



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

## News

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## OLD GLOBE ANNOUNCES CAST OF 2006 SUMMER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

### **ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR DARKO TRESNJAK RETURNS TO HELM FESTIVAL, WITH *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, OTHELLO* AND *TITUS ANDRONICUS* PERFORMED IN REPERTORY IN LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE**

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to announce the cast of its 2006 Summer Shakespeare Festival, including three of the Bard's best loved works: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Othello* and *Titus Andronicus* to run in nightly rotation in the Globe's beautiful outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre from **June 18 – October 1, 2006**. Nationally renowned director **Darko Tresnjak** will return as Artistic Director of the Festival. Individual tickets to the Shakespeare Festival go on sale on **Sunday, May 14** at noon and are available by phone at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, online at [www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org), or by visiting the Globe Box Office at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park.

The 2006 Shakespeare Company includes: J. Paul Boehmer, Lise Bruneau, Celeste Ciulla, Bayardo DeMurguria, Michael Drummond, Wynn Harmon, Charles Janasz, Julie Jesneck, Leonard Kelly-Young, Karl Kenzler, Michael Newcomer, Owiso Odera, Jonathan Peck, Michael Urie, as well as the students in The Old Globe/USD Professional Actor Training Program: Matt Biedel, Chris Bresky, Chip Brookes, Melissa Condren, Eve Danzeisen, Cara Green, Rhett Henkel, Dan Hodge, Aaron Mikasian, Summer Shirey, Kate Turnbull, David Villalobos and Leah Zhang.

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Tresnjak, opens the Festival, with previews beginning June 18 and the press opening on **Wednesday, July 5**; *Othello*, helmed by acclaimed director **Jesse Berger**, begins previews on June 23 with a press opening of **Friday, July 7**; and *Titus Andronicus*, directed by Tresnjak, begins previews on June 28, with a press opening of **Sunday, July 9**. There are several opportunities throughout the summer to see the three Shakespeare productions on three consecutive nights (weekends in bold), including: July 11-13; July 12-14; **July 14-16**; July 18-20; July 19-21; July 25-27; July 26-28; **July 28-30**; Aug 1-3; Aug 2-4; **Aug 4-6**; Aug 8-10; Aug 9-11; **Aug 11-13**; Aug 15-17; 16-18; **Aug 18-20**; Aug 22-24; Aug 23-25; Aug 29-30; Aug 30-Sept 1; **Sept 1-3**; Sept 5-7; Sept 12-14; Sept 19-21; Sept 20-22; Sept 26-28; Sept 28-30; **Sept 29-Oct 1**. Please visit <http://www.theoldglobe.org/images/productions/06summercalendar.gif> for a complete schedule for the 2006 Summer Season.

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The Globe is thrilled to continue bringing back this time-honored tradition of repertory begun by the Globe's Founding 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. 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. Revived in 2004, the Globe Summer Shakespeare Festival has become one of the most celebrated classical festivals in the country.

As a kick-off to the Shakespeare Festival, the Globe will host a free **Open House on June 17, 2006**, which will include short presentations by the 2006 Shakespeare Festival company, backstage tours, refreshments, family activities, and much more.

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 Saturnius and Bassanius. Titus fatally backs Saturnius, 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 designers for the 2006 Shakespeare Festival include: Ralph Funicello, Set Designer; Linda Cho, Costume Designer for *Othello* and *Titus Andronicus*; Paloma Young, Costume Designer for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; York Kennedy, Lighting Design; Chris Walker, Sound Design; Steve Rankin, Fight Director; Dakin Matthews, Dramaturg, Mary Klinger, Stage Manager, and Tracy Skoczelas and Jenny Slattery, Assistant Stage Managers.

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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*, *Pericles*, *The Two Noble Kinsmen* and *Antony and Cleopatra* 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, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at the Long Wharf Theater Company, *A Little Night Music* at Goodspeed Musicals, and *La Dispute* at UCSD. 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, and San Diego Critics Circle Award for his direction of *The Winter's Tale* and *Pericles*. He was educated at Swarthmore College and Columbia University and he teaches directing at University of California, San Diego.

As Founding Artistic Director of Red Bull Theater in New York, **Jesse Berger** has adapted and directed productions of *Pericles* and *The Revenger's Tragedy*, with both productions receiving critically-acclaimed, twice-extended off-Broadway runs. In New York, Berger has directed at New York Theater Workshop, SoHo Rep, Theaterworks, the Pearl Theatre, Urban Stages and the Lincoln Center Theater Director's Lab. He has also directed regionally at Pittsburgh Public Theater, Washington Shakespeare Company, Theatre J and the Asolo Theatre Company, among others. Highlights include *Marat/Sade* (Helen Hayes Award—Outstanding Director), *The Laramie Project* and *All's Well That Ends Well* with Michael Learned. Berger assistant-directed the Broadway revival of *Gore Vidal's The Best Man*, and was the associate director at The Shakespeare Theatre for three seasons, working on over 15 productions, as well as staging *King Lear* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at the Carter Barron Amphitheater. Berger has been the recipient of a Directing Fellowship from Shakespeare's Globe in London, as well as a grant from the NEA/TCG Program for Directors. He has taught and directed at Bard College, University of Minnesota/Guthrie BFA, Virginia Commonwealth University, Michael Howard Studios and the American Academy of Dramatic Art.

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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 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, John Lithgow and Chita Rivera, 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 Season, the Globe has presented its acclaimed Summer Shakespeare Festival, as well as two more world premieres: Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life, an exciting musical biography of the acclaimed actress/singer/dancer, as well as 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 and Founding Artistic Director Craig Noel, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.*

## Old Globe 2006 Shakespeare Festival Fact Sheet

**WHAT:** Old Globe Shakespeare Festival  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream, Othello and Titus Andronicus* running in nightly rotation

**WHEN:** June 18 – October 1; Performances: Tuesday – Sunday at 8pm  
--*A Midsummer Night's Dream*      Previews: June 18, 20, 21, July 3      *Press Opening: July 5*  
--*Othello*      Previews June 23, 24, 25, July 6      *Press Opening: July 7*  
--*Titus Andronicus*      Previews June 28, 30, July 1, 8      *Press Opening: July 9*

**WHERE:** Lowell Davies Festival Theatre (outdoors)  
The Old Globe, Balboa Park

**TICKETS:** \$19 - \$59; Discounts for students, seniors and active military.

**BOX OFFICE:** (619) 23-GLOBE; [www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org)

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### 2006 Shakespeare Festival Acting Company

<u>Actor</u>	<u>Midsummer</u>	<u>Othello</u>	<u>Titus Andronicus</u>
Matt Biedel (MFA)	<i>Philostrate/Fairy</i>	<i>Montano/Servant</i>	<i>Martius, et al</i>
J. Paul Boehmer	<i>Theseus/Oberon</i>		<i>Lucius</i>
Chris Bresky (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>	<i>2nd Gentleman/Sailor</i>	<i>Quintus, et al</i>
Chip Brookes (MFA)	<i>Snout/Wall</i>	<i>1st Gentleman/Servant</i>	<i>Publius</i>
Lise Bruneau	<i>Hippolyta/Titania</i>	<i>Nurse</i>	
Celeste Ciulla		<i>Emilia</i>	<i>Tamora</i>
Melissa Condren (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>		<i>Lavinia</i>
Eve Danzeisen (MFA)	<i>Hermia</i>		
Bayardo DeMurguria	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>		<i>Soldier</i>
Michael Drummond	<i>Puck</i>		<i>Young Lucius</i>
Cara Green (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>		<i>Tribune/Goth-Cook</i>
Wynn Harmon	<i>Egeus</i>	<i>Lodovico</i>	<i>Saturnius</i>
Rhett Henkel (MFA)		<i>1st Senator/Soldier</i>	<i>Mutius, et al</i>
Dan Hodge (MFA)	<i>Starveling/Moonshine</i>	<i>Gratiano</i>	<i>Tribune/Clown, et al</i>
Charles Janasz	<i>Peter Quince</i>	<i>Duke</i>	<i>Marcus</i>
Julie Jesneck	<i>Helena</i>	<i>Desdemona</i>	
Leonard Kelly-Young		<i>Brabantio</i>	<i>Titus</i>
Karl Kenzler		<i>Iago</i>	<i>Bassanius</i>
Aaron Misakian (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>	<i>Sailor/Soldier</i>	<i>Tribune/Emilius</i>
Michael A. Newcomer	<i>Snug/Lion</i>	<i>Cassio</i>	<i>Demetrius</i>
Owiso Odera	<i>Lysander</i>	<i>U/S Othello</i>	<i>Aaron</i>
Jonathan Peck	<i>Bottom</i>	<i>Othello</i>	
Summer Shirey (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>		<i>Bianca</i>
Kate Turnbull (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>		<i>Tribune/Goth-Cook</i>
Michael Urie	<i>Flute/Thisby</i>	<i>Roderigo</i>	<i>Chiron</i>
David Villalobos (MFA)	<i>Demetrius</i>	<i>2nd Senator/Soldier</i>	<i>Alarbus/Henchman</i>
Leah Zhang (MFA)	<i>Servant/Fairy</i>		<i>Tribune/Goth-Cook</i>