

SAVORING THE CLASSICAL TRADITION IN DRAMA

ENGAGING PRESENTATIONS BY
THE SHAKESPEARE GUILD

IN COLLABORATION WITH
THE NATIONAL ARTS CLUB
THE WNDC IN WASHINGTON
THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION



DIANA OWEN ♦ Tuesday, February 23

As we commemorate **SHAKESPEARE 400**, a global celebration of the poet's life and legacy, the GUILD is delighted to co-host a **WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB** gathering with **DIANA OWEN**, who heads the **SHAKESPEARE BIRTHPLACE TRUST** in Stratford-upon-Avon. The TRUST presides over such treasures as **Mary Arden's House**, **Anne Hathaway's Cottage**, and the home in which the playwright was born. It also preserves the site of **New Place**, the mansion Shakespeare purchased in 1597, and in all probability the setting in which he died in 1616. A later owner demolished it, but the TRUST is now unearthing the structure's foundations and adding a new museum to the



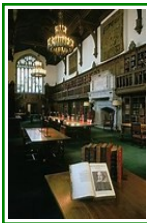
WITTEMORE HOUSE
1526 New Hampshire Avenue
Washington
LUNCH 12:30. PROGRAM 1:00
Luncheon & Program, \$30
Program Only, \$10

beautiful garden that has long delighted visitors. As she describes this exciting project, Ms. Owen will also talk about dozens of anniversary festivities, among them an April 23 BBC gala that will feature such stars as Dame Judi Dench and Sir Ian McKellen.

PEGGY O'BRIEN ♦ Wednesday, February 24

Shifting to the **FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY**, an American institution that is marking **SHAKESPEARE 400** with a national tour of First Folios, we're pleased to welcome **PEGGY O'BRIEN**, who established the Library's globally acclaimed outreach initiatives to teachers and students in the 1980s and published a widely circulated **Shakespeare Set Free** series with Simon and Schuster. She then moved on to a key role as Director of Educational Programs at the **Corporation for Public Broadcasting** and helped launch **Shakespeare Magazine**, a co-publication of Georgetown University and Cambridge University Press. From there she proceeded to positions with the **National**

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Admission Free, But
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Cable and Telecommunications Education Foundation and with the **D.C. Public Schools** before returning to the Library in 2013 as Director of Education. Ms. O'Brien has received two honorary degrees and has been recognized with a number of additional awards.



KARIN COONROD ♦ Monday, March 28

In a recent review of her work at the Folger's Elizabethan stage in Washington, *New York Times* critic Ben Brantley describes **KARIN COONROD** as "a theater artist of far-reaching inventiveness." In 2005 *Vanity Fair's* John Heilpern, writing for the *New York Observer*, called her **Coriolanus** "bold and brilliant." Similar accolades are to be found in the reviews and profiles of her that have appeared in *American Theatre*, *The New Yorker*, *Village Voice*, and other periodicals. Ms. Coonrod has founded two acting troupes, **Arden Party** (1987) and **Compagnia de' Colombari** (2004), and she has enchanted playgoers in such venues as **BAM**, the **Hartford Stage**, the



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Public Theater, and **Theatre for a New Audience**. Her next project will take her to the historic Ghetto in *La Serenissima* for a **Merchant of Venice** that promises to be one of the most resonant and memorable attractions of this year's **SHAKESPEARE 400** festivities.

Join the Guild, and Greet the Stars EVENTS IN LONDON, NEW YORK, AND WASHINGTON

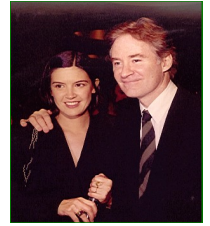


If you attended *A SHAKESPEAREAN REVEL AT LINCOLN CENTER* in 2002, you relished actors **John Cleese**, **Kitty Carlisle Hart**, **Dana Ivey**, and **Tony Randall**, writer **Adam Gopnik**, and directors **Bernard Gersten** and **Margot Harley** in a tribute to **KEVIN KLINE** as that year's recipient of the *GIELGUD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE DRAMATIC ARTS*. It was a joyous gala,

but like its 2003 sequel with **LYNN REDGRAVE** as laureate and her brother **Corin** and her sister **Vanessa** as presenters at the **NATIONAL ARTS CLUB**, it was also substantive. In this respect it echoed a 1999 gala at Broadway's **BARRYMORE**



THEATRE, where **Zoe Caldwell**, who had received a 1998 *GIELGUD* at the **FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY**, led a cavalcade of notables – actors **Keith Baxter**, **Brian Bedford**, **Hal Holbrook**, **Ronald Pickup**, **Christopher Plummer**, and **Toby Stephens**, dramatist **Sir David Hare**, director **Sir Richard Eyre**, *Masterpiece Theatre* producer **Rebecca**



Eaton, and host **Robert MacNeil** – in a tribute to **DAME JUDI DENCH**. A few months later **Dame Judi** and another *GIELGUD* honoree, **Sir Derek Jacobi**, helped preside over a 2000 presentation to actor, director, and filmmaker **KENNETH BRANAGH** in London's historic **MIDDLE TEMPLE HALL**. This Bardic *SALUTE TO "THE*

MAN OF THE MILLENNIUM" featured remarks by U.S. Ambassador **Philip Lader**, composer **Patrick Doyle**, and actors **Samantha Bond**, **Richard Briers**, **Helena Bonham Carter**, **Richard Clifford**, **Ben Elton**, **Stephen Fry**, **Bob Hoskins**, **Geraldine McEwan**, and **Timothy Spall**.

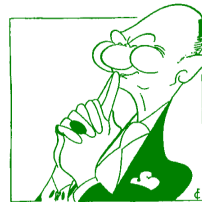
On April 19, 2004, in the London theatre that had been renamed for Sir John in 1994, shortly after the **SHAKESPEARE GUILD** unveiled a **John Safer** trophy to preserve the actor's legacy "with golden quill" (Sonnet 85), the **GUILD** collaborated with the **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** and the **ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART** to celebrate the centenary of Sir John's birth. During a gala hosted by the **BBC's Ned Sherrin**, playwrights **Alan Bennett** and **Sir David Hare**, director **Sir Peter Hall**, and performers **Dame Judi Dench**, **Clive Francis**, **Rosemary Harris**, **Martin Jarvis**, **Barbara Jefford**, **Barbara Leigh-Hunt**, **Sir Ian McKellen**, **Michael Pennington**, **Ian Richardson**, **Paul Scofield**, and **Sir Donald Sinden** recalled their departed friend. On June 12, 2006, the **GUILD** returned to the **NATIONAL ARTS CLUB** for a salute to **CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER**, who was toasted by **Julie Andrews**, **Zoe Caldwell**, **Clive Francis**, **Robert MacNeil**, **Audra McDonald**, and **Lynn Redgrave**. A few months later, on May 21, 2007, the **GUILD** joined the **ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION** at Washington's **BRITISH EMBASSY** for a reception at which **Sir David and Lady Manning**, Justice **Ruth Bader Ginsburg**, actors **Helen Carey** and **Ted van Griethuysen**, and others feted **MICHAEL KAHN**, artistic director of the **SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY**, for his service to the Nation's Capital. On March 10, 2008, Sir David's successor, **Sir Nigel Sheinwald**, joined actors **F. Murray Abraham**, **Kate Fleetwood**, **Whoopi Goldberg**, **Joel Grey**, and **Daniel Stewart**, pianist **Emanuel Ax**, director **David Jones**, and producer **Robert Halmi Jr.** at the **NAC** for a *GIELGUD* toast to **PATRICK STEWART**. On September 20, 2010, actors **Tom Hulce** and **Jerry Stiller**, producers **Robert Brustein**, **Fred Kaufman**, **Brian Kulick**, **Renzo Martinelli**, **Julian Schlossberg**, critic **James Shapiro**, and others at the **NAC** saluted **F. MURRAY ABRAHAM**. *GIELGUD* trophies are now bestowed during the annual **UK THEATRE AWARDS** luncheon in London's venerable **GUILDHALL**. The **GUILD** honored **SIR DONALD SINDEN** (posthumously) on October 19, 2014, and (with **Sir Patrick Stewart** presenting the award) **DAME EILEEN ATKINS** on October 18, 2015.

In recent years, through conversations that **John Andrews** has hosted in locales such as the **NATIONAL PRESS CLUB** in D.C., the **CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER** in Illinois, and the **ALGONQUIN HOTEL** in New York, **GUILD** attendees have chatted with actors **Jane Alexander**, **Simon Russell Beale**, **Richard Easton**, **Henry Goodman**, **Bill Irwin**, **Roger Rees**, **Prunella Scales**, **Janet Suzman**, **Timothy West**, and **Michael York**, directors **Peter Brook** and **Robert Whitehead**, media leaders **Cokie Roberts**, **Susan Stamberg**, and **Linda Wertheimer**, and writers **Edward Albee**, **E. R. Braithwaite**, **Michael Dirda**, **Sir Harold Evans**, **Flora Fraser**, **Michael Frayn**, **Stephen Greenblatt**, **Anthony Hecht**, **David Kastan**, **John Lahr**, **Ken Ludwig**, **Judith Martin**, **Peter Shaffer**, **James Shapiro**, **Jesse Sheidlower**, **Deborah Tannen**, and **Garry Wills**. **GUILD** constituents enjoy special perquisites at all events. and payments not offset by benefits claimed are fully tax-deductible.

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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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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.