

PETER BROOK AND SHAKESPEARE



Institut français
Saturday October 26, 2019

Programme

10.00: **Brook's Shakespeare and the Critics**

Chair: Richard Wilson

Ian Brown

Blanche Marvin

Carol Chillington Rutter

Irving Wardle

John Wyver

11.00: Break

11.30: **Brook's Worldwide Shakespeare**

Chair: Paul Allain

Maria Delgado

Simon Godwin

Grzegorz Ziółkowski

12.30: **Peter Brook in conversation with Trevor Nunn**

13.30: Peter Brook signing 'Playing By Ear'

14.45: Brook's Shakespeare in France

Chair: Dominique Goy-Blanquet

Georges Banu

Claude Coustou

François Marthouret

William Nadylam

15.45: Brook's Shakespeare and the Directors

Chair: Stephen Unwin

Robert Icke

Jude Kelly

David Thacker

Deborah Warner

16.45: Break

17.15: Brook's Shakespeare and the Actors

Chair: Janet Suzman

Frances de la Tour

Sara Kestelman

Sir Ben Kingsley

Adrian Lester

18.15: Close of conference

PETER BROOK AND SHAKESPEARE



King John – Birmingham Repertory Theatre – 1945

Love's Labour's Lost – Shakespeare Memorial Theatre – 1946

Romeo and Juliet – Shakespeare Memorial Theatre – 1947

Measure for Measure – Shakespeare Memorial Theatre – 1950

The Winter's Tale – Shakespeare Memorial Theatre – 1952

Hamlet – Phoenix Theatre London – 1955

The Tempest – Shakespeare Memorial Theatre – 1957

Titus Andronicus – Shakespeare Memorial Theatre – 1958

King Lear – Royal Shakespeare Company – 1962

A Midsummer Night's Dream – Royal Shakespeare Company – 1970

Timon d'Athènes – Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord Paris – 1974

Mesure pour Mesure – Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord Paris – 1978

La Tempête – Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord Paris – 1990

The Tragedy of Hamlet – Young Vic London – 2000

La Tragédie d'Hamlet – Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord Paris – 2003

Love is My Sin: Sonnets de William Shakespeare – Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord Paris – 2003

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Evoking Shakespeare (Nick Hern Books, 1999 / 2002)

The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare (Nick Hern Books, 2013)

Paul Allain is Professor of Theatre and Performance and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Kent. He has written extensively on Jerzy Grotowski and Polish theatre.

Georges Banu is Professor at the Institut d'Etudes théâtrales in the University of Paris III (Sorbonne Nouvelle) and at the Theatre Studies Faculty of Louvain la Neuve, Belgium.

Ian Brown is a playwright, poet and Professor Emeritus in Drama at Kingston University. He has been Chair of the Scottish Society of Playwrights and Convener of the Northwest Playwrights' Workshop. From 1986 to 1994 he was Drama Director at the Arts Council.

Claude Coustou is a manager of communications projects and reader for Gallimard / NRF and other leading publishers. She was a commissioning agent for the Festival mondial du théâtre de Nancy, latterly with special focus on the UK, from 1972 to 1980.

Frances de la Tour played Helena in Peter Brook's 1970 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon, and at the Aldwych Theatre, London, in 1971.

Maria Delgado is Professor and Director of Research at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London. She has written widely on Spanish-language theatre and film in Europe, and is a programme advisor for the BFI London Film Festival.

Simon Godwin is Artistic Director of Shakespeare Theatre Company. He has served as Associate Director of the National Theatre of London, the Royal Court Theatre, the Bristol Old Vic, and the Royal and Derngate Theatres (Northampton). He has directed acclaimed productions of many of Shakespeare's plays, including *Antony and Cleopatra* with Ralph Fiennes and Sophie Okonedo, and *Timon of Athens* with Kathryn Hunter in the title role.

Dominique Goy-Blanquet is Professor Emeritus of the University of Picardie, and most recently author of *Shakespeare in the Theatre: Patrice Chéreau* (Bloomsbury, 2018).

Robert Icke was Director of Headlong Theatre, 2010-13, for which he directed *Romeo and Juliet* in 2011, and Associate Director of the Almeida Theatre, 2013-19, where he directed Andrew Scott in an acclaimed *Hamlet* in 2017, and Juliet Stevenson and Lia Williams in his own adaptation of Schiller's *Mary Stuart* in 2018.

Jude Kelly founded Solent People's Theatre in 1974, and was Artistic Director of Battersea Arts Centre from 1980 to 1985, when she joined the Royal Shakespeare Company. She founded the West Yorkshire Playhouse in 1990, and was its Artistic Director and CEO until 2002. From 2006 to 2018 she was Artistic Director of London's Southbank Centre. Her Shakespeare productions included *The Tempest* with Ian McKellen, and *Othello* with Patrick Stewart. She is founding director of WOW, which organises the Women of the World festival.

Sara Kestelman played Hippolita / Titania in Peter Brook's 1970 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon, and at the Aldwych Theatre, London, in 1971.

Sir Ben Kingsley played Demetrius in Peter Brook's 1970 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon, and at the Aldwych Theatre, London, in 1971.

Adrian Lester played Hamlet in Peter Brook's production of *The Tragedy of Hamlet* at the Young Vic Theatre, London, in 2001.

François Marthouret played Timon in Peter Brook's production of *Timon d'Athènes* in 1974, and the Duke in his 1978 production of *Mesure pour Mesure*, both at the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Paris.

Blanche Marvin created London Theatre Reviews, and was Managing Director of the Peter Brook Awards for studio theatres for over 25 years. She founded the Rock Garden Theatre, in Covent Garden, and the Blanche Marvin Agency, headed the Elspeth Cochrane Agency, and launched the off-Broadway Cricket Theatre. In her long career she has been the agent for many leading Shakespearean actors.

William Nadylam played Hamlet in Peter Brook's production of *La Tragédie d'Hamlet* at the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Paris, in 2003.

Trevor Nunn was Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company from 1968 to 1986, and Director of the Royal National Theatre 1997 to 2003. He has directed every play in the Shakespeare canon, including a celebrated *Macbeth* with Ian McKellen and Judi Dench (1976), *Hamlet* with Ben Whishaw (2004), *King Lear*, also with Ian McKellen (2007), and *The Tempest* with Ralph Fiennes (2011). He is Advisory Director of the Rose Theatre, Kingston, where he directed *The Wars of the Roses* in 2015 and *King John* in 2016. Trevor Nunn was running the RSC at the time of Peter Brook's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Carol Chillington Rutter is Professor of Shakespeare and Performance Studies at the University of Warwick, and co-general editor of the *Shakespeare in Performance* series (Manchester University Press).

Janet Suzman joined the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1963, and played many of Shakespeare's leading roles. She has directed *Othello* in South Africa, and *Antony and Cleopatra*, with Kim Cattrall and Jeffery Kissoon, at Liverpool Playhouse in 2010.

David Thacker is Professor of Theatre at the University of Bolton and Associate Director of the Bolton Octagon. He was previously Director of the Duke's Playhouse, Lancaster, Artistic Director of the Young Vic, and Director-in-Residence of the Royal Shakespeare Company. His many Shakespeare productions include acclaimed stagings of *Hamlet*, *Julius Caesar*, *Othello*, *Measure for Measure* and *Coriolanus*.

Stephen Unwin launched the English Touring Theatre in 1993, and followed Sir Peter Hall as Artistic Director of the Rose Theatre, Kingston, from 2008 to 2013. He has been Visiting Professor at the University of California and a Visiting Fellow at University of Cambridge.

Irving Wardle was Theatre Critic of *The Times* from 1963 to 1989, and of *The Independent on Sunday*, 1990 to 1996. He has reviewed Peter Brook's productions over many years.

Deborah Warner created the company Kick under the influence of Peter Brook, and joined the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1987. Her path-breaking Shakespeare productions have included *Titus Andronicus*, *Richard II* with Fiona Shaw in the title role, *Julius Caesar* with Ralph Fiennes and Simon Russell Beale, and *Coriolanus* at the Salzburg Festival.

Richard Wilson is Sir Peter Hall Professor of Shakespeare Studies at Kingston University and author of *Worldly Shakespeare: The Theatre of Our Good Will* (Edinburgh University Press, 2016).

John Wyver is Professor of the Arts on Screen at the University of Westminster and Director of *RSC Live from Stratford-upon-Avon*. His book *Screening the Royal Shakespeare Company: A Critical History* was recently published by Bloomsbury.

Grzegorz Ziolkowski is Professor of Theatre and Performance at the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań. He co-led the Grotowski Institute in Wrocław, 2004-9, and has authored monographs on Peter Brook and Jerzy Grotowski, and translated their works. His latest book, *A Cruel Theatre of Self-Immolations*, will be published by Routledge in 2020.