

## **MAGICAL SUMMER CONTINUES WITH ROVING 50<sup>th</sup> SHOW**

**THE TEMPEST: 15 – 30 JULY**



**Guildford Shakespeare Company continue their magical open-air theatre season with a promenade production of THE TEMPEST, staged across varying locations in Guildford's biggest green space, Stoke Park.**

On a remote island a mother and daughter watch as a ship is wrecked on the shore; but this is no accident, and this is no ordinary island. As the survivors come to discover, magic does exist and those we think are lost forever are really just waiting to be found.

There's shipwrecks, sorcerers, and surprises galore in Shakespeare's final play, **THE TEMPEST**, and GSC promise an enchanting island adventure brim-full with magic and mystery.

Following *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in June, the professional theatre company will relocate to Guildford's largest and most popular award-winning green space, Stoke Park, for spectacular promenade production.

The show will begin and end at the theatre company's building on the edge of the park, the Astolat Pavilion, which will be transformed into a giant wrecked ship. Once the story is underway, audiences will then be split into groups as they follow the characters to five other locations across the park on their journey of discovery and redemption.

*"Having Stoke Park as our world to play and promenade through is such a gift", explains director **CAROLINE DEVLIN**, who created last year's "joyous gem" of *As You Like It* and the award-winning online *Henry V*. "Using the boating lake island, stone circle and rose garden, as well as GSC's new HQ, makes for a striking island experience; the park IS the island. Prospero brings with her, her own brand of magic, which is alien to this world. A magic of circus, mysticism and illusion."*

**THE TEMPEST** will be GSC's 50<sup>th</sup> production since their inception in 2006, and the 6<sup>th</sup> since restrictions were lifted last summer following the pandemic:

*"We really can't believe that we've staged 50 production for Guildford", **MATT PINCHES (GSC Co-Founder)**, "it only seems like yesterday when Sarah and I were musing over the prospect of staging our first one in 2006. We've come an incredibly long way since then; had the privilege of working with some truly inspirational people and made some fabulous friends along the way. For GSC to still be making theatre for and in our local community, ensuring our outreach and education work continues to engage and inspire is something we are very proud of. We really want to help make this summer a magical one for our audiences and their guests, and *The Tempest* promises to do just that."*

GSC is committed to helping as many people as possible access great theatre experiences in their community. Both Saturday matinees of *The Tempest* have been designated as Accessible performances, whereby the whole performance will remain static (no promenade). GSC's award-winning Audio Description service will be available at the 30 July matinee.

To encourage younger audiences (16-25 yrs) and enable those on Universal Credit to share in the experience, the company are also continuing their **10@£10** ticket offer, whereby 10 tickets are available at every Monday and Tuesday performance for just £10 each.



# Press Release

Date: **05 May 2021** Use: **for use in July issues**  
GSC Honorary Patron **Brian Blessed OBE**

## TICKETS

Full £27.50

Concessions £24.50 (over 65, students, Equity, Jobseekers, Reg Disabled)

Children £16.50 (under 16)

Family tickets £80 (2 children, 2 full)

Schools £15 pupils (1 teacher free for every 10)

Previews 15 July £18.50 (£16.50 children)

**10 @ £10 tickets:** 10 reduced price tickets are available Mondays & Tuesdays for 16-25 yr olds/Universal Credit. Available via Box Office phone number only.

## DATES

### THE TEMPEST

15 – 30 July

Astolat Pavilion, Lido Road, Stoke Park, GU1 1FH

Evenings 7.30pm

Saturday matinees (23, 30 July) 2.30pm – all accessible performances, no promenade

**PRESS NIGHT MONDAY 18 JULY 7.30pm**

Audio Described performance Sat 30 July, 2.30

## BOOKING & FURTHER DETAILS

[www.guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk](http://www.guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk)

## PRESS

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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. GSC has a site-responsive approach that places audiences right at the heart of the action, immersing them in the world of the play, enabling us to demystify the legend that theatre is for an elite, educated few but is immediate and accessible to everyone.

2022 will see the company produce its 50<sup>th</sup> production. Specialising in site-responsive interpretations of Shakespeare and other classics from literature, unique venues have included Guildford Cathedral, Watts Gallery, West Horsley Place and a Flemish Spiegel tent. In 2022 Freddie Fox played the title role in *Hamlet*, receiving wide-spread national acclaim and in 2015, Brian Blessed OBE played the title role in *King Lear*.

Its Education and Outreach works with over 8500 people young and old every year through workshops, in-house drama clubs and free-to-access social inclusion programmes. GSC's mental health programme for families, has gone on to be used as a case study for Systemic Family Training at Tavistock and also the British Association of Dramatherapy. TIE tours reach a further 9000 students a year in disadvantaged primary and secondary schools across Surrey.

GSC is a registered charity and one of the largest producers of home-grown theatre in the region. Their buildings are kindly supported by Guildford Borough Council.