

THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD

Founded in 1987 by JOHN F. ANDREWS, The Shakespeare Guild is a global nonprofit corporation that celebrates, and endeavors to cultivate larger and more appreciative audiences for, the poet who has been applauded in one society after another, age after succeeding age, as history's most reliable guide to the mileposts of life.

In April of 1994, as a 90th-birthday present for our century's most enduring exemplar of the classical tradition in the interpretation of Shakespeare and his fellow playwrights, the Guild unveiled *The Golden Quill*, an elegant JOHN SAFER trophy to be bestowed each spring on the performer an outstanding selection panel – cultural leader KITTY CARLISLE HART, playwright KEN LUDWIG, television journalist ROBERT MACNEIL, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust director ROGER PRINGLE, and Radio Hall of Fame inductee SUSAN STAMBERG – has designated as that year's recipient of THE SIR JOHN GIELGUD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DRAMATIC ARTS.

The inaugural Gielgud ceremonies took place at THE FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY in Washington, with Sir IAN MCKELLEN (1996), Sir DEREK JACOBI (1997), and Miss ZOE CALDWELL (1998) as honorees. Participants have included such luminaries as BRIAN BEDFORD, MARVIN HAMLISCH, FRANKLIN GAMARO and ILIANA LOPEZ, DAVID LOUD, ROBERT MACNEIL, AUDRA McDONALD, KELLY MCGILLIS, GEORGE PLIMPTON, TONY RANDALL, LYNN REDGRAVE, Dame DIANA RIGG, and JAMES ROOSE-EVANS.

Other Guild initiatives, among them a popular *SPEAKING OF SHAKESPEARE* series at THE BRITISH EMBASSY and THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB, have attracted notables like actors KENNETH BRANAGH, EDWARD GERO, HAL HOLBROOK, and PATRICK STEWART, directors PETER BROOK, MICHAEL KAHN, and ROBERT WHITEHEAD, writers JUDITH MARTIN, MARK OLSHAKER, and DEBORAH TANNEN, and journalists ROBERT AUBRY DAVIS, JANE HORWITZ, RITA KEMPLEY, COKIE ROBERTS, SUSAN STAMBERG, and LINDA WERTHEIMER.

The Guild is administered by a Board of Directors that includes KENNETH L. ADELMAN, LETITIA CHAMBERS, ESTHER COOPERSMITH, JUNE OPPEN DEGNAN, JANET A. DENTON, SUSAN EISENHOWER, BARBARA HAMMERMAN, R. ROBERT LINOWES, MARK OLSHAKER, WALDA W. ROSEMAN, and JOHN SAFER. The Guild also benefits from an Advisory Council that consists of F. MURRAY ABRAHAM, BRIAN BEDFORD, DALE W. BELL, RALPH BERRY, LIVINGSTON BIDDLE, DAVID BIRNEY, WINTON M. BLOUNT, JOHN RUSSELL BROWN, NEDDA CASEI, TONY CHURCH, MARCUS COHN, ROBERT AUBRY DAVIS, JAN DU PLAIN, JAMES P. ELDER, IRWIN GLUSKER, JANET A. GRIFFIN, MARIFRANCIS HARDISON, KITTY CARLISLE HART, JEFFREY HOROWITZ, MICHAEL KAHN, MICHAEL LEARNED, KEN LUDWIG, MAYNARD MACK, ROBERT MACNEIL, SHERRY MUELLER, PEGGY O'BRIEN, ANDREW E. OEHMANN, STUART OMANS, WILLIAM W. PATTON, ROGER PRINGLE, TONY RANDALL, LYNN REDGRAVE, MICHAEL A. ROSENBERG, SIR DONALD SINDEN, SUSAN STAMBERG, JEAN STAPLETON, PATRICK STEWART, and HOMER SWANDER.

The Guild thanks THE SHUBERT ORGANIZATION, presided over by chairman Gerald Schoenfeld, for the generosity with which it has made THE ETHEL BARRYMORE THEATRE available for this year's Gielgud presentation. Particular gratitude is extended to PETER ENTIN, Director of Theatre Operations, DAN LANDON, House Manager for the Barrymore Theatre, and SUSIE CORDON, Production Stage Manager, and the crew for *Amy's View*. Among the dozens of other fine people to whom the Guild is especially grateful are DORIS BLUM and ROBERT WHITEHEAD of Whitehead-Stevens, RUTH BRADLEY,

MEREDITH MCCARTHY, MOLLIE MICHEL, and GEORGE TRESCHER of George Trescher Associates, ERIN EAGAN and SUE JENNINGS of Dame Judi Dench's staff, and all of the extraordinary artists who have dedicated their time and effort to making this year's gala such a lustrous occasion. Finally, the Guild conveys its appreciation to all the patrons, sponsors, and friends who have contributed so unstintingly to this endeavor.



A GALA TRIBUTE TO “HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN”

*A festive Broadway ceremony
at which Dame Judi Dench
will receive the 1999 Gielgud Award*

MONDAY, MAY 17TH, AT 8:00 P.M.

THE ETHEL BARRYMORE THEATRE

DAME JUDI DENCH

Judi Dench is one of our era's most renowned and versatile dramatic artists. Born and educated in York, she started her acting career in 1957 with the legendary Old Vic Company, where she immediately proved her mettle as Ophelia (HAMLET), Katherine (HENRY V), and the heroine in ROMEO AND JULIET.

Her long association with The Royal Shakespeare Company began in 1961, when she portrayed Anya in THE CHERRY ORCHARD. She went on to indelible depictions of Viola (TWELFTH NIGHT), Beatrice (MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING), and Imogen (CYMBELINE). In 1976 she brought a fiery, ambitious Lady to a MACBETH, directed by Trevor Nunn with Ian McKellen in the title part, that many regard as the most powerful rendering that tragedy has ever seen.

In 1970 Judi Dench was inducted into the Order of the British Empire, and in 1988 she became a Dame Commander of the British Empire. Her distinctions include numerous awards from The British Academy of Film and Television Arts, The Critics Circle, The Evening Standard, Plays and Players, and The Society of London Theatre, among them two Olivier trophies in 1996 alone, one for a musical in which she displayed her gifts as a singer. In AMY'S VIEW, the David Hare drama in which she has recently been nominated for her first Tony Award, she won acclaim both at the Royal National Theatre, where director Sir Richard Eyre's original production was a huge success, and at the Aldwych Theatre in London's West End. She is now receiving enthusiastic notices in a Franco Zeffirelli film, *Tea with Mussolini*, in which she co-stars with Cher, Joan Plowright, Dame Maggie Smith, and Lily Tomlin.

American viewers are most familiar with Dame Judi for television series such as the endearing Britcom AS TIME GOES BY, for the stirring Hostess she gives us in Kenneth Branagh's cinematic HENRY V, for her persona as "M" in James Bond movies like GOLDEN EYE and TOMORROW NEVER DIES, and above all for the Queens she enacts so engagingly in HER MAJESTY MRS. BROWN (Victoria) and SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (Elizabeth I). For these regal roles she's garnered two Academy Award nominations, and for the second of them she accepted her first Oscar on March 21st. In a recent *New York Times* article about her current work on stage and screen, critic Benedict Nightingale suggests that Dame Judi may well be "her country's greatest living actress."

For the charming caricature of Dame Judi that adorns our front cover, the Guild is deeply indebted to CLIVE FRANCIS, a superb London actor who has published such delightful books as LAUGH LINES, SIR JOHN: THE MANY FACES OF GIELGUD, and THERE IS NOTHING LIKE A DANE. The accompanying photograph is by KEITH HAMSHERE.



Participants in This Evening's Festivities

KEITH BAXTER depicted Prince Hal in *Chimes at Midnight*, a 1966 Orson Welles film in which the producer played Falstaff and Sir John Gielgud enacted Henry IV. A playwright and director as well as a gifted actor, Mr. Baxter is now in The Shakespeare Theatre's *Merchant of Venice*.

BRIAN BEDFORD, who was Ariel to Gielgud's Prospero in a 1959 *Tempest* in Stratford and London, has earned a Tony Award in *School for Wives* (1971) and Tony nominations for *Two Shakespearean Actors* (1991), *Timon of Athens* (1993), and *The Moliere Comedies* (1994).

ZOE CALDWELL is the recipient of four Tony Awards, for *Slapstick Tragedy* (1966), *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (1968), *Medea* (1982), and *Master Class* (1996). Last year Sir Derek Jacobi, who had received the 1997 Gielgud trophy, bestowed the 1998 award upon Miss Caldwell.

REBECCA EATON is WGBH/Boston's executive producer for *Mystery!* and *Mobil Masterpiece Theatre*, and one of the producers of *Her Majesty Mrs. Brown*. The *King Lear* that *Masterpiece Theatre* telecast a few months ago has just won its director, Richard Eyre, a Peabody Award.

SIR RICHARD EYRE served as artistic director of the Royal National Theatre from 1988 to 1997, where his many superb productions included Tom Stoppard's *Invention of Love*, a *Richard III* with Sir Ian McKellen, and five scripts, among them the current triumph *Amy's View*, by David Hare.

SIR DAVID HARE, author of *Amy's View* and *The Blue Room*, is now doing a solo turn in his third new Broadway hit, *Via Dolorosa*. Among the titles for which this prolific playwright is most widely acclaimed are *Plenty*, *Murmuring Judges*, *Racing Demon*, *Skylight*, and *The Judas Kiss*.

HAL HOLBROOK, long revered for his one-man show *Mark Twain Tonight*, which won a Tony and was nominated for an Emmy in 1966, is also celebrated for *Abe Lincoln in Illinois*, which earned him a 1976 Emmy, and for TV series such as *Clear and Present Danger* (1971).

ROBERT MACNEIL is best known for the *NewsHour* he once hosted as co-creator of MacNeil/Lehrer Productions, but he has also given us *The Story of English*, a popular PBS series, three novels, and *Wordstruck*, a memoir about his love for the language ennobled by Shakespeare.

RONALD PICKUP, who plays Frank Oddie in *Amy's View*, is an esteemed veteran of the London stage, where he has contributed to numerous West End successes, acted with such luminaries as Laurence Olivier and Michael Redgrave, and appeared in *The Day of the Jackal* and other films.

CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER, an eminent veteran of all three of the world's theatrical Stratfords and a man who is recognized as one of the greatest classical actors of our era, recently completed a several-city revival of *Barrymore*, the William Luce tour de force in which he won a 1996 Tony Award for Best Actor. His most memorable screen role was in *The Sound of Music* (1965).

TOBY STEPHENS, who is winning plaudits in *Ring Round the Moon*, has distinguished himself with an award-winning performance in *Coriolanus* for the Royal Shakespeare Company. His other RSC credits include winning roles in *All's Well That Ends Well* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

NEW YORK'S ENSEMBLE FOR EARLY MUSIC, now in its 25th anniversary season, is being conducted tonight by its Founding Director, **FREDERICK RENZ**. It features **TODD FRIZZELL** as tenor, **WAYNE HANKIN** on the Renaissance winds, and **MARK RIMPLE** singing countertenor and playing the lute. These fine artists are accompanied by **PARTHENIA, A CONSORT OF VIOLS**, with **BEVERLY AU** on the tenor viol, **ROSAMUND MORLEY** on the bass viol, and **LISA TERRY** on the bass viol.

PHILIP SHNEIDMAN, director for this year's Gielgud gala, produced *Brendan Gill: A Tribute* in May 1998 at Town Hall. His previous engagements have taken him to such venues as Lincoln Center Theater, the New York Shakespeare Festival, the Broadhurst Theatre, and the Cort Theatre.

On behalf of
THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD
and its prestigious associates

THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR and LADY MEYER
Honorary Patrons

MRS. VINCENT ASTOR and LOUIS AUCHINCLOSS
Honorary Chairmen

KITTY CARLISLE HART and MRS. LEWIS T. PRESTON
Chairmen

are delighted to welcome you to

A Night for the Love of Shakespeare

A Festive Salute to

DAME JUDI DENCH

*The 1999 recipient of THE GOLDEN QUILL
The Sir John Gielgud Award for Excellence in the Dramatic Arts*



Host

ROBERT MACNEIL

Remarks and Presentations by

CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER + REBECCA EATON

SIR RICHARD EYRE + HAL HOLBROOK

SIR DAVID HARE + RONALD PICKUP

BRIAN BEDFORD + TOBY STEPHENS

KEITH BAXTER + ZOE CALDWELL

Prelude by

NEW YORK'S ENSEMBLE FOR EARLY MUSIC

Director

PHILIP SHNEIDMAN

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