



JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2024



WELCOME



CLAIRE MULC

Welcome to The Old Globe and this production of English. Our goal is to serve all of San Diego and beyond through the art of theatre. Below are the mission and values that drive our work. We thank you for being a crucial part of what we do.

OUR MISSION

The mission of The Old Globe is to preserve, strengthen, and advance American theatre by: Creating theatrical experiences of the highest professional standards; Producing and presenting works of exceptional merit, designed to reach current and future audiences; Ensuring diversity and balance in programming; Providing an environment for the growth and education of theatre professionals, audiences, and the community at large.

OUR VALUES

The Old Globe believes that theatre matters. Our commitment is to make it matter to more people.

The values that shape this commitment are:

TRANSFORMATION

Theatre cultivates imagination and empathy, enriching our humanity and connecting us to each other by bringing us entertaining experiences, new ideas, and a wide range of stories told from many perspectives.

INCLUSION

The communities of San Diego, in their diversity and their commonality, are welcome and reflected at the Globe. Access for all to our stages and programs expands when we engage audiences in many ways and in many places.

EXCELLENCE

Our dedication to creating exceptional work demands a high standard of achievement in everything we do, on and off the stage.

STABILITY

Our priority every day is to steward a vital, nurturing, and financially secure institution that will thrive for generations.

IMPACT

Our prominence nationally and locally brings with it a responsibility to listen, collaborate, and act with integrity in order to serve.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are making theatre matter to more people on the ancestral home and unceded lands of the Kumeyaay, also known as Tipai-Ipai, a tribe of Indigenous peoples who live at the northern border of Baja California in Mexico and the southern border of California in the United States. Their Kumeyaay language belongs to the Yuman–Cochimí language family. The Kumeyaay have stewarded through generations the lands and waterways of what is now known as San Diego.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ROADMAP

The Old Globe has embarked on a series of steps to intensify and accelerate change at all levels of our institution. Learn more about this work by visiting www.TheOldGlobe.org/Roadmap.

THEATRE THAT LIVES BEYOND THE STAGE

Beyond the stage is where our work begins. Learn more at www.TheOldGlobe.org/Beyond.

ABOUT US

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ASSOCIATE ARTISTS

In recognition of their unique contribution to the growth of The Old Globe and their special talent, we take great pride and pleasure in acknowledging as Associate Artists the following individuals who have repeatedly demonstrated, by their active presence on our stages and in our shops, that wherever else they may work, they remain the heart and soul of the Globe.

William Anton Gregg Barnes Jacqueline Brookes* Lewis Brown* Victor Buono* Wayland Capwell* Kandis Chappell Eric Christmas* Patricia Conolly George Deloy Tim Donoghue Richard Easton* Tovah Feldshuh Monique Fowler Robert Foxworth Ralph Funicello Lillian Garrett-Groag Harry Groener A.R. Gurney* Joseph Hardy Mark Harelik Bob James Charles Janasz Peggy Kellner* Tom Lacy* Diana Maddox Nicholas Martin* Dakin Matthews Deborah May Katherine McGrath*

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*In memoriam

FROM BARRY

The Old Globe is a playwrights' theatre. As we assemble our annual programming, we strive to showcase the very best writing for the stage from many periods and cultures and in many genres and styles. Our lineup for 2024 boasts uncommonly fine examples of the dramatist's art, including the winners of the past two Pulitzer Prizes for Drama: 2022's Fat Ham, upcoming in a few months, and last year's English, tonight's play. Described by the Pulitzer judges as "quietly powerful," Sanaz Toossi's work is everything that the Globe cherishes. It's ambitious, thematically sophisticated, insightful, and witty; it's formally inventive and theatrically surprising. And, like so much of the best writing for the stage, it embraces the theatre's unique ability to transport our imaginations to places they've never been and to generate empathy for the characters we meet along the way.

Iran has been a subject of fascination for Americans since well before the revolution of 1979, and that upheaval and its international consequences have only increased our wish to understand the country more fully. But while an enormous amount of journalism, opinion writing, and historical study has helped us grasp the Islamic Republic of Iran as a geopolitical phenomenon, we've learned far less about the Iranian people as distinct from their government. We simply don't know much about their human lives and hopes. The theatre can help. The year 2008, when English is set, was an important one for Iranians, when a wave of protest, later dubbed the Iranian Green Movement, was about to surge. Toossi's play introduces us to a small group of regular people trying to live their regular lives in a society at a moment of churn, and it gives us a glimpse that in this distant nation run by a repressive regime live people with dreams that we recognize and struggles that we feel. With Iran's leaders once again at the center of world turmoil, English is an important reminder that they and their people are not one and the same.

That one of the struggles the play's character grapple with is the study of English—our American tongue and the world's *lingua franca*—lends the play both its humor and its poignancy. The means of expression we take for granted is for each of Marjan's four students something much, much bigger: a path to another life, away from Iran and its complexities and impossibilities. As anyone who's tried to learn a new language discovers, our ability to communicate is a kind of freedom. When we can't do it, when we can't express our thoughts in words, we feel shut out, confined. Our words make us who we are, they determine our ways through the world. They open us to new possibilities. In this sense the classroom of *English*, with its silly grammatical errors and accidental malapropisms, becomes something else entirely: a place of reinvention and self-fashioning. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) becomes a passport to a new existence.

The miracle of *English* to me, though, is not just its metaphorical richness. It's also the extraordinary theatrical device that Toossi invents to show us the laborious, hilarious efforts of Farsi speakers reckoning with English. This remarkable *coup de theatre* gives us flights of silliness at one moment and lyricism the next. The play is bold and audacious, bracing and original, and entirely deserving of the accolades it's won.

It's a special delight to welcome director Arya Shahi to the Globe to helm this production. Arya is familiar to our audiences: he's one of the seven-man collective PigPen Theatre Co., whose The Old Man and The Old Moon and The Tale of Despereaux were highlights of recent seasons in Balboa Park. Arya is in the middle of an extraordinary creative surge: in addition to his directing duties here, he's helping PigPen make its Broadway debut with the score of Water for Elephants the Musical, and he's on tour with his beguiling and very moving debut novel An Impossible Thing to Say. We're grateful that he's made the time to be with us, and that he's been able to bring his own family memories and personal heritage to this work, lending it an authenticity and beauty that's unique and invaluable. He's also brought together a group of artists onstage and off who share his commitment to truth, and I am proud to welcome them to the Globe. Artists like them, and like Arya, who's forged a long relationship with the Globe, deepen and enrich our work, and we are grateful.

Thanks for coming. Enjoy the show.

Barry Edelstein is the Erna Finci Viterbi Artistic Director of The Old Globe. Any feedback on tonight's show or any of the Globe's work? Email Barry at HiBarry@TheOldGlobe.org and he'll get back to you!



Barry Edelstein ERNA FINCI VITERBI ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Timothy J. Shields AUDREY S. GEISEL MANAGING DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

ENGLISH

SANAZ TOOSSI

Sadra Tehrani SCENIC DESIGN Afsaneh Aayani COSTUME DESIGN Amanda Zieve

Megumi Katayama SOUND DESIGN

Ana Bayat DIALECT COACH Caparelliotis Casting CASTING Chandra R.M. Anthenill PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

DIRECTED BY ARYA SHAHI

World premiere presented by Atlantic Theater Company and Roundabout Theatre Company New York City, 2022.

In 2020, *English* received the L. Arnold Weissberger Award for Playwriting, jointly administered by the Anna L. Weissberger Foundations and Williamstown Theatre Festival.

January 27 – February 18, 2024

Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre Conrad Prebys Theatre Center

CAST (in alphabetical order)

(
ROYA	Mary Apick*
GOLI	
ELHAM	
OMID	Joe Joseph*
MARJAN	
UNDERSTUDIES	for Omid – Veenwar Almezory; for Elham, Marjan – Farah Dinga; for Goli – Julie Meram
Production Stage Manager	

SETTING 2008. Karaj, Iran.

This production contains one act with no intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant DirectorKian Kline-Chi	lton
Assistant Scenic DesignAudrey Cast	eris
Assistant Costume DesignNatalie Barsl	
Production AssistantJamie B	
Stage Management SwingAnjee N	ero*

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

 $\label{eq:English} \textit{English} \textit{ is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.} www.concordtheatricals.com$

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Si desea una sinopsis de esta obra en Español o en Inglés, favor de pedírsela al acomodador que le entregó este programa. If you would like a synopsis of this production in English or Spanish, please request it from an usher.





Director Arya Shahi talks about his love for language and his personal and artistic connection to *English*.

Interview by Sonia Desai

What drew you to the world of English?

When *English* premiered in New York City, the Iranian American community was sincerely joyous. That was a rare—and deeply cool—feeling. It marked a shift in the American theatre that so many of us had been waiting our whole lives for. It is very hard to do what the playwright, Sanaz Toossi, has done. To be graceful and funny and honest while telling a story about the pain at the core of a cultural crisis. My work with PigPen Theatre Co. does not center my Iranian identity or my parents' country of origin. And, truthfully, my artistic life has always felt disconnected from my home life, even before PigPen. After the presidential election in 2016, I committed myself to broadening the scope of my focus. I wanted to be braver. I wanted to bring the things I'd learned as a storyteller to projects that were important not only to me, but to my community and my family.

What about this play excites you?

I love that it's a play about language. I've always been a word nerd. I just wrote a novel about Farsi, English, rap, and Shakespeare. I love words. For the past four years, I'd been writing this book about an English-speaking boy who was trying to learn Farsi. Then, just weeks before its publication, Barry Edelstein sent me Sanaz's beautiful script about this group of Farsi speakers trying to learn English. It felt like kismet. A perfect next project. This play is about the way we must reinvent ourselves every time we learn a new method of communication. I love that it's a story about adults who are put in this position of forced adolescence. We're treated to the spectacle of people trying to be the best versions of themselves but not having the tools to do so.

Last time you were here at The Old Globe, you were in the Old Globe Theatre. This time, you are directing for the Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre. How does the space shape the way you are thinking about the play?

I've always admired the Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre, not only because I love smaller spaces, but also because it's in the round! I'm curious how this play operates in the round. It's never been staged this way before. There's something innately communal about seeing a fellow audience member (most likely a stranger) across the way, just beyond the border of the story. Can the audience feel like they are going to class with our characters?

Could you talk a little about your thoughts on learning a new language and being bilingual?

I think it's always worth being reminded that an accent is the residue of a second mode of being. We often hear an accent and think of inadequacy. We think this person does not have substance because their way of speaking is flawed. But, the accent means there's a whole world you're not seeing. The accent should demand not only our attention but our curiosity. I grew up bilingual, but I struggle in Farsi. Whenever I hear someone struggling with language, I immediately think of myself and how badly I fear being misunderstood. If our show can translate that experience for the audience members who are monolingual, that would be powerful.

Anything else you would like to tell our audience?

The only thing left to say is the most important thing: you should go get some Persian food after the show. It will not disappoint. It never has. In the history of history. Not once. Go and enjoy yourself. ■

6 PERFORMANCES MAGAZINE



An Interview with Playwright Sanaz Toossi

Interview by Alexis Soloski



Sanaz Toossi

Were you raised speaking Farsi?

We were not the Iranians who were like, "We're in America now." I grew up naturally bilingual. I'm a writer now. I make my living in the English language. And my Farsi gets worse every year. It's painful for me. I wonder if my kids will know Farsi. I

did work with a Farsi tutor. I went in thinking, "I've got this. You're going to love me." She goes, "Your grammar is very bad." I was like, "OK, that's great. Tear me a new one, girl."

This play is about Middle Eastern characters. Is that typical of your work?

The family drama I've just finished, it's about Southern Californian Iranians. Everything else has been set in Iran. What happens if I show up with a play about three white girls? Will anyone want to do it? Even if it's really good? Sometimes I worry that I am the right kind of Middle Eastern. When the Muslim ban [Donald J. Trump's 2017 executive order that at first barred nationals from seven majority-Muslim countries from entering America] was enacted, I felt a shift. Middle Eastern artists have been knocking at the door for a really long time. People finally started listening.

So you worry about being pigeonholed?

If all that ever gets produced of my work is just my stories about Middle Eastern people, I don't think I would ever be upset. But there's always the worry that I am in the personof-color slot in a season. It starts to feel a little icky. I don't know that I'll ever stop writing about Middle Eastern people until it doesn't feel special. It feels special right now to have these Iranian people onstage.

Who did you write English for?

English is for me. I had to write it. I wrote it as my thesis.

I was really angry that year. After the travel ban, I whiteknuckled it for two years, and I wrote *English* because I was furious with the anti-immigrant rhetoric. I just wanted to scream into the void a little bit. It's a huge thing to learn a different language, a huge thing to give up that ability to fully express yourself, even if you have a full command over language.

I was about to graduate. I wanted to be a writer, and it also probably came out of my own insecurities that I would never actually have the words to say what I wanted.

What does it mean to present this play to mostly white, mostly American audiences?

The most meaningful responses for me have been the firstgeneration Middle Eastern kids who come to see *English*. I feel like they're totally in it with me. Our white audiences, it's tricky. There is laughter sometimes where I do not think there should be laughter. The accents get laughs. And it's really uncomfortable some nights. I think the play takes care of it in a way. The pain is so real at the end of the play that I don't think anybody's laughing. But it is not easy.

Why have you written this play as a comedy?

I'm not a political writer. I'm not a public intellectual. I am, at my core, someone who loves a cheap laugh. I would fling myself off this booth to make you laugh.

English is sad. But writing a trauma play makes me want to dry heave. I just think it's so flattening. It doesn't help people see us as three-dimensional. I just can't do it. And I don't think it's truthful. I don't think that's how life works.

Politics come into the room, and you're still trying to make your best friend laugh, or you're still annoyed—it's all happening at once. Do people think that Middle Eastern women are huddled under a chador, like, bemoaning our oppressions? Pain looks different than how we think it looks and also joy is always there. Kindness is always there. There's so much laughter through it. ■

This article originally appeared in The New York Times on February 17, 2022. Reprinted with permission.

THE LAST 100 YEARS

By Dr. Marjan Moosavi

1921: The Pahlavi monarchy comes to power and pursues an ambitious modernization campaign.

1951: Nationalist Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddeq nationalizes the British-owned oil industry.

1953: Mosaddeq is overthrown by a CIA/MI6-aided coup.

1971: Pahlavi organizes grand international festivals and festivities, including a decade-long series of avant-garde theatre and music festivals in Shiraz.

1978-1979: The Iranian Revolution, led by Ayatollah Khomeini, overthrows the Pahlavi monarchy and proclaims the Islamic Republic of Iran. As a result of the project of Islamization, the Islamic dress code and veil requirements for actresses become compulsory.

1979-1981: The revolutionary groups occupy the American embassy in Tehran. They take 52 American diplomats hostage for 14 months.

1980: The United States cuts all formal diplomatic relations, which continues to this day.

1980-1988: Iraq invades Iran. This war of attrition ends eight years later, but its cultural and ideological legacy remains and leads to the development of the Sacred Defense theatrical repertoire.



1989: The new supreme leader, Ali Khamenei, is appointed. The post-war construction era starts.

1995: The United States places oil and trade sanctions on Iran. The economic sanctions get renewed repeatedly by the U.S. and U.N. over the next two decades.

1997: The reformist era starts with Mohammad Khatami's presidency. Democratic discourses and practices about civil rights, freedom of expression, and women's rights grow. The

best era of press freedom in Iran begins, but it ends with the vast closure of the press in spring 2000.

1999: Pro-democracy protests by university students last for six days. Recurrent arrests of students, activists, journalists, and intellectuals continue.

2000: The decade marks the beginning of a new era of water crisis and drought in Iran.

2003: Shirin Ebadi receives the Nobel Peace Prize for her pioneering efforts for democracy and the rights of children, women, and refugees.

2008: The Conservative Alliance of hardliner president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad wins the Iranian legislative election as most reformist candidates are disqualified from running.

2008: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declares 2008 the International Year of Languages.

The events of *English* are set in 2008.

OF EVENTS IN IRAN



2009: Mahmoud Ahmadinejad wins re-election in June, defeating reformist Mir-Hossein Mousavi. A series of protests known as the Green Movement starts and becomes a major event in Iran's modern political history. The state responds with a brutal crackdown on protestors. Among the protestors is Neda Agha-Soltan, a university student, who is shot by a Basij militiaman. Her death sparks a new cycle of protests. The video footage of her death goes viral in global media.

2013: Reformist-backed cleric Hassan Rouhani wins the presidential election. Under his presidency, Iran begins Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) negotiations with international council P5+1 over its nuclear program.

2017: Women begin a series of anti-hijab protests, rallying against compulsory hijab by unveiling in public and sharing their selfies on social media.



2019: A fuel price hike prompts mass protests nationwide. Over 100 people are reported dead in the police crackdown. Nasrin Sotoudeh, Iran's most prominent human rights lawyer—who represented a woman who was arrested for peacefully protesting the compulsory hijab—is sentenced to 38 years in prison.

2021: The hardliner cleric Ebrahim Raisi is elected to the presidency. The new Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance issues a new program for revamping rubrics to further Islamize the arts. The government's censorial intervention in art and culture escalates.

2022: Mahsa Jina Amini's suspicious death, while in custody by Tehran morality police, leads to a nationwide cycle of protests, led by women and

students with the slogan "Women, Life, Freedom." Thousands of protestors are arrested.

2023: The jailed human rights activist Narges Mohammadi receives the Nobel Peace Prize for "her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all."

2023: An agreement between Iran and the United States leads to a prisoner swap and the release of Iran's \$6 billion frozen in South Korea.

2023: The Women, Life, Freedom movement continues to evolve. In December, the European Parliament awards Mahsa Jina Amini and the movement the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. ■

The cast and crew of *English* stand in solidarity with, and support of, the Woman, Life, Freedom movement in Iran, and in opposition to the oppressive mandatory hijab laws.



Marjan Moosavi is an educator, researcher, digital curator, and dramaturg from Iran and Canada, based in Washington DC. She holds a Ph.D. in Theatre and Performance Studies from the University of Toronto. She is a faculty member at Roshan Institute for Persian Studies and an affiliate faculty member at the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her research interest is in world theatre and decolonization, focusing on the theatre and dramaturgy of MENA and its diasporas.

ARTISTS



MARY APICK

(Roya) In Iran: started as a child actor starring in countless films, television shows, plays; won the country's first Best Actress Award at the Moscow Film Festival for *Dead End*. In

the U.S.: starred in *Monday Nights at Seven* with Edward James Olmos, *Price for Freedom* with Sally Kirkland, Paul Sorvino, *The Mission, Checkpoint*, "Homeland," several other award-winning films. As creator: Critic's Choice play *Beneath the Veil* (Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, Geffen Playhouse, others), short animated film *The Cat* (27 festival awards, including Cannes, Berlin, Moscow Film Festival). Other honors: Maverick Award from Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival. Upcoming: writer, producer, director for documentary *Jewel of the Desert* in 2024.



ARI DERAMBAKHSH

(Goli) The Old Globe: debut. Credits: understudy for Goli, Elham in *English* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), Feste in *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare's Globe), Irina Kahn in *Inherent*

Resolve (Crossroads Theatre Company), Azadeh in *Amrikayee* (Rattlestick Theater). Education: B.F.A. in Acting from Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers Conservatory at Shakespeare's Globe. arideram.com, @arideram on Instagram.



TARA GRAMMY

(Elham) Theatre credits: Elham in *English* (Studio Theatre), writer, performer of the onewoman show *Mahmoud* (Best of Toronto Fringe, Patron's Pick, Fringe NYC Encore Series

Excellence in Solo Performance Award, Governor General's Award nomination, Dora Mavor Moore nomination; published by Playwrights Canada Press). Television/film: host of "Persia's Got Talent" (MBC Persia); hit romantic comedy *A Simple Wedding*, directed by Sara Zandieh, opposite Maz Jobrani, Rita Wilson, Shohreh Aghdashloo; "2042" (TBS); "S.W.A.T." (CBS); *Jimmy Vestvood: Amerikan Hero*. Education: B.A. in Theatre Performance from University of Toronto.



JOE JOSEPH

(Omid) Broadway: The Kite Runner, The Band's Visit. Off Broadway: 9 Kinds of Silence (PlayCo), The Fears (Signature), Merrily We Roll Along (Roundabout), Loveless Texas

(Sheen Center), *Baghdaddy* (St. Luke's), *Genet Porno* (HERE Arts). @gojoejoseph.



POOYA MOHSENI

(Marjan) Theatre: English (Atlantic Theater Company, Baltimore Center Stage), The Sex Party (Menier Chocolate Factory), Chonburi International Hotel & Butterfly Club

(Williamstown Theatre Festival), The White Snake (Baltimore Center Stage), One Woman (Theatre Row), She/He/Me (National Queer Theater), Our Town (Pride Plays), Galatea (WP Theater), The Good Muslim (Ensemble Studio Theatre). Death of the Persian Prince (NYMTF). Television/film: "Law & Order: SVU," See You Then, Bound, Terrifier, Always Azizam, "Big Dogs," "Falling Water," "Madam Secretary." Honors: Obie, Outfest Outstanding Performance, FilmOut San Diego Best Actress. Education: Maggie Flanigan Studio. Pooyaland.com, @pooyaland on Instagram.

SANAZ TOOSSI

(Playwright) Iranian American playwright from Orange County, California. Plays: English (Atlantic, Roundabout; Pulitzer Prize, Obie Award, Weissberger New Play Award, Kilroys' List), Wish You Were Here (Williamstown/ Audible, Playwrights Horizons; Stavis Award). Commissions: Atlantic Theater, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Manhattan Theatre Club, South Coast Repertory, IAMA Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Other: member of Youngblood, member of Lark's Middle Eastern American Writers Lab, alumna of Clubbed Thumb's Early Career Writers' Group, P73 Playwriting Fellow. Other honors: Steinberg Playwright Award, Horton Foote Prize, Laurents/ Hatcher Foundation Award. Television: Five Women, "A League of Their Own," "Invitation to a Bonfire." Education: M.F.A. from NYU Tisch.

ARYA SHAHI

(Director) The Old Globe: writer, director, actor for *The Old Man and The Old Moon*, *The Tale of Despereaux*. Broadway: composer for *Water for Elephants*. Regional: *The Old Man and The Old Moon* (New Victory, Writers Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Wallis, Paramount Theatre), *The Tale of Despereaux* (Berkeley Rep), *The Hunter and The Bear* (Writers Theatre). Albums: Bremen, *The Way I'm Running, Whole Sun*. Novels: *An Impossible Thing to Say* (Allida/HarperCollins) and the forthcoming sequel. Education: B.F.A. in Drama from Carnegie Mellon University. aryashahi.com, @aryashahi.

SADRA TEHRANI

(Scenic Design) (he/him/his) Iranian-born set and production designer, concept artist based in New York City. Honors: projects featured in The New York Times, BroadwayWorld (winner of Best Off Off Broadway Scenic Design Award), Time Out New York, Shoutout LA, CIVILIAN Hotel. Other: member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. Education: M.F.A. in Production Design from NYU Tisch, M.S. in Architecture from Penn State. Recent credits: assistant art director for "Manifest" (Netflix), concept artist for "The Walking Dead: The Ones Who Live" (upcoming on AMC), scenic designer for Sanaz Toossi's English (Alliance Theatre), associate production designer for Florence + The Machine's 2022 Dance Fever Tour.

AFSANEH AAYANI

(Costume Design) Iranian American multidisciplinary artist. Credits: United States, Iran, China, Poland, Sri Lanka, Germany. Education: B.F.A. in Puppetry from Tehran University of Art, M.F.A. in Scenic Design from University of Houston. afsanehaayani.com.

AMANDA ZIEVE

(Lighting Design) The Old Globe: Crime and Punishment, A Comedy, Dial M for Murder, Hair, Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG San Diego Christmas Show, Tiny Beautiful Things, Barefoot in the Park, Native Gardens, The Wanderers, Rich Girl. San Diego: The Untitled Unauthorized Hunter S. Thompson Musical, Put Your House in Order (La Jolla Playhouse), Evita, Cabaret, Rock of Ages (Cygnet). National: Off Broadway, Goodman, Goodspeed, Signature Theatre, Alliance Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse, Two River Theater, Music Theater Heritage, San Diego Symphony. Broadway: associate on *Escape to Margaritaville*, *Bright Star, Allegiance*; assistant on *Hamilton*; 15 other productions. Education: B.A. in Theatre from CSU Northridge. amandazieve.com.

MEGUMI KATAYAMA

(Sound Design) The Old Globe: debut. Off Broadway: The Light in the Piazza, The Life (NYCC Encores!), Regretfully, So the Birds Are (Playwrights Horizons), The Nosebleed (LCT3), for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf (The Public), Our Brother's Son (Signature), Generation Rise (Ping Chong/New Victory), The Gett (Rattlestick). Regional: tour of Cambodian Rock Band (as co-designer); Alley Theatre, Geva Theatre Center, Long Wharf, Yale Rep, Studio Theatre, Arena Stage, Everyman Theatre, Woolly Mammoth, Cincinnati Playhouse, Kansas City Rep, Two River, Skylight Music Theatre, Virginia Stage Company, Dorset Theatre Festival, more. Education: M.F.A. from Yale School of Drama. megumikatayama.com.

ANA BAYAT

(Dialect Coach) Multilingual storyteller with over three decades of experience in theatre, film, voice-over, translation, language/dialect coaching worldwide. Languages: fluent in U.K./ U.S. English, Persian, Spanish, French; proficient in German, Catalan, Italian. Creator: critically acclaimed solo show Mimi's Suitcase (NNF Grant in Innovative Arts, shortlisted for an Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award at Edinburgh Festival Fringe). Recent: coached Glenn Close to speak seamless Persian in the Apple TV+ series "Tehran," dialect coach for English at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Alliance Theatre, Barrington Stage, Studio Theatre (also as cultural and casting consultant). Education: conservatory training in the Stanislavski system, post-graduate diploma in Speech and Dramatic Arts, M.A. in Film and the Moving Image, M.A. in Audiovisual Translation, B.A. in Language and Linguistics (U.K.). anabayat.com, @theanabayat.

CAPARELLIOTIS CASTING

(Casting) The Old Globe: English, Exotic Deadly, Under a Baseball Sky, What We Talk About..., Dial M for Murder, Mala, Shutter Sisters, Hurricane Diane, Noura, They Promised Her the **PERFORMANCES** MAGAZINE 11

ARTISTS

Moon, Tiny Beautiful Things, Barefoot in the Park, The Wanderers, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Skeleton Crew. Select Broadway: Jaja's African Hair Braiding, Grey House, Ohio State Murders, Macbeth, The Minutes, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, King Lear, Hillary and Clinton, Ink, The Waverly Gallery, Three Tall Women, Meteor Shower, A Doll's House, Part 2, Jitney, The Glass Menagerie, Blackbird, Disgraced. Additional theatre: MTC, Signature, Atlantic, Vineyard. Television: "New Amsterdam" (NBC), "American Odyssey" (NBC).

CHANDRA R.M. ANTHENILL

(Production Stage Manager) (she/her/hers) The Old Globe: The Merry Wives of Windsor, Exotic Deadly, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Trouble in Mind, Krapp's Last Tape, What You Are, Tiny Beautiful Things, Globe for All (2017–2023), The Lorax, A Thousand Splendid Suns, Guys and Dolls, Camp David, The Comedy of Errors. Regional: The Garden, 2020 POP Tour, Junk (La Jolla Playhouse), Fun Home, Beachtown, Roz and Ray, Into the Beautiful North, Outside Mullingar, The Oldest Boy, Oedipus El Rey, Honky (San Diego Rep), El Huracán, Mud Row, The Last Wife, Bad Jews, Sons of the Prophet, True West, Fool for Love, Spring Awakening, Assassins, Company (Cygnet), Pippin (Diversionary).

ANJEE NERO

(Stage Management Swing) The Old Globe: Cabaret, Destiny of Desire, Come Fall in Love, Almost Famous, The Gardens of Anuncia, The Heart of Rock & Roll, Bright Star, Allegiance, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Benny & Joon, October Sky, Rocky Horror Show, Life After, The Wanderers, Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG San Diego Christmas Show, The Twenty-Seventh Man, A Room with a View, Kingdom, The Tempest, The Winter's Tale, Be a Good Little Widow, more. Broadway: Bright Star. Regional highlights: Bright Star (Kennedy Center), Fly, Sideways, Ruined, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Herringbone, The Seven (La Jolla Playhouse), Ruined (Huntington Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre), Kiss Me, Kate (Hartford Stage), Venice (Center Theatre Group), Antigone (SITI Company).

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BARRY EDELSTEIN

(Erna Finci Viterbi Artistic Director) is a stage director, producer, author, and educator. His Globe directing credits include *The Winter's Tale, Othello, The Twenty-Seventh Man*, the

world premiere of Rain, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Hamlet, the world premiere of The Wanderers, the American premiere of Life After, Romeo and Juliet, What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank, and, during the pandemic, Hamlet: On the Radio. He also directed All's Well That Ends Well as the inaugural production of the Globe for All community tour, and he oversees the Globe's Classical Directing Fellowship program. In addition to his recent Globe credits, he directed The Wanderers Off Broadway with Roundabout Theatre Company this year and The Tempest with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Concert Hall in 2018. As Director of the Shakespeare Initiative at The Public Theater (2008-2012), Edelstein oversaw all of the company's Shakespearean productions as well as its educational, community outreach, and artist-training programs. At The Public, he staged the world premiere of The Twenty-Seventh Man, Julius Caesar, The Merchant of Venice, Timon of Athens, and Steve Martin's WASP and Other Plays. He was also Associate Producer of The Public's Broadway production of *The Merchant of* Venice starring Al Pacino. From 1998 to 2003 he was Artistic Director of Classic Stage Company. His book Thinking Shakespeare is the standard text on American Shakespearean acting. He is also the author of Bardisms: Shakespeare for All Occasions. He is a graduate of Tufts University and the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.



TIMOTHY J. SHIELDS

(Audrey S. Geisel Managing Director) joined The Old Globe as Managing Director in 2017. In his time in San Diego, he has enjoyed becoming involved in the community.

He currently serves as a board member of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's LEAD program; an advisory board member of the San Diego Downtown Partnership; and Vice President of the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership. He brings to San Diego many decades of not-for-profit theatre experience. He was Managing Director of Princeton, New Jersey's McCarter Theatre Center (2009-2017); Milwaukee Repertory Theater (1998–2009); and Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, New York (1992-1998). He has also held administrative positions at Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis, Denver Center Theatre Company, and McCarter Theatre Center in an earlier period of his career. He served as President of the League of Resident Theatres and as Vice President of the board at Theatre Communications Group. He has been the Chair of the ArtPride NJ board; a member of Milwaukee's Latino Arts Board; and a board member of the Cultural Alliance of Greater Milwaukee. He holds a B.F.A. in Drama Production from Carnegie-Mellon University in his hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



This theatre operates under an agreement between the League of Resident Theatres and Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

SDC

The Directors are members of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, an independent national labor union.



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The Scenic, Costume, Lighting and Sound Designers in LORT Theatres are represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829, IATSE.

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As you exit the theatre, feel free to leave your gently used program on the program stand for future audiences to use. Or you can put it in any of the recycle bins in the lobby or on our plaza. **CASTING** CAPARELLIOTIS CASTING David Caparelliotis, CSA Joseph Gery Elena Sgouros

TAKING PHOTOS IN THE THEATRE

Audience members may take photos in the theatre before and after the performance and during intermission. If you post photos on social media or elsewhere, you must credit the production's designers by including the names below.

Sadra Tehrani, Scenic Design

Afsaneh Aayani, Costume Design www.afsanehaayani.com

Amanda Zieve, Lighting Design www.amandazieve.com

Megumi Katayama, Sound Design www.megumikatayama.com

Please note: Photos are strictly prohibited during the performance. Photos of the stage are not permitted if an actor is present. Video recording is not permitted at any time in the theatre.

PATRON INFORMATION

For more information about ticket policies and patron services, please visit www.TheOldGlobe.org.

A BRIGHT NEW Year at the Old Globe

A NOTE FROM DIRECTOR OF Arts engagement adena varner

Photo by Rich Soublet II.

Each new year presents a moment of hope and excitement for what is ahead. As I look to our promising future, I am reminded of days past, days of strategic planning in which we committed to make decisions based on five bold values: inclusion, impact, transformation, excellence, and stability. While those five pillars are always at play in the work of arts engagement, this year The Old Globe's Arts Engagement Department will be doubling down on two key values: impact and transformation.

For me, impact means making a measurable difference; therefore, we will be hosting our first summer camp for elementary and middle schoolers in almost 20 years. Our students need healthy environments for creative expression. We want to provide that artistic home, one where their confidence and creativity can grow, empathy can be built, and wildly imaginative stories can come to life.

We are deepening our impact by increasing our presence and letting people know that we are here as a resource to our region. Everything from attending local job fairs at high schools and colleges, to supporting the development of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade, is an opportunity to create greater awareness and access



Reflecting Shakespeare at Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility, 2019. Photo by Rich Soublet II.

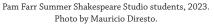
to our programs, and an opportunity to show up in our community as a good neighbor, a responsible artistic leader, and a faithful partner.

Transformation in our department means that our programs create greater possibility of sustainable change within a person or group of people. Our transformational Reflecting Shakespeare program, for example, is bursting at the seams. Gone are the days of only activating our rehabilitative program in adult carceral facilities. We have expanded our presence to bring the program to justice-involved youth and young single mothers. We currently have 11 Reflecting Shakespeare programs, operating every day of the week, from Escondido to San Ysidro—the program is literally operating all over San Diego County and is growing exponentially! We have learned that this program is for anyone, anywhere, navigating any or many of life's challenges, and that through this program the possibility of meaningful personal transformation can be fully realized.

And this summer you will see community members participating in a mainstage production in ways they never have before! Our upcoming production of *Henry 6* will be epic, to say the least. We are hosting workshops throughout the community that will radically include San Diegans by way of exploring design, building prop pieces, even being videotaped to be featured in the show. How exciting! We are transforming how the industry and other arts institutions think about and implement community engagement programming. This history-making event will change how we engage with artists, deepen existing relationships with partners, and transform how audiences experience The Old Globe, so keep an eye on our website and social handles so you can participate in ways that might be of personal interest.

There is much to be hopeful about, much to look forward too, and the year is still young. I can't wait to see you around the theatre at this most exciting and inspiring time!







Happy Birthday, Mr. Shakespeare! AXIS event, 2023. Photo by Rich Soublet II.

MUCH LOVE,

adviran

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