



For Immediate Release: May 19, 2008  
Contact: Becky Biegelsen (619) 231-1941  
[www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org)

## **THE OLD GLOBE ANNOUNCES 2008/9 SEASON**

**GLOBE SEASON FEATURES TWO WORLD PREMIERES AND A  
LARGE-SCALE REVIVAL OF CLARE BOOTH LUCE'S THE WOMEN**

**FOUR PRODUCTIONS TO RUN AT NEWLY-CREATED ARENA STAGE  
AT SDMA'S COPLEY AUDITORIUM DURING CONSTRUCTION  
OF NEW GLOBE FACILITIES**

### **CORNELIA**

**WORLD-PREMIERE FOCUSING ON RISE AND FALL OF POLITICAL POWERHOUSE COUPLE:  
GEORGE AND CORNELIA WALLACE**

### **THE WOMEN**

**CLARE BOOTHE LUCE'S HILARIOUS, WICKED COMMENTARY ON 1930S MANHATTAN SOCIALITES  
FEATURING 16 ACTRESSES AND OVER 100 COSTUMES**

### **BACK BACK BACK**

**WORLD PREMIERE BY ITAMAR MOSES (THE FOUR OF US) EXPLORING STEROID USE IN  
PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL**

### **GLOBE ALSO PRESENTS:**

**REVIVAL OF JOHN GUARE'S CLASSIC BROADWAY SMASH SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION  
WEST COAST PREMIERE OF OPUS, ABOUT THE LIVES OF WORLD-FAMOUS STRING QUARTET  
NEW PRODUCTION OF TOUCHING DRAMA, SINCE AFRICA, DIRECTED BY SEEMA SUEKO  
CONTINUATION OF "CLASSICS UP CLOSE" SERIES WITH ARTHUR MILLER'S THE PRICE**

**PLUS: 11<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF SAN DIEGO'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY TRADITION:  
DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!**

San Diego – Louis Spisto, Executive Producer of the Tony Award®-winning Old Globe, is pleased to announce the Theatre's 2008-2009 Winter Season. In the Old Globe Theatre, a large-scale revival of **Clare Boothe Luce's *The Women*** (September 13 – October 26, 2008), directed by Resident Artistic Director **Darko Tresnjak** will launch the season. This timely presentation coincides with the new, contemporary film version of the work coming out this fall, and will highlight the work of the Globe's renowned scenic and costume departments in a lavish, grand-scale production.

Next up in the Old Globe will be one of the most important and respected plays of the last two decades: **John Guare's *Six Degrees of Separation*** (January 10 – February 15, 2009). Directed by **Trip Cullman** (*The Injured Party*), Guare's masterpiece was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and became a major motion picture starring Will Smith, Stockard Channing and Donald Sutherland. The Globe stage will also host the world premiere of ***Cornelia*** (May 16 – June 21, 2009), a new play that takes a fascinating and well-timed look at the rise and fall of one of America's most powerful political couples. *Cornelia* is written by **Mark Olsen**, creator of HBO's "Big Love," and directed by frequent guest director **Ethan McSweeney**, who recently helmed the Theatre's critically-acclaimed productions of *In This Corner* and *A Body of Water*. An additional production (March 6 – April 26), expected to be a musical, will be announced.

While construction takes place on the Globe's new facilities over the next 18 months, the organization will present its upcoming second stage productions on a newly-created arena stage, located next door at the San Diego Museum of Art's James S. Copley Auditorium. The temporary space will retain the similar intimate and engaging theatrical environment of the former Cassius Carter Centre Stage.

On tap for the arena stage will be another world premiere – ***Back Back Back*** (September 19 – October 26, 2008) – by **Itamar Moses** (*The Four of Us*), who, at a very young age, has already been established as an important new playwright. Directed by **Davis McCallum**, this new work deals with three professional baseball players, their relationships, and steroid use in a humorous and thought-provoking manner. Following *Back Back Back* comes ***Since Africa*** (January 24 – March 8, 2009), by **Mia McCullough**, directed by **Seema Sueko** (*The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*). Previously mounted by Mo'olelo Theater Company, this poignant play about a young Sudanese man's journey from refugee camp to urban Chicago will have the Globe's full resources behind it in a completely new production. Next will be the west coast premiere of ***Opus*** (March 21 – April 26, 2009), by **Michael Hollinger**, directed by **Kyle Donnelly** (*Orson's Shadow, A Midsummer Night's Dream*), which gives audiences a rare look at the personal lives and loves of four renowned classical musicians, imbued with the famous string quartets of Beethoven, Mozart and others. Rounding out the season will be the Globe's "Classics Up Close" selection: ***The Price*** (May 9 – June 14, 2009), **Arthur Miller's** celebrated work about family legacies, directed by longstanding Director of The Old Globe/USD Master of Fine Arts Program **Richard Seer**, well known to audiences from his acclaimed production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Da, All My Sons* and *Old Wicked Songs*.

"The 2008/9 Season represents the perfect balance of world premieres, classic revivals and new plays that once again demonstrates the Globe's commitment to the art form, the industry's leading artists, and most importantly, our San Diego audiences," said Spisto. "Once again we have the opportunity to present important new voices alongside the works of Arthur Miller, Clare Boothe Luce and John Guare, arguably three of the greatest playwrights of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. With this extensive variety of productions – from intimate plays to large-scale works that require substantial resources, such as *The Women* and *Six Degrees of Separation* – we endeavor to bring our audiences a season that is both entertaining and thought-provoking, while illustrating our capacity as one of the nation's leading producing theatres." Spisto went on to say, "We are particularly pleased that Darko Tresnjak will be helming *The Women* this fall. As Resident Artistic Director, Darko was extremely eager to bring our audiences a work that he is so passionate about and that will benefit from his approach as we launch the new Winter Season."

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“I’d like to add a tremendous thank you to the San Diego Museum of Art for their assistance in allowing us to present our second stage season uninterrupted,” Spisto continued. “Without their support, we wouldn’t have been able to mount these productions during construction of the Conrad Prebys Theatre Center. The new Prebys complex, which will house the Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre, our new arena stage; the Karen and Donald Cohn Education Center; and Hattox Hall, was made possible by our capital campaign, led by a magnanimous \$20 million gift from Donald and Darlene Shiley. This vibrant new facility will be completed by Globe’s 75th anniversary in 2010.”

For more information or to subscribe to The Old Globe’s 2008/9 Winter Season, please contact Globe Ticket Services at **(619) 23-GLOBE** or **www.TheOldGlobe.org**.

Subscriptions are also available for the Globe’s 2008 Summer Season, including the renowned **Shakespeare Festival**, featuring *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *All’s Well That Ends Well* playing in nightly rotation in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre June 14 – September 28; *The Pleasure of His Company*, by Samuel Taylor and Cornelia Otis Skinner, directed by Darko Tresnjak, playing in the Old Globe Theatre July 12 – August 17; and the intriguing *Sight Unseen*, by Donald Margulies, directed by Esther Emery, playing in the Globe’s arena stage at the San Diego Museum of Art’s James S. Copley Auditorium August 2 – September 7.

### **The Old Globe’s 2008/2009 Winter Season**

#### Old Globe Theatre

#### ***The Women***

By Clare Boothe Luce

Directed by Darko Tresnjak

September 13 – October 26, 2008; Press Opening: September 21 at 7pm

One of the most witty and stylish American comedies of all time, *The Women* offers an acidic commentary on the pampered lives and power struggles of a group of wealthy Manhattan socialites. Mary Haines’ society girlfriends know a secret about her husband, and between the beauty parlors, the department stores and the dinner parties, something’s sure to slip. Claire Boothe Luce’s dishy, decadent 1936 classic comes to vivid life on the Old Globe stage in a major, large-scale production, as these sophisticated ladies use every weapon in their arsenal to fight for love, happiness and personal dignity.

#### ***Six Degrees of Separation***

By John Guare

Directed by Trip Cullman

January 10 – February 15, 2009; Press Opening: January 15 at 8pm

This Pulitzer Prize finalist and Olivier Award-winning play is a fascinating and compassionate commentary on what drives people: the desire for money, fame, social standing, comfort, and a desire for meaningful human connection. Based on an actual incident when a man gained access to the homes of upper-class New Yorkers by pretending to be the son of actor Sidney Poitier, *Six Degrees of Separation* centers on art dealers Ouisa and Flan Kittredge and the young man who disrupts, and possibly enriches, their privileged, Upper East Side lives.

**TBA** (March 6 – April 26, 2009)

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***Cornelia***

By Mark Olsen

Directed by Ethan McSweeney

May 16 – June 21, 2009; Press Opening: May 21 at 8pm

**World Premiere**

From the creator of the hit HBO series “Big Love” comes an epic slice of history centering on 1970s Alabama politics. Beautiful, divorced beauty queen Cornelia Folsom is a force of nature who works her way into the heart of Governor George Wallace. Together they plan to take over the state and then the White House until an assassination attempt halts his presidential campaign. But no obstacle is too great for Cornelia to overcome, as she secretly harbors her own political ambitions amidst a hostile campaign staff, her rarely sober mother, and southern shenanigans in this sweeping, provocative tale of sex, power, and bare-knuckled American politics.

Globe’s Arena Stage at SD Museum of Art’s James S. Copley Auditorium

***Back Back Back***

By Itamar Moses

Directed by Davis McCallum

September 19 – October 26, 2008; Press Opening: September 25 at 8pm

**World Premiere**

Before the headlines blazed with sporting steroid scandals comes Itamar Moses’ (*The Four of Us, Bach at Leipzig*) funny yet insightful new work about the careers of three major players making their way in the world of professional baseball – a world too competitive to rely only on raw talent. The play examines how each individual deals with the stress of keeping up their stats while balancing their personal and professional lives. This award-winning playwright brings the Globe another world-premiere production that takes audiences inside the locker room to witness the how these teammates face each other and do battle – for their careers, their legacies, and the future of America’s favorite pastime.

***Since Africa***

By Mia McCullough

Directed by Seema Sueko

January 24 – March 8, 2009; Press Opening: January 29 at 8pm

Directed by Seema Sueko, Artistic Director of the critically-acclaimed Mo’olelo Theatre, *Since Africa* is the story of Ater – a “Lost Boy of Sudan,” and the two volunteers who try to help him acclimate to life in urban America: Diane, a recently widowed socialite, and Reggie, an African-American Deacon in the Catholic Church. As Ater tries to leave his past behind him and forge a new life in a new land, he is mystified by American ideas of art, ritual, and family. At the same time Diane and Reggie must come to grips with their own personal tragedies, and as their lives clash and tangle, they all confront difficult questions about identity, loss, ritual, and grief.

*Since Africa* will also have an educational outreach component in conjunction with the Southeastern San Diego community where the Globe’s new Technical Center is located. Working with organizations and schools in the area, the Globe will host several free student matinees for the production with in-classroom workshops presented by Globe Teaching Artists. The Old Globe will also offer a special after-school theatre and literacy program for refugee and immigrant youth that draws on the themes explored in the play.

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### ***Opus***

By Michael Hollinger

Directed by Kyle Donnelly

March 21 – April 26, 2009; Press Opening: March 26 at 8pm

### **West Coast Premiere**

A world-renowned string quartet struggles to prepare for high-profile performance at the White House when their brilliant but unstable violist mysteriously disappears. When they hire a gifted young woman as a replacement, the rehearsal room becomes a pressure cooker as passions rise, personalities clash and the musicians contend with the evanescent nature of their life's work. But no opus will ever be as complex or compelling as the offstage travails of these five extraordinary individuals, as they wrestle with feuds, ambition, mortality, and their passion for the music.

### ***The Price***

By Arthur Miller

Directed by Richard Seer

May 9 – June 14, 2009; Press Opening: May 14 at 8pm

The Old Globe's acclaimed "Classics Up Close" series continues with this deeply moving drama by Pulitzer Prize-winner Arthur Miller (*All My Sons, Death of a Salesman*). *The Price* tells the story of two brothers who reunite after sixteen years to sell off the remains of their family's possessions. Along with the old furniture are memories of choices the two brothers made when their father's fortunes crumbled during the Depression. One gave up his education and became a policeman to support his ailing father. The other left his family and went on to become a successful doctor. As they try to arrive at a price from an eccentric antiques dealer, they are forced to settle up in more ways than one as each man reexamines his life and uncovers family secrets.

### **Holiday Offering**

#### **Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!***

Book and Lyrics by Timothy Mason; Music by Mel Marvin

Directed by Jack O'Brien

Old Globe Theatre

November 15 – December 28, 2008; Press Opening: November 20 at 7:30pm

America's favorite holiday fable, back for its 11<sup>th</sup> joyous year, is a wonderful, whimsical production that will once again jump right off the pages of the classic Dr. Seuss book and onto the Old Globe stage. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* has been hailed by critics: "This *Grinch* is a smash," wrote the *L.A. Times*, while the *San Diego Union-Tribune* raved, "Jack O'Brien scaled this Globe holiday show to the heartfelt humanity of the season." Come take part in the fun as the Globe is transformed into snow-covered *Who*-ville right down to the last can of *Who*-hash!

### **MFA Production**

#### ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***

By William Shakespeare

November 8 – 16, 2008

Arena Stage at SDMA's James S. Copley Auditorium

One of the Bard'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. A joint venture of The Old Globe and the University of San Diego, the Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Arts program recruits seven students each year from around the country, to participate in an intensive two-year year-round course of graduate study in classical theater. With only a 2% acceptance rate, the program has become one of the most competitive MFA programs in the country. For more information, please visit [www.globemfa.org](http://www.globemfa.org).

## Artist Biographies

**Trip Cullman (Director: *Six Degrees of Separation*)** most recently directed South Coast Repertory's critically-acclaimed world premiere of Richard Greenberg's *The Injured Party*. He has directed numerous acclaimed off-Broadway plays, including *The Drunken City* and *Manic Flight Reaction* at Playwrights Horizons, Terrence McNally's *Some Men* at Second Stage Theatre, *The Wooden Brecks* at the Lucille Lortel Theatre; *Dog Sees God* and *Last Sunday in June* at Century Center for the Performing Arts, and *Roulette* at the John Houseman Theatre. His regional credits include *The Petersons Project* and Keith Huff's *A Steady Rain* at New York Stage & Film, and Lauren Weedman's *Rash* at the Empty Space Theatre, Seattle. Cullman trained at the Yale School of Drama and is an Associate Artist at The Play Company.

**Kyle Donnelly (Director: *Opus*)** directed the Globe's productions of *Orson's Shadow* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Recent credits include Lisa Kron's *Well* at Arena Stage, where she previously served as Associate Artistic Director from 1992 to 1998 and directed such productions as *She Loves Me*, *Born Yesterday*, *Tom Walker*, *The Women, Lovers and Executioners*, *The Miser*, *Molly Sweeney*, *A Small World*, *Dancing at Lughnasa* (winner of Helen Hayes Award for Best Production), *Summer and Smoke*, *A Month in the Country*, *The School for Wives*, *Misalliance*, *Polk County* (Helen Hayes Award for Best New Musical) and others. She directed the American premiere of Brian Friel's *Give Me Your Answer, Do!* for Roundabout Theatre and worked at Williamstown Theatre Festival, Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Huntington Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Seattle Rep, McCarter Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, and many other regional theaters around the country. She founded her own acting studio called the Actors' Center in Chicago which was a leading training center for actors in that city. She is a faculty member of UCSD's Department of Theatre and Dance, a member of SSDC and winner of the Alan Schneider award from TCG.

Celebrated American dramatist **John Guare (Playwright: *Six Degrees of Separation*)** wrote his first play, *Universe*, at the age of eleven. Educated at Georgetown and Yale, Guare gained his first success with the off-Broadway play *Muzeeka*, for which he won an Obie Award. In 1971 he wrote the Tony Award-nominated *House of Blue Leaves*, a semi-autobiographical play, which firmly established Guare's unique vision. His other works include *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Rich and Famous*, *The Landscape of the Body*, *Bosoms and Neglect*. His *Six Degrees of Separation* won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Dramatists Guild Hull-Warriner Award and the Olivier Best Play Award.

**Michael Hollinger's (Playwright: *Opus*)** plays include *An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Boeuf*, *Red Herring*, *Tiny Island*, *Tooth and Claw* and *Incorruptible*. His Arden Theatre production of *Opus* was nominated for seven Barrymore Awards, winning for Outstanding New Play. *Opus* also received a 2007 Harold and Mimi Steinberg New Play Citation from the American Theatre Critics Association. He has written seven touring plays for young audiences, as well as numerous short works. For PBS, he has scripted three short films and co-authored the feature-length *Philadelphia Diary*. Other awards include the Roger L. Stevens Award from the Kennedy Center's Fund for New American Plays, the F. Otto Haas Award for an Emerging Theatre Artist, a Mid-Atlantic Emmy Award, the Frederick Loewe Award for Musical Theatre, a commission from the EST/Sloan Science and Technology Project, and fellowships from the Independence Foundation, Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, and Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Hollinger is a resident playwright of New Dramatists and Assistant Professor of Theatre at Villanova University.

**Clare Boothe Luce (Playwright: *The Women*)** was an editor, playwright, social activist, congresswoman, journalist, and ambassador. A prominent figure in New York society circles, Luce was known for her skill with satire and understatement, as well as her charm, which she displayed with such oft-quoted aphorisms as "No good deed goes unpunished." Her first play, *Abide with Me*, a psychological drama about an abusive husband and his terrified wife, opened on Broadway in 1935. *The Women* was immensely popular with the public, ran for 657 performances and was adapted for the screen by MGM in 1939. Her other works include, *Kiss the Boys Goodbye*, *Margin of Error*, *Child of the Morning* and *Slam the Door Softly*. In 1949, she wrote the Academy Award-nominated screenplay for *Come to the Stable* and in 1952, she edited the book *Saints for Now*, a compilation of essays about various saints written by various well-known authors including Evelyn Waugh, Bruce Marshall and Rebecca West.

**Davis McCallum's (Director: *Back, Back, Back*)** credits include *The Belle's Stratagem* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, *Unbound: The Journals of Fanny Kemble* at the Prospect Theatre Company, Jeffrey Hatcher's adaptation of *The Turn of the Screw* at The Acting Company, Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice* at the New York Stage & Film, *Cyrano de Bergerac* at the Georgia Shakespeare Festival, *Landscape of the Body* for NYU's Graduate Acting Program, *Twelfth Night* for Shenandoah Shakespeare, Noah Haidle's *The Dakota Project* at HERE, and Chuck Mee's *Big Love* for Princeton University, where he is a member of the theater faculty. In 2003, he was the Killian Directing Fellow at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, where he directed Adam Bock's *The Thugs*. He is a Drama League Directing Fellow and a member of the Lincoln Center Directors' Lab. McCallum trained at LAMDA and studied at Princeton and Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

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**Mia McCullough (Playwright: *Since Africa*)** received the ATCA Osborn Award, a Joseph Jefferson Citation for Best New Work, first prize in the Julie Harris Playwriting Competition, and a Cincinnati Entertainment Award for Best Production for her play *Chagrin Falls*. Her play *Since Africa*, which was commissioned by Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival, was a finalist for the 2005 Susan Smith Blackburn Award. Her plays have been produced at Chicago Dramatists, Stage Left Theatre, Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival, Actor's Express in Atlanta, Steppenwolf, and InterAct in Philadelphia. Mia is a resident playwright at Chicago Dramatists, and a member of Stage Left Theatre and The Dramatists Guild. She has taught playwriting at Chicago Dramatists and Northwestern University.

**Ethan McSweeney (Director: *Cornelia*)** directed the Globe's acclaimed productions of *In This Corner* and *A Body of Water* (San Diego Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Direction). New York credits include the Broadway production of Gore Vidal's *The Best Man* (2001 Tony Award nomination, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards for Best Revival); John Logan's *Never the Sinner* (Outer Critics Circle Award); Willy Holtzman's *Sabina* at Primary Stages; and Aeschylus' *The Persians* (with Roberta Maxwell and Len Cariou) at National Actors Theatre. His regional credits include *All My Sons* at Chautauqua Theater Company, where he serves as Co-Artistic Director; the world-premiere of *Mr. Marmalade* at South Coast Repertory (2005 OCIE Award, Best Production); *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* at Westport Playhouse; Lee Blessing's *A Walk in the Woods*, *Dirty Blonde*, *Ctrl+Alt+Delete*, *Old Times* and *Master Class* at George Street Playhouse, where he served as Associate Artistic Director (2000-2004), *Dirty Blonde* at the Wilma Theatre; *Ctrl+Alt+Delete* (world premiere) at San Jose Repertory Theatre; *Wit* at Pittsburgh Public Theater; *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* at the Alley Theatre; *Hydriotaphia* at Berkeley Repertory Theatre; *Mad About the Bard* (co-written with Floyd King) at the Folger Theatre; *Twelfth Night*, *Julius Caesar* (tour), as well as assistant director for more than 20 productions at The Shakespeare Theatre (Associate Director, 1993-97); numerous readings and workshops of new plays and musicals at the Cape Cod Theatre Project (artistic advisory board), the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, Manhattan Theatre Club (6 @ 6), The Public Theater (New Work Now!), South Coast Repertory (Pacific Playwrights Festival), The Kennedy Center (New American Plays), The Playwrights' Center (PlayLabs 2004) and New Dramatists (resident director, 2001-2).

For more than half a century **Arthur Miller (Playwright: *The Price*)** has stood as one of America's quintessential playwrights. He has received countless awards for his contributions to the theatre, including four Tony Awards®, including a special award for Lifetime Achievement, an Obie Award, an Olivier Award, the George Foster Peabody Award, the Kennedy Center Honors Lifetime Achievement Award, the Lucille Lortel Lifetime Achievement Award, and a Drama Desk Award for Lifetime Achievement. Born in New York City in 1915, his plays include *The Man Who Had All the Luck* (1944), *All My Sons* (1947), *Death of a Salesman* (1949), *The Crucible* (1953), *A View from the Bridge* (1955), *A Memory of Mondays* (1955), *After the Fall* (1964), *The Price* (1968), *The Creation of the World and Other Business* (1972), *The American Clock* (1980), *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan* (1991), *The Last Yankee* (1993), and *Broken Glass* (1994), *Resurrection Blues* (which ran at the Globe in 2004), among others. Miller has also written several screenplays, including *The Misfits*, *Everybody Wins*, *Playing for Time* (for television), and the recent adaptation of *The Crucible*, for which he received an Academy Award nomination. His books include *Situation Normal*, *Focus*, *In Russia*, *Chinese Encounters*, *Salesman in Beijing* and his acclaimed memoir *Timebends*.

**Itamar Moses' (Playwright: *Back, Back, Back*)** is the author of the full-length plays *The Four of Us* (San Diego Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Play), *Outrage*, *Bach at Leipzig*, *Celebrity Row*, *Yellowjackets*, and *Completeness*, and various short plays and one-acts. His work has appeared Off Broadway and elsewhere in New York, at regional theatres across the country and in Canada, and has been published by Faber & Faber, Heinemann Press, Playscripts Inc., and Vintage. He has received new play commissions from The McCarter Theater, Playwrights Horizons, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, The Wilma Theater, and Manhattan Theatre Club. Itamar holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU and has taught playwriting at Yale and NYU. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild, MCC Playwrights Coalition, Naked Angels Writers Group, and is a New York Theatre Workshop Usual Suspect.

Co-creator of HBO's hit series "Big Love," **Mark Olsen (Playwright: *Cornelia*)** has also written HBO's miniseries, "Mary Chestnut's Civil War," based on the private lives of Confederate elite and their slaves in Virginia during the Civil War, as well as the screenplay for HBO Films' "Cabrini USA," about the 40-year rise and fall of the Cabrini Green housing project in Chicago. In addition, Olsen has written screenplay adaptations including "The Woman Next Door" (from Francois Truffaut's 1981 film, "La Femme d'a Cote"). He also produced the independent feature "Easter" with his "Big Love" co-creator Will Scheffer, and wrote the script "Gospel of Linda," optioned by Regent Films. Olsen is also an attorney and member of the New York Bar.

**Richard Seer (Director: *The Price*)** directed The Old Globe's acclaimed productions of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Trying*, *Vincent in Brixton*, *Fiction*, *Blue/Orange*, *All My Sons*, *Da* and *Old Wicked Songs*. He has served as Director of the Globe/University of San Diego Master of Fine Arts Program since 1993. He has directed or performed in over 60 productions at theaters in this country and Great Britain, including The Goodman Theater, The Kennedy Center, The Stratford Shakespeare Festival, The Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Huntington Theater Company, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and the Sybil Thorndike Repertory Theatre in England, among others. In 1985, he received Boston's prestigious Kahn Award for directing, and became Associate Artistic Director of the American Festival Theater in 1988. Other recent directorial credits include *Third* at the Huntington Theatre, *Much Ado About Nothing* for Shakespeare Santa Cruz, *Misalliance* and *The Man Who Came To Dinner* for CenterRep in Walnut Creek. Prior to his current appointment at the Globe, he was an Associate Professor of acting and directing at Boston University's School for the Arts, where he received his Master of Fine Arts degree in directing a decade earlier.

**Globe Executive Producer Lou Spisto** has served as Executive Director of The Old Globe since October, 2002. During his tenure, Spisto spearheaded the return of the Globe's Shakespeare Repertory Season and brought to the Globe several new musicals, including the recent critically-acclaimed John Doyle and Harvey Fierstein collaboration, *A Catered Affair*, the launch of the national tour of the Tony Award-winning *Avenue Q* and the Broadway transfers *Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life*, the Twyla Tharp/Bob Dylan musical, *THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'*. He has produced over 75 plays and musicals, including *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, the west coast premiere of the Tony Award-winning play *Take Me Out* and the Globe's annual holiday favorite, *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*. Lou is a board member and treasurer of The National Alliance of Musical Theatre. Spisto has managed the Globe's Capital Campaign, launched in March 2006, to raise \$75 million by the Theatre's 75th anniversary in 2010. The campaign has reached 75% of its goal to date, including a \$20 million gift from Donald and Darlene Shiley, a \$10 million gift from Conrad Prebys, and a \$1.6 million grant from the California Cultural and Historical Endowment. During the past four seasons, the organization has grown its subscription audience an unprecedented amount, countering a trend in the non-profit theatre industry, resulting in the highest level of attendance in over a decade. The Globe was also recognized by Charity Navigator, America's premiere charity evaluator, which recently gave the Globe its third consecutive 4-Star rating (for sound fiscal management and funds dedicated to the program vs. overhead), a distinction achieved by only 9% of the charities rated. A strong advocate of arts education, Spisto initiated several new programs including an innovative cross-border program involving students from both San Diego and Tijuana in a unique bilingual production of *Romeo and Juliet*. He also launched a free matinee series which brings thousands of students to the Globe's main stage productions. Spisto established a reputation as a superb arts executive here in California, where he spent over ten years as the Executive Director of the Pacific Symphony Orchestra in Orange County. During his tenure there, he tripled the orchestra's annual budget, all while eliminating a prior deficit and successfully completing the orchestra's first endowment campaign. In addition, he established a series of innovative recording projects with Sony Classical and oversaw a number of nationally recognized commissioning projects. He also served as the chief executive at both American Ballet Theatre and The Detroit Symphony. He holds a Masters degree from the University of Wisconsin in Arts Administration and a Bachelors of Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame, and spent many years directing, producing and as an actor in plays and musicals throughout his college and graduate school years, as well as in professional summer theatre.

**Seema Sueko (Director, *Since Africa*)** appeared in the Globe's acclaimed 2004 production of *The Intelligent Design* of Jenny Chow (KPBS Patti Award). Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company, Sueko directed Mo'olelo's 2006 award-winning production of *Since Africa*, as well as *The Adoption Project: Triad*. Her acting credits include Connie in *A Chorus Line* at Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre, Mrs. Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* at San Diego Repertory Theatre, and *The Phoenician Women* at NYC's Ohio Theatre. She is a three-time winner of the Chicago "Jeff Citation" Award for her performances in the world premiere of Rebecca Gilman's *The Crime of the Century*, *The Waiting Room*, and *A Piece of my Heart*. She received the "McDonald Playwriting" Patti Award and the Anti-Discrimination Committee's "Artistic and Cultural Achievement Award" for her script and Mo'olelo's inaugural show, *remains*. Sueko was commissioned by Mixed Blood Theatre in Minneapolis to co-write *Messy Utopia*, which received the Ivey Award in 2007, and was recently commissioned by Mixed Blood again to write a play for young audiences on the theme of Islam in America. Seema holds an MA in International Relations from the University of Chicago, is a member of Actors' Equity Association, and was named one of the "50 People to Watch in 2005" by San Diego Magazine.

Artistic Director of the Globe's 2004-2008 Shakespeare Festivals, **Darko Tresnjak's** (Director, *The Women*) directorial credits at the Globe include: *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Titus Andronicus*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Bell, Book and Candle*. Earlier this year he directed *The Merchant of Venice at Theatre* for a New Audience, a production that traveled to the Royal Shakespeare Company's Complete Works Festival. Other credits include *All's Well That Ends Well* at Theatre for a New Audience; *The Two Noble Kinsmen* at The Public Theatre; *Princess Turandot* and *Hotel Universe* at 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* and *The Love of Three Oranges* at Williamstown Theatre Festival; *Heartbreak House*, *What the Butler Saw*, *Amphitryon* and *The Blue Demon* at the Huntington Theatre; *Hay Fever* and *Princess Turandot* at Westport Country Playhouse; *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at Long Wharf Theater; *A Little Night Music*, *Amour* at Goodspeed Opera House; and *La Dispute*, UCSD. Other directing credits include productions at Florida Grand Opera, Opera Theater of St. Louis, Virginia Opera, Florentine Opera Company, and the American premiere of Rimsky-Korsakov's *May Night* at Sarasota Opera. Upcoming projects include *The Dwarf* and *The Broken Jug* for Los Angeles Opera's "Recovered Voices" series and *Antony and Cleopatra* at Theatre for a New Audience. He is the recipient of the Alan Schneider Award for Directing Excellence, TCG National Theater Artist Residency Award, Boris Sagal Directing Fellowship, NEA New Forms Grant, two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Individual Artist Fellowships, San Diego Critics Circle Awards for his direction of *Pericles* and *The Winter's Tale*, and Patté Awards for his direction of *The Winter's Tale* and *Titus Andronicus*. He has performed with numerous Philadelphia dance and theater companies and toured across the United States and Japan with the UNIMA Award-winning Mum Puppettheatre. 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 theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 72 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 theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan 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.*

*The Globe's 2008 Summer Season includes the renowned Summer Shakespeare Festival, featuring Romeo and Juliet, The Merry Wives of Windsor and All's Well That Ends Well playing in repertory; The Pleasure of His Company; and Donald Margulies' Sight Unseen. Under the leadership of Executive Producer Louis G. Spisto and Resident Artistic Director Darko Tresnjak, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.*