

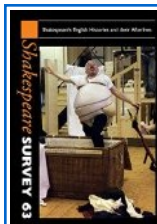
SAVORING THE CLASSICAL TRADITION IN DRAMA

ENGAGING PRESENTATIONS BY
THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD
 IN COLLABORATION WITH
THE NATIONAL ARTS CLUB
THE WNDC IN WASHINGTON
THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION



PETER HOLLAND ♦ Monday, June 20

As Associate Dean for the Arts and as holder of the McMeel Family Chair in Shakespeare Studies at the University of Notre Dame, PETER HOLLAND oversees a superb Shakespeare festival and administers **Actors From The London Stage**, a touring educational program that has transformed the teaching of dramatic literature in the United States. He edits *Shakespeare Survey*, widely regarded as the most prestigious journal in the field, and co-edits **Oxford Shakespeare Topics**, a set with 20 volumes now in print. For years Dr. Holland directed the **Shakespeare Institute**, a Stratford-based academy of the University of Birmingham, and he has written lucid program notes for



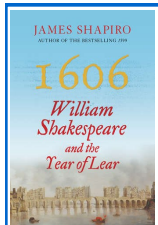
NATIONAL ARTS CLUB
 15 Gramercy Park South
 Manhattan
PROGRAM 8:00 P.M.
Admission Free, But Reservations Requested

productions at London's **National Theatre**, an institution that has flourished under the leadership of **Nicholas Hytner**, who studied under Dr. Holland at the **University of Cambridge**. Among his many books are *English Shakespeares* and *The Ornament of Action*.

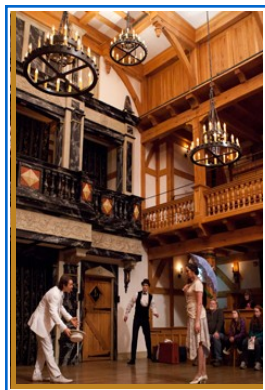
HIGHLIGHTS OF A FESTIVE GUILD SEASON



We opened 2015-16 in September with **JOHN LAHR**, a celebrated critic, biographer, and script artist who joined us at the **Hill Center in Washington** for a scintillating discussion of his latest collection of *New Yorker* profiles: *Joy Ride: Show People and Their Shows*. A few days later we were at the **National Arts Club in Manhattan** for a conversation with producer **MARC BARON**, who presides over **The Lambs**, a venerable New York club whose members have founded such organizations as Actors' Equity, the Screen Actors Guild, and ASCAP. In October we were historic **Guildhall in London**, where the **Shakespeare Guild** bestowed its 2015 *Gielgud Award for Excellence in the Dramatic Arts* on **DAME EILEEN ATKINS** as part of a **UK Theatre Awards** luncheon at which **Sir Patrick Stewart**, the Guild's 2008 laureate, presented this year's trophy. November brought us back to the **NAC** for a delightful conversation with **Columbia's JAMES SHAPIRO**, who introduced the latest of his acclaimed books, *1606: William Shakespeare and the Year of Lear*.



In January we focused on **Santa Fe**, where the **Guild** joined the **Lensic Center for the Performing Arts** in a revel about Shakespeare's place in Mark Twain's *American Ever the Twain*, a script devised by **Jonathan Richards** and **Lois Rudnick**, enchanted a sold-out house, and it provided an opportunity for notables such as **Valerie Plame** to celebrate *Shakespeare 400* and welcome one of the Folger's touring First Folio exhibitions to a Plaza that was already a decade old when this incomparable collection came off the press in London. In February we resumed our East Coast programming with one event in **Washington**, a Dupont Circle luncheon with **DIANA OWEN**, director of the **Shakespeare Birthplace Trust**, and another in **New York**, a *Speaking of Shakespeare* gathering at the **National Arts Club** with **PEGGY O'BRIEN**, director of education at the **Folger**. In March we returned to the **NAC** for an event with director **KARIN COONROD**, who commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Venetian Ghetto with a preview of *The Merchant in Venice*, a special presentation to occur in July in that resonant setting. In April we focused on the **American Shakespeare Center**, home of a beautifully reconstructed **Blackfriars** playhouse, with founder and director of mission **RALPH COHEN** to tell us about the benefits of "doing it with the lights on." May brought **University of London KIERNAN RYAN** to the **NAC** for an illuminating discussion of what it is that makes the "soul of the age" that Shakespeare adorned remain vibrant as an author "for all time." It's been another special season, and we're now looking forward to 2016



Join the Guild, and Greet the Stars

EVENTS IN LONDON, NEW YORK, AND WASHINGTON

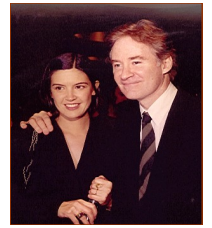


If you attended *A SHAKESPEAREAN REVEL AT LINCOLN CENTER* in 2002, you relished actors **John Cleese**, **Kitty Carlisle Hart**, **Dana Ivey**, and **Tony Randall**, writer **Adam Gopnik**, and directors **Bernard Gersten** and **Margot Harley** in a tribute to **KEVIN KLINE** as that year's recipient of the **GIELGUD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DRAMATIC ARTS**. It was a joyous gala,

but like its 2003 sequel with **LYNN REDGRAVE** as laureate and her brother **Corin** and her sister **Vanessa** as presenters at the **NATIONAL ARTS CLUB**, it was also substantive. In this respect it echoed a 1999 gala at Broadway's **BARRYMORE**



THEATRE, where **Zoe Caldwell**, who had received a 1998 **GIELGUD** at the **FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY**, led a cavalcade of notables – actors **Keith Baxter**, **Brian Bedford**, **Hal Holbrook**, **Ronald Pickup**, **Christopher Plummer**, and **Toby Stephens**, dramatist **Sir David Hare**, director **Sir Richard Eyre**, *Masterpiece Theatre* producer **Rebecca**



Eaton, and host **Robert MacNeil** – in a tribute to **DAME JUDI DENCH**. A few months later another **GIELGUD** honoree, **Sir Derek Jacobi**, helped preside over a 2000 presentation to actor, director, and filmmaker **KENNETH BRANAGH** in London's historic **MIDDLE TEMPLE HALL**. This Bardic **SALUTE TO "THE**

MAN OF THE MILLENNIUM" featured remarks by U.S. Ambassador **Philip Lader**, composer **Patrick Doyle**, and actors **Samantha Bond**, **Richard Briers**, **Helena Bonham Carter**, **Richard Clifford**, **Ben Elton**, **Stephen Fry**, **Bob Hoskins**, **Geraldine McEwan**, and **Timothy Spall**.

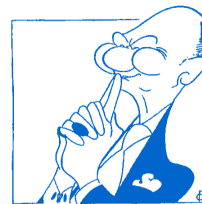
On April 19, 2004, in the London theatre that had been renamed for Sir John in 1994, shortly after the **SHAKESPEARE GUILD** unveiled a **John Safer** trophy to preserve the actor's legacy "with golden quill" (Sonnet 85), the **GUILD** collaborated with the **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** and the **ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART** to celebrate the centenary of Sir John's birth. During a gala hosted by the **BBC's** **Ned Sherrin**, playwrights **Alan Bennett** and **Sir David Hare**, director **Sir Peter Hall**, and performers **Dame Judi Dench**, **Clive Francis**, **Rosemary Harris**, **Martin Jarvis**, **Barbara Jefford**, **Barbara Leigh-Hunt**, **Sir Ian McKellen**, **Michael Pennington**, **Ian Richardson**, **Paul Scofield**, and **Sir Donald Sinden** recalled their departed friend. On June 12, 2006, the **GUILD** returned to the **NATIONAL ARTS CLUB** for a salute to **CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER**, who was toasted by **Julie Andrews**, **Zoe Caldwell**, **Clive Francis**, **Robert MacNeil**, **Audra McDonald**, and **Lynn Redgrave**. A few months later, on May 21, 2007, the **GUILD** joined the **ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION** at Washington's **BRITISH EMBASSY** for a reception at which **Sir David and Lady Manning**, Justice **Ruth Bader Ginsburg**, actors **Helen Carey** and **Ted van Griethuysen**, and others feted **MICHAEL KAHN**, artistic director of the **SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY**, for his service to the Nation's Capital. On March 10, 2008, Sir David's successor, **Sir Nigel Sheinwald**, joined actors **F. Murray Abraham**, **Kate Fleetwood**, **Whoopi Goldberg**, **Joel Grey**, and **Daniel Stewart**, pianist **Emanuel Ax**, director **David Jones**, and producer **Robert Halmi Jr.** at the **NAC** for a **GIELGUD** toast to **PATRICK STEWART**. On September 20, 2010, actors **Tom Hulce** and **Jerry Stiller**, producers **Robert Brustein**, **Fred Kaufman**, **Brian Kulick**, **Renzo Martinelli**, **Julian Schlossberg**, critic **James Shapiro**, and others at the **NAC** saluted **F. MURRAY ABRAHAM**. **GIELGUD** trophies are now bestowed during the annual **UK THEATRE AWARDS** luncheon in London's venerable **GUILDHALL**. The **GUILD** honored **SIR DONALD SINDEN** (posthumously) on October 19, 2014, and (with **Sir Patrick Stewart** presenting the award) **DAME EILEEN ATKINS** on October 18, 2015.

In recent years, through conversations that **John Andrews** has hosted in locales such as the **NATIONAL PRESS CLUB** in D.C., the **CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER** in Illinois, and the **ALGONQUIN HOTEL** in New York, **GUILD** attendees have chatted with actors **Jane Alexander**, **Simon Russell Beale**, **Richard Easton**, **Henry Goodman**, **Bill Irwin**, **Roger Rees**, **Prunella Scales**, **Janet Suzman**, **Timothy West**, and **Michael York**, directors **Peter Brook** and **Robert Whitehead**, media leaders **Cokie Roberts**, **Susan Stamberg**, and **Linda Wertheimer**, and writers **Edward Albee**, **E. R. Braithwaite**, **Michael Dirda**, **Sir Harold Evans**, **Flora Fraser**, **Michael Frayn**, **Stephen Greenblatt**, **Anthony Hecht**, **David Kastan**, **John Lahr**, **Ken Ludwig**, **Judith Martin**, **Peter Shaffer**, **James Shapiro**, **Jesse Sheidlower**, **Deborah Tannen**, and **Garry Wills**. **GUILD** constituents enjoy special perquisites at all events. and payments not offset by benefits claimed are fully tax-deductible.

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Founded in 1987 and operational since 1994, The Shakespeare Guild is a global nonprofit corporation that celebrates, and endeavors to cultivate larger and more appreciative audiences for, the dramatist who has been applauded in one society after another as our most reliable guide to the mileposts of life.