

For Immediate Release
March 16, 2009

Press Contact: Marilyn Langbehn
510.548.3422 x118
510.910.3129 cell
mlangbehn@calshakes.org

CALIFORNIA SHAKESPEARE THEATER 2009 SEASON AT A GLANCE

Plays

Romeo and Juliet
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Cal Shakes Artistic Director Jonathan Moscone
May 30–Jun 21, Previews May 27–29

Private Lives
By Noël Coward
Directed by Associate Artist Mark Rucker
Jul 11–Aug 2, Previews Jul 8–10

Happy Days
By Samuel Beckett
Directed by Jonathan Moscone
Starring four-time Academy Award nominee Marsha Mason
Aug 15–Sep 6, Previews Aug 12–14

A Midsummer Night's Dream
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Aaron Posner (company debut)
Sep 19–Oct 11, Previews Sep 16–18

Curtain Times Previews at 8pm
 Tuesdays through Thursdays at 7:30pm
 Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm
 Saturday Matinee at 2pm
 Sundays at 4pm

Venue Bruns Memorial Amphitheater, 100 Gateway Blvd., Orinda, CA (just off Highway 24 at the Shakespeare Festival Way/Gateway Exit, one mile east of the Caldecott Tunnel.)

Cal Shakes' Bruns Amphitheater is nestled in the Siesta Valley of the East Bay Hills between Berkeley and Orinda on a protected watershed. The grounds open two hours before curtain for picnicking in the lush eucalyptus and oak groves; the Midsummer Night's Café offers gourmet meals on-site, or patrons may bring their own to enjoy. A rotating exhibit, Art in the Groves, offers a wide variety of three-dimensional works by local artists in the Theater's outdoor sculpture garden.

Parking and Transportation Cal Shakes offers a free shuttle from the Orinda BART station, beginning ninety minutes before the performance, and returning to BART immediately afterwards. There is also ample free parking on-site.

Website: www.calshakes.org

For Immediate Release
March 16, 2009

TICKET INFORMATION

- Tickets: All tickets are available through the California Shakespeare Theater Box Office, 701 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley CA, 510.548.9666, or online at www.calshakes.org
- Subscriptions On sale now; visit www.calshakes.org for series and pricing information.
- Single Tickets On sale beginning May 1. Ticket prices start at \$20.
- Group Sales Groups of 10 or more save \$10 off the single ticket prices; complimentary ticket available for groups of 15+. For more information, call 510.548.3422 x118.

AUDIENCE ENRICHMENT EVENTS

- Inside Scoop Audiences are invited to meet and converse with the director, actors and designers to learn about directorial points of view, actors' methods, and design ideas for the upcoming production. Complimentary Peet's coffee and Loard's ice cream is served. This free event is held at the Orinda Public Library, 26 Orinda Way, 7pm.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, May 11
Private Lives, Jun 22
Happy Days, Aug 3
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Aug 31
- Grove Talks Led by resident Grove Talks speakers, these free, informal 20-minute talks are held on site 45 minutes before each and every performance, offering invaluable insight into the play and the production.
- Meet the Artists Audience members enjoy an opportunity to engage in a lively discussion about the production with cast members following select 4pm matinee performances.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, May 31 and Jun 14
Private Lives, Jul 12 and Jul 26
Happy Days, Aug 16 and Aug 30
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sep 20 and Oct 4
- InSight Explore the world of the play through an informal dialogue with the production's dramaturg following select 4pm performances.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, Jun 7
Private Lives, Jul 19
Happy Days, Aug 23
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sep 27

- more -

For Immediate Release
March 16, 2009

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Tastings** Taste the best of the Bay Area's wine, beer, coffee, sweets, and savories for free on Tuesdays and Wednesdays before the performance.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, Jun 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, and 17
Private Lives, Jul 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, and 29
Happy Days, Aug 18, 19, 25, 26, Sep 1 and 2
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sep 22, 23, 29, 30, Oct 6 and 7
- College Pizza Night** Pre-show pizza party for the college-age crowd to celebrate the school year, beginning at 6:30pm. Free with ticket to the show.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, May 27
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sep 16
- Shindig** Pre-show party for young professionals with themed cocktails, music, and more; beginning at 6:30pm. Free with ticket to the show.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, Jun 5
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Oct 2
- LGBT Night** Themed, pre-show cocktail part for the LGBT crowd featuring music and games, beginning at 6:30pm. Free with ticket to show.
- Dates *Private Lives*, Jul 10
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sep 25
- Behind the Scenes** Share an intimate chat with actors from each production. The evening includes a backstage tour, hors d'oeuvres, wine, and a catered dinner beginning at 5:30pm. Cost: \$40 (not including theater ticket). Call 510.548.9666 to order.
- Dates *Romeo and Juliet*, Jun 4
Private Lives, Jul 16
Happy Days, Aug 20
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Sep 24
- Note To Editors** Photos are available upon request.

- more -



For Immediate Release
March 16, 2009

ABOUT CAL SHAKES

Founded in 1974, California Shakespeare Theater is a fully professional, critically acclaimed theater known for its innovative productions of the plays of William Shakespeare and other reimagined classics. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Jonathan Moscone and Managing Director Susie Falk, Cal Shakes is committed to being a leading community citizen by nourishing the imaginations of audiences, artists, and learners of all ages. Cal Shakes makes boldly imagined and deeply entertaining interpretations of Shakespeare and the classics; provides in-depth, far-reaching artistic learning programs for learners of all ages and circumstances; and brings disparate communities together around the creation of new American plays that reflect the cultural diversity of the Bay Area.

California Shakespeare Theater's 2009 Season is sponsored in part by City National Bank, Lafayette Park Hotel and Spa, Peet's Coffee & Tea, and Shapell Homes, and receives institutional support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Dean & Margaret Leshner Foundation. Audience Enrichment programs are underwritten in part by the City of Orinda's Community Grants Program.

#