



**GLOBE  
EDUCATION**

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**SUBJECT: Adam Matthew and Shakespeare's Globe announce landmark digitisation project of world-renowned theatre archive**

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**DATE: 4 August 2016**

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Adam Matthew and Shakespeare's Globe are delighted to announce their collaboration on a landmark digital project - ***Shakespeare's Globe: Performances and Practices***. The project will see the digitisation of the majority of Shakespeare's Globe's archives, preserved since its opening in 1997. The collection will include an array of essential material for the study of Shakespeare, literature, theatre and performance, and will publish in Spring 2019, celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Globe's founder, Sam Wanamaker, born in June 1919.

**Khal Rudin, Managing Director of Adam Matthew**, said, *'Education is at the heart of Shakespeare's Globe and we're very excited to have been chosen to digitise their vitally important archive, providing the global academic community with the opportunity to access it online.'*

American film director and actor, Wanamaker, fought for 23 years to reconstruct the Globe Theatre in London, sadly not living to witness it opening in 1997. Extensive scholarly research sought to reconstruct the theatre with all details as close as possible to the original theatre of 1599.

Shakespeare's Globe has its own research programme and academic faculty with an unparalleled scholarly resource of material relating to early music, theatre history, historical dress, props and the Globe's performance history, much of which will be documented in the new collection. Shakespeare's Globe has kept a remarkably detailed archive which, as well as documenting every performance, also includes designs and plans for the reconstruction of The Globe Theatre.

***Shakespeare's Globe: Performances and Practices*** will include:

- **Prompt books**, containing key staging information from directors, actors and backstage crew.
- Wardrobe bibles, including **photographs, sketches and preliminary costume ideas**.
- **Music files**, showing musical stage direction and content for productions.
- **Audience reports**, including details such as weather, how well the play was received and numbers of 'fainters'.
- **Performance programmes**.



- **Event folders**, detailing numerous events held both before Shakespeare's Globe was constructed and since.
- Photographs, covering **productions, events and the theatres**.
- **Architectural research notes and drawings**, detailing the new indoor and outdoor theatres.

**Dr Farah Karim-Cooper, Globe Education's Head of Higher Education and Research**, commented, '*This project has come at a perfect time not only in the Globe's life but also in the life of academic research, which is increasingly preoccupied with performance history and practice. We couldn't be more thrilled that Adam Matthew will make it possible for scholars and students around the world to engage directly with the material history of Shakespeare's Globe*'.

The next major capital development and final stage in the realisation of Sam Wanamaker's vision for the Globe, Project Prospero, will see a fully integrated campus on Bankside enabling scholars, audiences and the general public to engage at every level with Shakespeare's work. The new building will include the Globe Library, new production facilities, new rehearsal and education studios and a new Exhibition.

As part of a growing list of theatre studies titles from Adam Matthew, which already includes: *Eighteenth Century Drama: Censorship, Society and the Stage*, and *Shakespeare in Performance: Prompt Books* from the Folger Shakespeare Library, this project will provide students and scholars with unrivalled behind-the-scenes access to the world's most famous theatre.

Institutions can register their interest in *Shakespeare's Globe: Performances and Practices* with Adam Matthew now.

## **ENDS**

For further information please contact Jo Philpotts [jo.p@shakespearesglobe.com](mailto:jo.p@shakespearesglobe.com) 07775 895680

### **Shakespeare's Globe**

- **Globe Education** is the dedicated education department at Shakespeare's Globe. Established in 1989 by Patrick Spottiswoode, Director, it is today one of the most respected and largest arts education departments in the country welcoming over 120,000 students a year, presenting a 12-month programme of workshops, lectures, events and family theatre, UK and international outreach projects for schools and learning groups, Higher Education courses, pioneering digital resources and original research led by in-house academics. For more information visit [shakespearesglobe.com/education](http://shakespearesglobe.com/education)
- **Shakespeare's Globe** is a unique international resource dedicated to the exploration of Shakespeare's work and the playhouses for which he wrote, through the connected means of performance and education. Together, the Globe Theatre, Globe Exhibition & Tour and Globe Education seek to further the experience and international understanding of Shakespeare in performance.



- **Globe Theatre:** Under the leadership of Artistic Director Dominic Dromgoole since 2006, the Globe Theatre has gained an international reputation for world-class Shakespeare, welcoming 600,000 visitors annually. In April 2016, Emma Rice becomes the new Artistic Director. Her inaugural season will open with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* followed by *The Taming of the Shrew* directed by Caroline Byrne and *Macbeth* directed by Iqbal Khan. For more information visit [shakespearesglobe.com/whats-on](http://shakespearesglobe.com/whats-on)
- **Globe Exhibition & Tour** is open to the public all year and explores the life of Shakespeare, the London where he lived, and the theatre for which he wrote. For more information visit [shakespearesglobe.com/exhibition](http://shakespearesglobe.com/exhibition)
- **The Sam Wanamaker Playhouse:** The candlelit Jacobean theatre at Shakespeare's Globe opened in January 2014. The Playhouse hosts concerts and other events throughout the summer, with the main indoor theatre season running October to April.
- **The Shakespeare Globe Trust** is a registered charity No. 266916. Shakespeare's Globe receives no regular public subsidy.

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