fliegende Holländer*, *Die Fledermaus*, and the American premiere of *May Night* at Sarasota Opera. He is the recipient of Alan Schneider Award for Directing Excellence, T.C.G. National Theater Artist Residency Award, Boris Sagal Directing Fellowship, NEA New Forms Grant, two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Individual Artist Fellowships, and a San Diego Critics Circle Award for his direction of PERICLES. He has performed with numerous Philadelphia dance and theater companies and toured across the United States and Japan with the U.N.I.M.A. Award-winning Mum Puppettheatre. Tresnjak was educated at Swarthmore College and Columbia University and teaches acting and directing at UCSD.

# # #

*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 Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan 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 Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.*

*During this 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Winter Season, the Globe is presenting two fascinating world premieres, including Chita Rivera: The Dancer’s Life, an exciting musical biography of the acclaimed actress/singer/dancer, as well as THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’, a thrilling new work by Twyla Tharp set to the music of the legendary Bob Dylan. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O’Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.*