

HENRY V

A live online production

Written by William Shakespeare
Adapted & Directed by Caroline Devlin

22 - 25 April, various times



This year to mark Shakespeare's Birthday the award-winning Guildford Shakespeare Company are to stage a re-imagining of their hit 2014 open air show, **HENRY V**, for online audiences.

The country is exhausted; political infighting has plagued the people for far too long; Europe looks on and laughs. A charismatic, untested young leader ascends the throne. The people hold their breath... Yet Henry's vision will see him, and his country, turn around their shattered state, take pride in who they are and collectively forge a new peace and prosperity.

Director **CAROLINE DEVLIN** returns to GSC to re-imagine her 2014 production for an online audience. Originally staged in promenade around Guildford Cathedral and featuring a son et lumière backdrop, the show embraced Shakespeare's challenge to consider what is possible 'within this 'Wooden O' of the Elizabethan theatre by using just five actors and a bare scaffold stage. This new production seeks to do exactly the same.

MATT PINCHES (GSC Co-Founder): *"The questions that the Chorus presents at the start of the play are exactly the same as we have been asking ourselves for the last 12 months: how do we bring the magic of a theatre experience to audiences isolated and watching online, whilst also making that experience in the same isolation? Henry V carries a powerful message of unity and hope; that when we work together, the impossible is possible, a sentiment that has never been more significant."*

Once again **HENRY V** will be performed by just five actors, working in isolation, who will carry audiences from London to Paris via Southampton, and of course to the bloody battlefield of Agincourt. Using the platform Zoom, the production builds on the digital innovations from the last 12 months and will be GSC's 6th original online show since March 2020, which have been watched by a worldwide live audience of over 3,600 households. Casting to be announced.

Booking opens 19 MARCH (Priority Booking from 15 March)

TICKETS: £20 (max 2 persons on one device) | Running time **70 minutes**, approx. | Strictly limited availability.

DATES: Thursday 22 April - Sunday 25 April | See website for daily timings

BOOKING: www.guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk/Henry-5-online

PRESS: Matt Pinches matt@guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk 07971 234141

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Note to Editors

Guildford Shakespeare Company is an award-winning, site-responsive theatre company. Established in 2006 by actor-managers Sarah Gobran and Matt Pinches, it has produced over 40 shows in unique venues including Guildford Cathedral, Watts Gallery, West Horsley Place and a Flemish Spiegel tent. In 2015, Brian Blessed OBE played the title role in *King Lear*. Its Education and Outreach works with over 5000 people young and old every year including free-to-access social inclusion programmes. GSC is one of the largest producers of home-grown theatre in the region.