



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

News

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THE OLD GLOBE ANNOUNCES UNPARALLELED
2004/2005 WINTER SEASON, FEATURING TWO WORLD
PREMIERE MUSICALS AND MULTIPLE TONY® WINNERS

CENTERPIECES INCLUDE WORLD PREMIERE MUSICAL: **DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS**
AND 2003 TONY AWARD®-WINNING PLAY: **TAKE ME OUT**

GLOBE ALSO PRESENTS:

WORLD PREMIERE MUSICAL ABOUT JAMES JOYCE: ***HIMSELF AND NORA***
SHAW'S CLASSIC COMEDY ***MISALLIANCE***
NEW STEVEN DIETZ PLAY: ***FICTION***
I JUST STOPPED BY TO SEE THE MAN
LADY MACBETH SINGS THE BLUES, FEATURING AMANDA MCBROOM
OLIVIER AWARD-WINNER ***VINCENT IN BRIXTON***

PLUS SAN DIEGO'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY TRADITIONS:

DR. SEUSS' *HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!*
ALONG WITH THE RETURN OF ***LA PASTORELA***

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to announce its 2004/2005 Season, featuring two world premiere musicals: the thrilling pre-Broadway production of ***Dirty Rotten Scoundrels***, directed by Globe Artistic Director and 2003 Tony Award®-winner **Jack O'Brien**, and an enchanting new work about the life of James Joyce entitled ***Himself and Nora***, directed by Globe Associate Artist **Joseph Hardy**. The season also includes the 2003 Tony Award®-winning play ***Take Me Out***, with the original Tony Award® -winning director, **Joe Mantello**, on board to helm this first regional production; the 2003 Olivier Award-winner ***Vincent in Brixton***; Shaw's classic ***Misalliance***; Steven Dietz's newest play, ***Fiction***; Stephen Jeffrey's ***I Just Stopped by to See the Man***; as well as a charming new musical, ***Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues***, written and performed by Globe favorite and cabaret star Amanda McBroom.

The Season also includes two special non-subscription holiday productions: San Diego's favorite and singular holiday tradition, the popular **Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!***, for the seventh consecutive year in the Old Globe Theatre; as well as Teatro Máscara Mágica's enchanting production of ***La Pastorela***, back by popular demand, on the Cassius Carter Centre Stage. Additionally, in January of 2005, the Globe will host **Plays by Young Writers**, produced by the Playwrights Project in association with The Old Globe, in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage.

This dynamic new season reaffirms the Globe's steadfast commitment to artistic excellence, bringing the most sought-after artists to San Diego, as well as to producing world-premiere projects that regularly transfer to Broadway and other major theaters across the country.

"I'm over the moon about this new season of theatrical triumphs!" said Globe Artistic Director Jack O'Brien. "To be able to bring *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* – one of the most ambitious physical productions we've ever mounted – to the Globe is a true thrill for me and a genuine coup for San Diego audiences, who will get the first glimpse of this exciting new piece before it heads to Broadway. And that's just the beginning...we're following up this gem with *Take Me Out*, the runaway hit of the 2003 Broadway play season, in its first production since leaving the Great White Way. As if that weren't enough, next up is yet another world premiere musical about one of the all time great men of literature: James Joyce, in a hauntingly beautiful and utterly original new vehicle helmed by our dear friend Joseph Hardy.

"The Carter shines just as brightly, with an intriguing new piece by Steven Dietz, along with the 2003 Olivier Award-winner *Vincent in Brixton*, and a hot new musical by our dear friend and acclaimed cabaret performer Amanda McBroom, bound to delight our audiences. With this incredible 2004/2005 season coming on the tails of a dynamic Summer Festival that features an astounding Shakespeare repertory along with the rollicking new musical *Lucky Duck*, directed by John Rando – representing yet another recent Tony Award®-winner working on our stages – the Globe is still the unchallenged artistic leader among theatrical institutions in San Diego, and indeed the whole country!"

"Consistently named San Diego's Best Theatre by reader polls in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, *The Reader* and other publications, The Old Globe has established an international reputation for artistic excellence," said Executive Director Louis Spisto. "The 2004/2005 Winter Season builds on this reputation, offering some of the most ambitious and significant work being produced in the theater today – and between the thrilling 2004 Summer Festival and the new Winter Season, Globe patrons will have the opportunity to see the work of three Tony Award®-winning directors in a row!

"Tickets to this incomparable season are available only by subscribing. With the Globe's tremendous growth in subscriptions – a **25% increase** in the past year – individual tickets for these incredible offerings will be very difficult to obtain. The best way to guarantee seats and get the best prices is through a subscription purchase. Subscribers are also able to exchange their tickets for another night during the run of a performance if a conflict arises – just one of the many benefits that Globe subscribers enjoy," continued Spisto.

The Old Globe is also pleased to announce its annual **Gala** on **Saturday, September 18**, which will include a cocktail reception and silent auction, a special preview performance of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, followed by dinner and dancing on the Globe plaza. This exciting event, co-chaired by Board members Karen Cohn, Valerie Cooper and Sheryl White, is the Globe's largest fund-raiser, celebrating the achievements of the year as well as supporting the institution's educational outreach programs.

For more information or to subscribe to The Old Globe's 2004/2005 Winter Season, please contact Globe Ticket Services at **(619) 23-GLOBE**.

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The Old Globe's 2004/2005 Winter Season

Old Globe Theatre

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

Book by Jeffrey Lane

Music and Lyrics by David Yazbek

Directed by Jack O'Brien

September 15 through October 24, 2004 (press opening: September 22)

Based on the film of the same name, ***Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*** is a brand new musical comedy created by **Jeffrey Lane** (*Mad About You*), **David Yazbek** (*The Full Monty*), to be directed by Old Globe Artistic Director **Jack O'Brien** (*Hairspray*, *The Full Monty*, *Damn Yankees*), and choreographed by **Jerry Mitchell**, who teamed up with O'Brien on their previous productions of *The Full Monty*, *Imaginary Friends* and *Hairspray*. This exciting new show centers on two con men living in the French Riviera: small-time crook Freddy Benson, who swindles women by wakening their compassion with fabricated stories about his grandmother's failing health; and suave, sophisticated con artist Lawrence Jameson, who also makes his living by talking rich ladies out of their money, but on a much grander scale. After meeting on a train, the two men attempt to work together only to find that this small French town isn't big enough for the two of them. They agree on a settlement: the first one to extract \$50,000 from a young female target wins, and the other must leave town. A hilarious battle of cons ensues, bringing out the best and worst in each man, along with a fun, unexpected twist that will keep audiences laughing, humming and guessing to the end!

Coming off the heels of his recent successes in New York with Lincoln Center's *Henry IV* and Broadway's *Hairspray*, for which he won the 2003 Tony Award®, Jack O'Brien will lead an incredible creative team for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. It includes some of the best designers working on Broadway, many of whom were part of the *Hairspray* design group, including scenic designer David Rockwell, (*Hairspray*, *The Rocky Horror Show*), costume designer Gregg Barnes (*Sideshow*), lighting designer Kenneth Posner (*Hairspray*, *Imaginary Friends*), and music director Ted Sperling (*The Full Monty*, *Floyd Collins*).

Take Me Out

By Richard Greenberg

Directed by Joe Mantello

January 15 through February 20, 2005 (press opening: January 20)

The 2003 Tony Award®-winning play ***Take Me Out*** takes center stage in January, in the first regional production since it left Broadway a few months ago. This fascinating new work by Richard Greenberg concerns Darren Lemming, an iconic baseball star living the life of an all-American hero. Conflict ensues when he calls a press conference and "comes out" to the waiting world. Greenberg's plays include *The Violet Hour*, *The Dazzle* (Outer Critics Circle Award); *Three Days of Rain* (produced at the Globe in 1999; Olivier and Drama Desk Award nominations); *Everett Beekin*; *Night and Her Stars*; and *The Extra Man*, among many other plays. He has received the Oppenheimer Award for a debuting playwright, the first PEN/Laura Pels Award for a playwright in mid-career and has twice been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Mantello received the Tony Award® for his direction of *Take Me Out* on Broadway, which he will remount at the Globe. Other Broadway credits include *Wicked*, *Frankie and Johnnie in the Claire de Lune*, *Love! Valor! Compassion!*, *God's Heart* at Lincoln Center, *Corpus Christi*, *Mizlansky/Zilinsky or "Schmucks,"* and *Blue Window* at Manhattan Theatre Club, among many others. He also received a Tony® nomination for his performance in *Angels in America*. Mantello has been the recipient of the Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, Clarence Derwent, OBIE and Joe A. Calloway Awards.

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Himself and Nora

Author and Co-Lyricist: Sheila Walsh

Composer and Co-Lyricist: Jonathan Brielle

Directed by Joseph Hardy

March 19 – April 24, 2005 (press opening: March 24)

The Old Globe plays host to a second world premiere musical this season: *Himself and Nora*, directed by Globe Associate Artist Joseph Hardy, which shines a light on one of modern literature's most influential artists, James Joyce, viewing his accomplishments through the prism of his unique relationship with Nora Barnacle. Although she was an uneducated Irish chambermaid, Nora became Joyce's quintessential muse, helping him through a myriad of artistic and emotional challenges, while providing both inspiration and salvation. The score runs the gamut from spirited Irish tunes to charming love ballads. This haunting, poetic and sophisticated new musical explores the many conflicts wrought by James Joyce's unconventional life, while celebrating his groundbreaking accomplishments as an artist.

Globe Associate Artist Joseph Hardy, whose recent Globe credits include the acclaimed productions of *Bus Stop*, *The Weir*, *Things We Do for Love* and *Paramour*, directs this thrilling new piece of one of the most celebrated icons of Irish literature. An accomplished songwriter, Jonathan Brielle has also worked on behalf of other writers as National Projects Director of the Songwriters Guild of America and as a member of the Writer Advisory Board of ASCAP for a five-year stint. He is the founder of Brielle Music, which creates scores and songs for top corporations in America and around the world. Sheila Walsh's work includes *Tea With Mommy and Jack*, *O The Days!*, and *Bosoms on Table* and *Two Sides of the Story*, both produced at the 42nd Street Workshop. She has also written numerous one-act plays that have been read or produced at theatres and festivals across the country including Manhattan Theatre, Actors Studio, Caldwell Theatre, New Jersey Rep, and the Houseman Theatre. Her one act play *Molly and James* won the Samuel French and Ramon Delgado Best Play Awards.

Misalliance

By George Bernard Shaw

May 7 – June 12, 2005 (press opening: May 12)

George Bernard Shaw's classic *Misalliance* takes place one summer afternoon in the conservatory of a large country house in Surrey, England. Hypatia, the daughter of a newly-monied father who made a bundle in the underwear business, is fed up with the stuffy conventions that surround her and with the hyperactive talk of her freethinking, philandering father. When a dashing aviator enters the scene – literally with a crash – Shaw complicates the question of who will wind up with whom in this hilarious examination of marriage, socialism, and the "new woman" struggling to emerge from the constraints of Victorian parenthood and morality. Born in Dublin in 1856, Shaw is considered one of the greatest playwrights of the 20th century. Winner of the 1925 Nobel Prize for Literature, his works include *Candida*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Major Barbara*, *Pygmalion*, *Heartbreak House*, *Arms and the Man*, and many others. He has also written a variety of essays and books, including *The Unsocial Socialist* which was the basis for the Globe's acclaimed production of *Smash*, adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher, in 2002.

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Fiction

By Steven Dietz

September 25 – October 31, 2004 (press opening: September 30)

Opening the season in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage is Steven Dietz's ***Fiction***, a provocative new play that focuses on the characters of Linda and Michael, successful, married writers who thrive on the give-and-take of their unusually honest relationship. But when they decide to share their diaries, the boundaries between past and present, fact and fiction, trust and betrayal begin to break down. No life, it turns out, is an open book, and the tension between trust and suspicion is at the heart of this gripping drama. Steven Dietz is one of the country's most prolific, versatile, and widely produced playwrights. His works include *Private Eyes* (seen at the Globe in 2000), *Still Life with Iris*, *Lonely Planet* (PEN USA Award in Drama, Outer Critics' Circle Nomination, *Drama-Logue* Award), *God's Country* (Society of Midland Authors Award, Off-Off-Broadway Award of Excellence), *Trust*, *Handing Down the Names*, *Halcyon Days*, *Ten November*, *Boomtown*, *Foolin' Around with Infinity*, *Painting It Red*, and *More Fun Than Bowling*.

I Just Stopped by to See the Man

By Stephen Jeffreys

February 5 – March 13, 2005 (press opening: February 10)

Set in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, ***I Just Stopped by to See the Man*** tells the story of the greatest living bluesman, long believed dead, who is living out his simple life with his activist daughter in a bare shack. Stumbling into their solitude is a famous English rocker, making a fortune off the legend's tunes through a desperate and devilish deal. A passionate and political ode to the power and truth of the blues, the play had its world premiere two years ago at London's Royal Court Theatre, where it was hailed by *The London Daily Telegraph* as a "richly human and moving play." Stephen Jeffreys' plays include *Like Dolls or Angels* (1977), for which he won the *Sunday Times* Playwriting Award at the National Student Drama Festival; *Carmen 1936*, for which he won a Fringe First Award in 1984; *Valued Friends*, which won him the Evening Standard and Critics' Circle Awards for Most Promising Playwright; *The Clink*, for Paines Plough, for which he served as Arts Council writer-in-residence from 1987-1989. In 1994, Jeffreys again won popular acclaim for *The Libertine*, his play about the Earl of Rochester.

Vincent in Brixton

By Nicholas Wright

April 2 – May 8, 2005 (press opening: April 7)

Winner of London's prestigious Olivier Award in 2003, ***Vincent in Brixton*** is loosely based on Vincent van Gogh's early life in London. It paints the artist as a brash young Dutchman unsure of what he wants to do in life – until he rents a room from an English widow, with whom he shares a passionate relationship, and his destiny is changed forever. In an interview for the National Theatre's website, Wright commented on the play: "...Sexual awakening is essential to artistic awakening. ...When a young person falls in love and particularly falls sexually in love, that's the moment when the whole human race seems to be transformed and you look at things in a different way. I think it's very hard to have the true artist's visionary experience of the world without having gone through that sexual, loving experience." Nicholas Wright has written such plays as *Mrs. Klein*, *Treetops*, *One Fine Day*, *The Gorky Brigade* and *Cressida*. He has also adapted *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *John Gabriel Borkman*, *Naked* and *Lulu*, and his screenplays include adaptations of works by Patrick Hamilton, Doris Lessing, Armistead Maupin and Ford Madox Ford. Wright also co-wrote a book Changing Stages, about the British Theatre, with director Richard Eyre.

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Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues

By Amanda McBroom and Joel Silberman

May 21 – June 26, 2005 (press opening: May 26)

This lively new musical, performed and co-written by celebrated cabaret performer Amanda McBroom, is the story of a songwriter who tries to get out of town to write her next great musical based on Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, only to be hounded by her agent, director, husband, and the list goes on. While researching the piece, she conjures up Shakespeare's greatest heroines in a series of hilarious and moving original songs. Amanda McBroom's work has been featured at the Globe in the touching musical *Heartbeats* (world premiere, 1990), which she wrote and performed. She has been called "...the greatest cabaret performer of her generation, an urban poet who writes like an angel and has a voice to match." She has written songs for Bette Midler ("The Rose"), Leanne Rimes, Barry Manilow, Judy Collins, Barbara Cook, and many others. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, Wolftrap and Kennedy Center. Featured on seven CDs, Amanda has appeared on stage in *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well...*, *Seesaw*, *Sweeney Todd*, *A Little Night Music*, among others.

Holiday Offerings

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 21 – December 31, 2004 (press opening: November 26)

America's favorite holiday fable, back for a seventh incredible 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! This year's production will also be a part of the national "Seussentennial" celebration – a yearlong tribute to Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss) on the occasion of his 100th birthday, in conjunction with Dr. Seuss Enterprises. The festivities kicked off during the 2003 production of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* and continued throughout 2004 with a variety of activities and tributes at the Globe and throughout the country to honor the man known and loved by generations of Americans as Dr. Seuss.

La Pastorela

By Max Branscomb

Directed by William Virchis

Cassius Carter Centre Stage

December 9 – 31, 2004

This December The Old Globe will also bring back Teatro Máscara Mágica's acclaimed holiday musical, *La Pastorela*. Glorious archangels battle evil devils for the souls of humanity in the traditional Mexican-flavored Christmas musical. A partnership of The Old Globe and Teatro Máscara Mágica, the annual *La Pastorela* tells the story of the shepherds' journey to Bethlehem to witness the first Christmas. This rollicking comedy, written entirely in verse – Dr. Seuss-style – blends political satire, popular culture and beautiful Spanish Christmas songs. Teatro Máscara Mágica has produced *La Pastorela* for 14 years, during which time it has become one of the West Coast's best loved family holiday traditions.

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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 68 years. The Globe produces a year-round season of 15 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 the American theatre.