



# Press Release

Date: 15 November 2021 Use: **IMMEDIATE**  
GSC Honorary Patron **Brian Blessed OBE**

## A Christmas party with a difference – Guildford Shakespeare Company's Murder Mysteries return

Following the success of their live online Murder Mysteries, Guildford Shakespeare Company is offering the opportunity to book a 'killer' of a Christmas party this year, with their Murder Mysteries now being available in person, as well as online.

Described by the Daily Mail as "Terrific fun", GSC introduced their online Murder Mysteries in Winter 2020, offering companies the chance to host a unique Christmas party for their staff over Zoom. But now restrictions are lifted, the thrills can also take place in real life, and companies wanting to do something a bit different for their Christmas bash can hire GSC and their actors to host a Murder Mystery party at a venue of their choice.

Sarah Gobran, GSC's Co-Founder and Producer, said: "We are delighted to be relaunching our popular murder mystery parties for this Christmas! Admittedly a bit of a departure from our usual Shakespeare offering; these fun, interactive performances were initially created during lockdown, enabling friends, families and work colleagues to all come together virtually and watch live theatre, whilst working in teams to interrogate suspects and solve crime! They proved so popular last Christmas for work parties, especially for international companies whose employees are based all over the world, that we thought we would put them out there again this year - but also offer the opportunity to host the party in person as well.

They offer a bit of glamour and silliness and escapism – and let's face it, those are things we could all do with a bit of right now."

This Christmas GSC is offering three different Mysteries to choose from:

### The Verona Lounge

Written by Eli Murton; Directed by Francesca McInally

1955. Soho, London. The Verona Lounge is the crown jewel of London's coolest cabaret bars; frequented by everyone from film stars to politicians, as well as the capital's criminal underworld. But when a body is discovered in one of the dressing rooms, no-one is calling for an encore...

### The Shakespeare Solitaire

Written by Ant Stones; Directed by Francesca McInally

Sometime in the 1920s; somewhere in Guildford. You have been invited to Solanio's Swinging Speakeasy for the auction of a very rare diamond: The Shakespeare Solitaire. The last owner's body – Henry Lear - was discovered just two weeks ago. Will it be the last murder, or was that just the beginning? Dapper gents and flapper girls are the order of the day in this classic whodunnit?!

### All That Glisters

Written by Eli Murton; Directed by Francesca McInally

It's 1989 and All That Glisters is the celebrity TV show everyone is talking about. Tonight presenter Solanio is on the red carpet for a brand new exhibition. The event is the society party of the year, and is being held to commemorate Leonato 'Monty' Montague, who last month was found dead in his silk kimono floating in the Monaco Marina... but when a mysterious motorbike courier delivers some alarming news, all that glisters may not be gold!



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To find out more visit: [www.guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk/murder-mysteries](http://www.guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk/murder-mysteries) or email [info@guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk](mailto:info@guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk) to register interest.

**Press Contact:** Meg Eyre [meg@guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk](mailto:meg@guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk) 07852 950 210

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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 Spiegeltent. 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.

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