



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

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Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
Jerry Patch, *Resident Artistic Director*

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For Immediate Release: April 18, 2007
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OLD GLOBE PRESENTS EDWARD ALBEE'S SEARING
DRAMA, *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF*,
MAY 19 – JUNE 24

RICHARD SEER DIRECTS CELEBRATED PLAY TO LAUNCH GLOBE'S NEW
"CLASSICS UP CLOSE" SERIES IN CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present **Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf***, directed by Globe favorite **Richard Seer**, playing in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage **May 19 – June 24, 2007** (press opening: Thursday, May 24).

Considered by many to be Albee's masterpiece, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* is a brilliantly original theatrical experience, surging with shocks of recognition and dramatic fire. George, a disillusioned academic, and Martha, his caustic wife, have just come home from a faculty party. When a young professor and his mousy wife stop by for a nightcap, an innocent night of fun and games quickly turns dark and dangerous. Long-buried resentment and rage are unleashed as George and Martha turn their rapier-sharp wits against each other, using their guests as pawns in their verbal sparring. By the end of the evening, the secrets of both couples are uncovered and the lies they cling to are exposed.

The production is the first in the Globe's new "**Classics Up Close**" series, which gives patrons a chance to experience a variety of classic American plays in the intimate setting of the Cassius Carter Centre Stage.

The cast of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* includes Globe Associate Artist **Monique Fowler** as "Martha," **James Sutorius** (*Lincolnesque*) as "George," and Old Globe/University of San Diego MFA graduates **Scott Ferrara** and **Nisi Sturgis** as "Nick" and "Honey" respectively.

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The production team includes Richard Seer, director; Alan Muraoka, scenic design; Charlotte Devaux, costume design; Chris Rynne, lighting design; Paul Peterson, sound design; and Leila Knox, stage manager.

Edward Albee stands as one of the nation's most celebrated and important playwrights, having received three Pulitzer Prizes (*A Delicate Balance*, *Seascape*, and *Three Tall Women*), two Tony Awards (*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *A Delicate Balance*), and the National Medal of Arts. His work spans nearly a half century, and in both form and content he has profoundly influenced the landscape of American drama.

Richard Seer directed The Old Globe's acclaimed productions of *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 *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.

Tickets for *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* are available by calling (619) 23-GLOBE, on the Globe website at www.TheOldGlobe.org, or by visiting the Globe Box Office at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park. Ticket prices range from \$39 to \$58.

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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 71 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.

Highlights of the Globe's 2006/7 Season include the acclaimed production of Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone, the west coast premiere of Ace, as well as Amy Freed's Restoration Comedy, the co-world premiere of Pig Farm, August Wilson's Two Trains Running and Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.

THE OLD GLOBE FACT SHEET
EDWARD ALBEE'S *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF*

WHAT: ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf***
By Edward Albee
Directed by Richard Seer

WHEN: **May 19 – June 24; *Press Opening: Thursday, May 24 at 8pm***
Performances: Sun/Tue/Wed at 7pm
 Thu/Fri/Sat at 8pm
Matinees: Sat/Sun at 2pm

WHERE: Cassius Carter Centre Stage, The Old Globe, Balboa Park

WHO: Director: Richard Seer Scenic Design: Alan Muraoka
 Lighting Design: Chris Rynne Costume Design: Charlotte Devaux
 Sound Design: Paul Peterson Stage Manager: Leila Knox

Cast:	Scott Ferrara	<i>Nick</i>
	Monique Fowler	<i>Martha</i>
	Nisi Sturgis	<i>Honey</i>
	James Sutorius	<i>George</i>

BACKGROUND:

Considered by many to be Albee's masterpiece, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* is a brilliantly original theatrical experience, surging with shocks of recognition and dramatic fire. George, a disillusioned academic, and Martha, his caustic wife, have just come home from a faculty party. When a young professor and his mousy wife stop by for a nightcap, an innocent night of fun and games quickly turns dark and dangerous. Long-buried resentment and rage are unleashed as George and Martha turn their rapier-sharp wits against each other, using their guests as pawns in their verbal sparring. By the end of the evening, the secrets of both couples are uncovered and the lies they cling to are exposed.

TICKETS: \$39-\$58

BOX OFFICE: (619) 23-GLOBE

Hours: Mondays: noon to 6pm; Tuesday thru Saturdays: noon to 8:30pm;
Sundays: noon to 7:30pm.

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