



Guild's 2015 GIELGUD AWARD Celebrates the Work of DAME EILEEN ATKINS

Sunday, 18 October 2015

The Guildhall, City of London

Luncheon & Ceremony, 12:30-5:00

This presentation by **THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD** took place during the 2015 **UK THEATRE AWARDS** gathering in one of England's most venerable settings. For details, please email shakesguild@msn.com or contact John Andrews at **505-988-9560**.

Best known to many as co-creator (with Jean Marsh) of *Upstairs, Downstairs* (1971-75) and *The House of Elliot* (1991-93), Dame Eileen Atkins is one of today's most versatile dramatic artists. In 2008 she won both a BAFTA and an Emmy, opposite Dame Judi Dench, in the BBC drama *Cranford*. She has earned three Olivier Awards and four Tony Award nominations, and her many stage credits include *Exit the King*, with Sir Alec Guinness (1963), *Medea* (1985), *A Delicate Balance*, with Dame Maggie Smith (1997), and *Doubt* (2006). Among the films she has graced are *Equus* (1977), *The Dresser* (1983), and *Gosford Park* (2001); and she wrote the screenplay for *Mrs. Dalloway* (1997), a feature that starred Vanessa Redgrave. After her 1957 Shakespearean debut in Stratford-upon-Avon, she went on to star in such classics as *Twelfth Night* (1961, 1978) and *The Tempest* (1962) in London's Old Vic. In 2001 Queen Elizabeth appointed her Dame Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.



This was our second event at the Guildhall and our fourth in London. In 2000, following a BAFTA preview of his *Love's Labour's Lost*, the Guild honored Kenneth Branagh at Middle Temple Hall. In 2004 we joined RADA and the RSC in a *Gielgud Centenary Gala* at the Gielgud Theatre, where our 2014 laureate, Sir Donald Sinden, joined Alan Bennett, Dame Judi Dench, Clive Francis, Sir Peter Hall, Sir David Hare, Rosemary Harris, Barbara Jefford, Barbara Leigh Hunt, Sir Ian McKellen, Michael Pennington, Ian Richardson, Paul Scofield, and Ned Sherrin.