



Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

Report Title: International Actors Fellowship 2011:
Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London

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Other Team Members:

Program: New York City Program

Trip Dates: 08/01/2011 - 09/06/2011

Location Visited: London, England

Post Fellowship Reporting Template: PFR Template 02

Project Summary: The Globe Theatre, located in Bankside on the Thames in London, England, was the brainchild of American actor, Sam Wanamaker. Twenty-three years in the making, the Globe opened to the public in 1997. Only about 100 yards from the original site, it is a replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theater, built in the style of 16th Century theaters. There is nothing like it in the world and I wanted, as an actor and a theater teacher, to experience first-hand what it was like to rehearse and perform on that "wooden O".

I wanted to be able to recreate for my students what was it like to perform outdoors, to see the audience, to perform a play and see a play, as Shakespeare intended it -- actors and audience sharing a visceral experience. Contemporary theater can be alienating: we sit in a dark auditorium disconnected from the actors. Each year I teach theater, I ask myself, How can I make theater relevant for my students? How can I help them to understand that theater should be used to connect, not to disconnect. And, how can I make Shakespeare's language accessible to my students?

I knew the resources at my disposal would be the best in the world: The Globe Museum, the Library stocked with every version of every play as well as reference books and archival footage of landmark productions (an all-male Twelfth Night with then Artistic Director Mark Rylance and the Director of my Fellowship, Tim Walker). We experienced five Globe shows, including two new plays, an outdoor touring production at Hever Castle, and a midnight matinee. We had seminars each week, talk-backs with Globe actors and directors, and learned about their Educational Outreach programs for students.

The concept behind the International Actor's Fellowship at the Globe is to, each year, audition actors and teachers from all over the world, to share the Globe with them: to allow them time to study and understand the unique architecture of the space and the connection it provides to an audience for the actor and vice versa, as well as educating them about Shakespeare's stage craft, text work, voice and movement work specific to classic text as practiced by Globe actors, and to offer them information on the Elizabethan world as it was seen through Shakespeare's eyes. In a phrase: to inspire us to return home and to create or direct or perform in theater that connects with an audience.

Career Impact: At the Globe, stepping into the role of actor and student for one month gave me back my confidence as a performer and recharged my creative batteries. I was challenged to be an actor only. I worked on Queen Margaret's monologue from Henry VI. It is a challenging monologue requiring fierce strength and power. My willingness to take risks surprised me. Working with director Tim Walker gave me a new list of rehearsal techniques to use professionally and in the classroom to build toward performance. Text, movement, and voice work opened up Shakespeare's plays in a whole new way for me. Many of the exercises we did in class have breathed new life into my Shakespeare unit and will find their way into my classroom.

Rehearsing and performing on the Globe stage gave me a first-hand understanding of what it was like to perform in Shakespeare's time -- he was writing for that space and that audience. Seeing several performances at the Globe gave me insight into how these plays can come to life for contemporary audiences and for my students.

Classroom/Community Impact:

- * New methods for teaching and directing Shakespeare in the 11th grade theater history classes
- * New teaching and directing techniques that can be applied to theater classes and the after-school spring Shakespeare production
- * Student and school access to research and resources about Shakespeare, the Globe, and Shakespeare's London (photos, video, scripts, and websites)
- * A chance to share my knowledge with our English Department
- * The creation of a touring Shakespeare company
- * A spring production of a Shakespeare comedy for the school community using directorial and design techniques observed on the Globe stage in performance

Open Response: * Implement the voice, movement, and text work into the 11th grade theater history classes

- * Possible middle school touring production or in-school performances of the Globe's abridged student version of Shakespeare's "Macbeth"
- * Collaborate with the Roundabout Theatre (our Education Partner) and the school's technical theater director to create an authentic and fun Shakespeare production for the spring
- * As an option for finals, ask students to create their own, modern day version of "Macbeth", and, using Flip cameras and iMovie, create their own video

Quote: "Here, now, quick, always..." -T.S. Eliot via Glynn MacDonald, Movement and Alexander Teacher, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

Photos:



On the Globe Stage with the International Fellowship Actors



With actresses from America and Italy at Hever Castle, home of Anne Boleyn



Stage combat class



View of the Globe stage from the audience



Close-up of stage

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE
GLOBE THEATRE
INTERNATIONAL ACTORS' FELLOWSHIP 2011
ON-STAGE RECITAL
MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
2.00PM

FREE EVENT

ACTORS FROM AUSTRALIA, CANADA, NORWAY, ITALY, MALTA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE UNITED STATES WILL PERFORM SOME OF THE GREATEST CHARACTER SPEECHES BY SHAKESPEARE ON OUR UNIQUE STAGE.

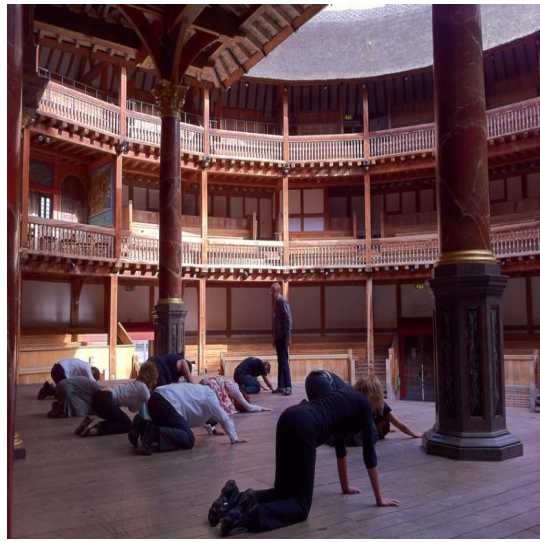
THIS PRESENTATION IS THE CULMINATION OF FOUR WEEKS OF INTENSIVE TRAINING WITH THE GLOBE ASSOCIATES ON ACTING TECHNIQUE.

TO RESERVE TICKETS EMAIL [FELLOWSHIP@SHAKESPEARESLOBE.COM](mailto:fellowship@shakespearesglobe.com)
DURATION: APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR

Invitation to our final showing (I'm on the cover!)



Group photo with a good view of "The Heavens" above



View of stage