



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

News

Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
Craig Noel, *Artistic Director*

P.O. Box 122171 Tel 619/231-1941
San Diego, CA Fax 619/231-5879
92112-2171 www.theoldglobe.org

For Immediate Release: March 11, 2005
Contact: Becky Biegelsen (619) 231-1941
www.theoldglobe.org

OLD GLOBE KICKS OFF 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION **WITH FREE OPEN HOUSE ON JUNE 18**

ACCLAIMED ACTRESS AND GLOBE ASSOCIATE ARTIST MARION ROSS TO SERVE AS MASTER OF CEREMONIES

San Diego – The Old Globe is pleased to announce a special **Open House on Saturday, June 18, 2005**, to launch its 70th Anniversary celebration, as well as Founding Director Craig Noel's 90th birthday. This exciting free event takes place from 10:00am to 1:30pm on the Globe Plaza and will include short Shakespeare presentations by the 2005 Shakespeare Festival company, Elizabethan treats, family activities, and much more. Celebrated actress and Globe Associate Artist **Marion Ross** will serve as the Master of Ceremonies, in the role of Queen Elizabeth.

The Open House also kicks off the 70th Shakespeare Festival season, featuring *The Comedy of Errors*, *Macbeth* and *The Winter's Tale*, all three of which were featured in the Globe's inaugural season in 1935 as part of the California Exposition. The plays will run in nightly rotation in the outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre **June 19 – October 2**. Acclaimed director **Darko Tresnjak** will serve as the Festival's Artistic Director, helming *The Comedy of Errors* and *The Winter's Tale*, and Paul Mullins will direct *Macbeth*.

Nationally-renowned stage and screen actress Marion Ross is most recognized from her roles on television's *Happy Days* and *Brooklyn Bridge*. At the Globe, Ross has appeared in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *Summer and Smoke*, *Twelfth Night*, *Ladies in Retirement*, and *Catsplay*. She has also appeared in the Broadway production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Other stage credits include *Long Day's Journey into Night* at Seattle Rep, *Time of the Cuckoo* as La Mirada, *The Glass Menagerie* at La Jolla Playhouse, and many others. Additional screen credits include *The Drew Carey Show*, *Gilmore Girls*, *Robin's Hood*, *Touched by an Angel*, *Night Court*, *A Perfect Stranger*, *Dinner at Eight*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Evening Star*, *Teacher's Pet*, *Sabrina*, *Operation Petticoat*, to name just a few.

-- more --

Throughout Craig Noel's distinguished 68-year career with The Old Globe, the much-honored director has staged over 225 productions of all styles and periods. He has been associated with The Old Globe since its community-theater inception in 1937 and has guided the organization through its metamorphosis from a community theater of the highest standards to one of the nation's most successful not-for profit theaters. His most recent productions include *The Pavilion*, *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *Scotland Road*, *Wonderful Tennessee*, *Travels with My Aunt*, as well as the acclaimed world-premiere productions of Lillian Garrett-Groag's *The White Rose* and Reuben Gonzalez's *The Boiler Room*, and the American premieres of Alan Ayckbourn's *Mr. A's Amazing Maze Plays* and *Intimate Exchanges*. Noel made his Globe debut as an actor in 1937. Two years later he accepted his first directorial assignments, staging four of the season's seven productions. Noel's contributions to San Diego and to the nation are legion. He has enriched the larger community through his support and encouragement of playwrights, actors and theater artists and through the nurturing of an entire generation of citizens who have become today's theater-goers and arts supporters. Noel is a founder of the California Theatre Council and a former vice president of the California Confederation of the Arts. His numerous honors encompass the inclusion by *The San Diego Union-Tribune* in a list of 25 persons who shaped the city's history; the Governor's Award for the Arts; University of Arizona Alumni Association's Outstanding Citizen for his contribution to their fine arts department; San Diego State University's Outstanding Alumnus; honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, University of San Diego; San Diego's Living Treasure Award; Conservator of American Arts Award from American Conservatory Theatre; the San Diego Press Club Headliner Award; the San Diego Gentleman of Distinction Award; and a combined tribute from the Public Arts Advisory Council and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

#

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 Globe produces a year-round season of 14-15 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 Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty 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.