



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

News

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Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
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BILLY CAMPBELL AND DANA DELANY STAR AS FEISTY LOVERS IN SHAKESPEARE'S *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*

GLOBE ASSOCIATE ARTIST BRENDON FOX MAKES SHAKESPEARE DIRECTING DEBUT WITH ONE OF BARD'S MOST BELOVED COMEDIES

San Diego – The Tony® Award-winning Old Globe presents *Much Ado About Nothing* by **William Shakespeare**, directed by Globe Associate Artist **Brendon Fox**, to play in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre **August 30 – October 12** (opening night: September 5). The production features stage and screen stars **Billy Campbell** (*Once and Again*, *The Rocketeer*) as **Benedick** and **Dana Delany** (*China Beach*, *Pasadena*, *Dinner with Friends*) as **Beatrice**.

Much Ado About Nothing follows the hapless string of events affecting two sets of classic Shakespearean lovers, told with witty wordplay and passionate poetry by some of the Bard's most memorable characters. Fox has set this production on an island, similar to Sicily, just after World War I. As a group of soldiers returns home from their military victory, they gather at Leonato's beautiful Italian villa. While there, two couples wrestle with their affections and insecurities: Beatrice and Benedick – a fiery duo who would rather suffer alone than admit their love for one another; and Claudio and Hero – two young sweethearts who fall in love immediately. However, when Claudio becomes mistakenly convinced of Hero's unfaithfulness, he shames her publicly on their wedding day. Hero's stricken family members then pretend that she died suddenly of shock, and hide her away while they wait for the truth of her innocence to come to light. In the end, the truth is revealed, Benedick and Beatrice finally confess their love for each other, and all ends happily with a double wedding in this delightful comedy.

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Dana Delany won two Emmy Awards for her role as Army nurse Colleen McMurphy on the critically-acclaimed television series, *China Beach*. Other television credits include *Presidio Med*, *Conviction*, *Pasadena*, *Shake, Rattle & Roll*, *True Women*, *Choices of the Heart: The Margaret Sanger Story*, and many others. Her film credits include *Wide Awake*, *Fly Away Home*, *Tombstone*, *Housesitter*, *Live Nude Girls*, *Exit to Eden*, *Light Sleeper*, *Moon Over Parador*, *Masquerade*, *Patty Hearst*, *Where the River Runs Black* and *Almost You*. Delany starred on Broadway in *A Life* and received acclaim in a number of off-Broadway productions. Her starring role in Nicholas Kazan's *Bloodmoon* in New York led to her arrival in Los Angeles for the West Coast production of the controversial drama. She most recently appeared in the Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Dinner with Friends* in New York, LA and Boston.

Billy Campbell is well known for his starring role in Touchstone's *The Rocketeer*. Among his many other feature film credits are *The Second Jungle Book*, *Gettysburg*, *The Brylcreem Boys*, *Lover's Knot*, *The Night We Never Met*, and *Bram Stoker's Dracula*. Campbell made his television debut as a guest star on *Family Ties* and *Hotel* before becoming a series regular in the long-running prime time drama, *Dynasty*. His other television credits include the acclaimed series *Once and Again*, regular roles in *Crime Story* and *Moon Over Miami*. He also co-starred in Armistead Maupin's acclaimed miniseries, *Tales of the City*, *Max Q*, *Monday After the Miracle*, and portrayed Moses in the critically-acclaimed miniseries *In the Beginning*, which co-starred Martin Landau and Jacqueline Bissett.

Globe Associate Director **Brendon Fox's** Globe credits include Season 2002's acclaimed production of *Beyond Therapy*, as well as *An Infinite Ache*, *The Countess*, *The SantaLand Diaries* and *Private Eyes*. His recent directorial projects include *Twelfth Night* at the Academy of Classical Acting at The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, DC, *Cloud Nine* at the Diversionary Theatre; *Much Ado About Nothing* at Shakespeare L.A., *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Floatplane Notebooks* at Cape Fear Regional Theatre; and *Getting Married* with the Globe/USD Professional Training Program. In Chicago, Fox has directed *The Taming of the Shrew* with Shakespeare's Motley Crew, *Pericles* with Greasy Joan & Co., and *Richard II* with Writers Theatre Chicago. He has also served as Assistant Director on several Globe productions, including *Labor Day*, *The Mask of Moriarty*, and *Othello*.

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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 over 67 years. The Globe produces a year-round season of 12-14 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 Imaginary Friends, The Full Monty, Pride's Crossing 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.

THE OLD GLOBE
MUCHADO ABOUT NOTHING FACT SHEET

WHAT: *Much Ado About Nothing*
By William Shakespeare

WHEN: August 10 – October 12; *Press Opening: Friday, September 5*
Performances: Tuesday - Sunday at 8:00 pm

WHERE: Lowell Davies Festival Theatre at The Old Globe, Balboa Park

WHO: Director: Brendon Fox
Lighting Designer: Peter Maradudin
Sound Designer: Dan Moses Schreier
Dramaturg: Dakin Matthews +

Scenic Designer: Anna Louizos
Costume Designer: Linda Cho
Movement: Bonnie Johnston
Stage Manager: Leila Knox

Cast:	Billy Campbell *	<i>Benedick</i>
	Dana Delany *	<i>Beatrice</i>
	Adam Ludwig *	<i>Claudio</i>
	Erica N. Tazel *	<i>Hero</i>
	Richard Poe *	<i>Leonato</i>
	Jeff Woodman *	<i>Don Pedro</i>
	Al Espinoza *	<i>Don John</i>
	Tommy Gomez *	<i>Dogberry</i>
	Ryan Michelle Bathe *	<i>Margaret</i>
	Andrew McGinn *	<i>Borachio</i>
	Michael Doyle ^	<i>Balthasar</i>
	Michael Newman ^	<i>Verges</i>
	Neil Shah ^	<i>Conrade</i>
	Rod Brogan ^	<i>Watch/Servant</i>
	Nanka Sturgis ^	<i>Ursula</i>
	David Raphael D'Agostini ^	<i>Watch/Servant</i>
	Christopher Gottschalk ^	<i>Priest/Servant</i>
	Antonie Knoppers ^	<i>Sexton/Servant</i>
	Jenni Lynn McMillan ^	<i>Servant</i>
	Jennifer Stewart ^	<i>Servant</i>
	Karen Zippler ^	<i>Watch/Servant</i>

+ Associate Artist of The Old Globe

* Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers of the United States

^ The Old Globe/University of San Diego MFA student

BACKGROUND:

Set in the rustic Italian countryside, the play revolves around a hapless string of events affecting two sets of classic Shakespearean lovers: Beatrice and Benedick – a fiery duo who would rather suffer alone than admit their love for one another; and Claudio and Hero – two young sweethearts who fall victim to an artful deception. Yet despite a few dark undercurrents, all ends happily in this delightful comedy, told with witty wordplay and passionate poetry by some of the Bard's most memorable characters.

TICKETS: \$19 - \$50; Discounts for students, seniors and active military.

BOX OFFICE: (619) 23 - GLOBE

Hours: --Mondays noon to 6pm
--Tuesday thru Saturdays: noon to 8:30pm
--Sundays: noon to 7:30pm
--Visa, American Express, MasterCard, Discover Card accepted