

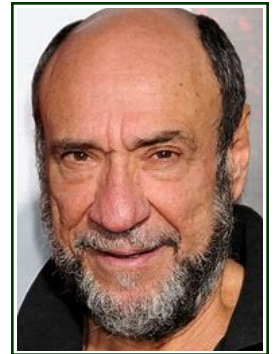
SAVORING THE CLASSICAL TRADITION IN DRAMA

ENGAGING PRESENTATIONS BY
THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD
IN PROUD COLLABORATION WITH
THE NATIONAL ARTS CLUB
THE PLAYERS, NEW YORK CITY
THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION



F. MURRAY ABRAHAM ♦ Monday, May 13

Best known for the Academy Award he earned as Mozart's rival Antonio Salieri in the cinematic version of Peter Shaffer's *Amadeus*, but equally compelling as Dar Adal in TV's acclaimed *Homeland* series, **F. MURRAY**



ABRAHAM is one of today's most versatile actors. He was recently featured in *Shakespeare Uncovered*, a PBS series for which Mr. Abraham revisited Shylock and recalled what it was like to portray that fascinating character in a staging of *The Merchant of Venice* that commenced at Brooklyn's *Theatre for a New Audience* and eventually made its way to Stratford-upon-Avon as part of a global festival under the aegis of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

In 2010 Mr. Abraham received a *Gielgud Award for Excellence in the Dramatic Arts* at the NAC, and those who were on hand for that ceremony will recall that he remains committed to delving even more deeply into our repertory's most compelling masterpieces.

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



JOHN DOUGLAS THOMPSON ♦ Tuesday, May 14



In 2009, when **JOHN DOUGLAS THOMPSON** garnered acclaim for his title roles in both Shakespeare's *Othello* and O'Neill's *The Emperor Jones*, the *Times* asserted that "there may well be no better classical actor working in the New York theater right now." In 2012 that assessment was echoed by Alec Wilkinson in a lengthy *New Yorker* profile. Two years later Mr. Thompson won a *Drama Desk Award* for Outstanding Solo Performance in *Satchmo at the Waldorf*. In 2015 *Times* reviewer Ben Brantley bestowed fervent praise on his rendering of the protagonist in a *Theatre for a New Audience* production of Marlowe's *Tamburlaine* that was directed by Michael



NATIONAL ARTS CLUB
15 Gramercy Park South
Manhattan
PROGRAM AT 2:00 P.M.
*Admission Free, But
Reservations Requested*

Boyd of the **RSC**. Mr. Thompson is now portraying the Earl of Kent in a Broadway *King Lear* with Glenda Jackson as the monarch, and that will be one of the many subjects he'll explore during what promises to be a memorable afternoon Salon in the NAC parlor.

MICHAEL LEARNED ♦ Tuesday, May 14

Best known to most of us as Olivia Walton on *The Waltons*, a long-running CBS series for which she was nominated for six Emmy Awards and won three, **MICHAEL LEARNED** later collected a fourth Emmy for her role



THE PLAYERS
16 Gramercy Park South
Manhattan
PROGRAM AT 7:00 P.M.
*Admission Free, But
Reservations Requested*

as the title character in CBS's *Nurse*. She has also earned acclaim for Broadway roles in Wendy Wasserman's *The Sisters Rosensweig* (1993), Edward Albee's *Three Tall Women* (1995), and Gore Vidal's *The Best Man* (2000), not to mention the modern classics (among them Noel Coward's *Private Lives*, Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*, Neil Simon's *The Good Doctor*, and Alfred Uhry's *Driving Miss Daisy*) she's graced either in TV dramas or in theatrical



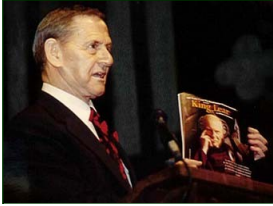
productions on the West Coast. Not surprisingly, Ms. Learned has done notable work in Shakespeare, so among the many things we can expect her to reflect upon is how to approach characters such as the Olivia she once portrayed in a presentation of *Twelfth Night*.



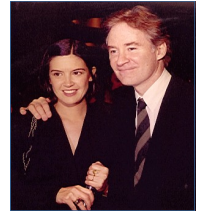
Help the Guild, & Support the Arts EVENTS IN D.C, LONDON, NEW YORK, AND SANTA FE

Founded in 1987, THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD is now in its fourth decade. Since 1994 it has been known primarily for its *GIELGUD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DRAMATIC ARTS*, a trophy created with the warm endorsement of Sir John, and one that has been presented in such venues as the Folger Shakespeare Library and the British Embassy in Washington; the Barrymore Theatre, Lincoln Center, and the National Arts Club in New York; and Middle Temple Hall and the Guildhall in London. *GIELGUD*-related activities have also occurred in a number of other settings, among them BAFTA's Princess Anne Auditorium and the Gielgud Theatre in the West End.

Recipients of the award ~ F. Murray Abraham, Dame Eileen Atkins, Sir Kenneth Branagh, Zoe Caldwell, Dame Judi Dench, Sir Richard Eyre, Sir David Hare, Sir Derek Jacobi, Michael Kahn, Kevin Kline, Sir Ian McKellen, Christopher Plummer, Lynn Redgrave, Vanessa Redgrave, Sir Donald Sinden, and Sir Patrick Stewart ~ have often served as presenters in festivities that recognize their esteemed colleagues. Other notables who've participated in these events include Emanuel Ax, Alan Bennett,



Keith Baxter, Brian Bedford, Samantha Bond, Richard Briers, Helena Bonham Carter, Richard Clifford, John Cleese, Patrick Doyle, Rebecca Eaton, Ben Elton, Clive Francis, Stephen Fry, Bernard Gersten, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Rupert Goold, Joel Grey, Whoopi Goldberg, Sir Peter Hall, Rosemary Harris, Kitty Carlisle Hart, Hal Holbrook, Bob Hoskins, Tom Hulce, Dana Ivey, Martin Jarvis, Barbara Jefford, David Jones, Barbara Leigh-Hunt, Robert MacNeil, Audra McDonald, Geraldine McEwan, Michael Pennington, Ronald Pickup, George Plimpton, Tony Randall, Ian Richardson, Paul Scofield, Ned Sherrin, Timothy Spall, Toby Stephens, and Jerry Stiller.



Since 1998 the GUILD has also presented *SPEAKING OF SHAKESPEARE*, a conversation series that debuted at the National Press Club in Washington and has enriched audiences in a variety of other locales, among them the Cosmos Club, Ford's Theatre, the Shakespeare Theatre Company, and the University Club in DC, the Chicago Shakespeare Theatre in the Windy City, and the Algonquin Hotel, The Players, the Princeton Club, and the Schimmel Center in Manhattan. Guests have included actors Jane Alexander, Simon Russell Beale, Richard Easton, Henry Goodman, Stacy Keach, Michael Learned, Dakin Matthews, Roger Rees, Prunella Scales, Liev Schreiber, Marian Seldes, Jean Stapleton, Janet Suzman, John Douglas Thompson, Timothy West, and Michael York; directors Bill Alexander, Peter Brook, Robert Brustein, Karin Coonrod, Barry Edelstein, Barbara Gaines, Margot Harley, Jeffrey Horowitz, Tina Packer, Molly Smith, Julie Taymor, and Robert Whitehead; playwrights Edward Albee, Michael Frayn, Ken Ludwig, and Sir Peter Shaffer; and writers Norman Augustine, E.R. Braithwaite, Michael Dirda, Sir Harold Evans, Flora Fraser, Marjorie Garber, Adam Gopnik, Stephen Greenblatt, Anthony Hecht, Peter Holland, Peter Kyle, John Lahr, Peter Marks, John Miller, Judith Martin, Mark Olshaker, Bill Press, Cokie Roberts, Neil Rudenstine, Deborah Tannen, Stanley Wells, Linda Wertheimer, and Garry Wills.



For detail about these and other GUILD offerings, including presentations in the Land of Enchantment that have been taken place at the Lentic Performing Arts Center, the New Mexico Museum of Art, San Miguel Church, the Santa Fe Botanical Garden, and elsewhere, we hope you'll visit www.shakesguild.org and click on the blue links that guide you through our rich and eventful history of cultural and educational programming. We also invite you to visit our *Membership and Reservations* page and become more deeply involved in our endeavors. By design, most of our attractions are admission-free; but of course that does not mean they're cost-free. Like the schools, colleges, libraries, museums, public radio and TV stations, and other nonprofit institutions that we all help with membership dues and donations, the GUILD is in constant need of support from those who cherish its efforts to preserve and enhance a unique artistic and intellectual heritage. We urge you to bear in mind, too, that any contributions that are not offset by benefits received are fully tax-deductible.

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I wish to make a tax-deductible donation of \$____. Please enroll me as a GUILD member in the __ SUBSCRIBER (\$50), __ CONTRIBUTOR (\$100), __ DONOR (\$250), __ BENEFACTOR (\$500), __ PATRON (\$1,000), __ SPONSOR (\$5,000) category. Please reserve __ space(s) for May 13, __ space(s) for May 14. Please accept my enclosed check for \$____. Please charge \$____ to _ AMERICAN EXPRESS _ MASTERCARD _ VISA account number _____ (____/____) CVV____.

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Presenter of the *GIELGUD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DRAMATIC ARTS*
Established in 1994 to Honor Sir John and to Perpetuate his Legacy

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JOHN F. ANDREWS, President

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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.