

Louis G. Spisto, CEO/Executive Producer
Darko Tresnjak, Resident Artistic Director



Jack O'Brien, Artistic Director Emeritus
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For Immediate Release: June 30, 2008
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THE OLD GLOBE AND UCSD-TV CREATE NEW
“BACKSTAGE AT THE GLOBE” PROGRAM FEATURING
2008 SUMMER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

San Diego, CA – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe and Emmy Award-winning UCSD-TV have again teamed up to create the latest “**Backstage at the Globe**” program featuring the 2008 Summer Shakespeare Festival.

This fascinating 30-minute television program focuses on the process of mounting the three Festival productions, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *All's Well That Ends Well* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which run in nightly rotation in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre **June 14 through September 28**. Viewers will get a taste of the rehearsal process and hear insights about the play from Executive Producer Lou Spisto, Resident Artistic Director Darko Tresnjak, actors and designers.

The program will air on UCSD-TV on July 8 at 8pm; July 10 at 10pm; July 18 at 8pm; July 21 at 6pm; July 23 at 10pm; July 29 at 9:30pm; July 31 at 11:30pm; August 8 at 9:30pm; August 11 at 7:30pm; August 13 at 11:30pm; August 19 at 8pm; August 21 at 10pm; August 29 at 8pm; September 1 at 6pm; September 3 at 10pm; September 9 at 9:30pm; September 11 at 11:30pm; September 19 at 9:30pm; September 22 at 7:30pm and September 24 at 10pm.

The Globe is thrilled to continue bringing back this time-honored tradition of repertory begun by the Globe's Founding Director Craig Noel. Shakespeare at the Globe dates back to the institution's artistic roots, when, in its very first year of existence, the Theatre presented 50-minute versions of Shakespeare's plays, performed in repertory. From 1949 to 1984, the Bard's work became an even more integral part of the Globe's programming, with the creation of the annual San Diego National Shakespeare Festival – an ambitious, summer-long event in which at least three Shakespeare works were presented in repertory. Revived in 2004, the Globe Summer Shakespeare Festival has become one of the most celebrated classical festivals in the country.

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UCSD-TV and The Old Globe have worked in partnership to create the “Backstage at the Globe” series since 1999, bringing the creative process to life and taking viewers behind the scenes at one of America's premiere regional theaters.

Broadcasting since 1993, UCSD-TV is non-commercial television station unlike anything else, reflecting San Diego’s rich intellectual and cultural diversity through television programs that are unique in their intent and scope. UCSD-TV's non-commercial status gives it the autonomy to create content based strictly on relevance, interest and merit and to devote significant airtime to in-depth coverage of new ideas, key issues and emerging talent. UCSD-TV airs on Cox and Time Warner Ch. 135; Time Warner North County channel 18; AT&T channel 99; and UHF (no cable) channel 35. For more information, program schedules and more, visit www.ucsd.tv.

The most tragic and famous love story of all time, *Romeo and Juliet* displays the two archetypal young lovers who defy family, heritage, country and life, even as they personify true love and infinite loss. The play tells the story of these “star-cross’d” teenagers, whose untimely deaths unite their feuding households, in the poetic and passionate language of Shakespeare’s early work.

Shakespeare’s hilarious *The Merry Wives of Windsor* presents a comic morality play in which the philandering Falstaff gets his comeuppance from two cunning wives. Alongside the central story of Sir John's unsuccessful attempts to seduce Mistress Page and Mistress Ford, Shakespeare portrays the amusing yet romantic love story of Anne Page, wooed by the foolish, rich Abraham Slender and the irascible Dr. Caius, but ultimately won by the young, handsome Fenton.

What does a woman do when the only man she wants to marry won't have her, even when the king commands it? In *All's Well that Ends Well*, Shakespeare's fascinating romance, he pits the wise and witty woman doctor Helena against the haughty, hotheaded courtier Bertram in a clash of wills filled with comic surprises and passionate poetry.

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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 72 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.

The Globe's 2008 Summer Season includes the renowned Summer Shakespeare Festival, featuring Romeo and Juliet, The Merry Wives of Windsor and All's Well That Ends Well playing in repertory; The Pleasure of His Company; and Donald Margulies' Sight Unseen. Under the leadership of Executive Producer Louis G. Spisto and Resident Artistic Director Darko Tresnjak, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.