



PRESS RELEASE – IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MIRACLE THEATRE PRESENTS KING LEAR
AT WILDERNESS LOCATIONS ACROSS CORNWALL THIS SUMMER



Miracle Theatre Present: **King Lear** by William Shakespeare.

Freely adapted & directed by Bill Scott

This summer, Cornwall's **Miracle Theatre** presents Shakespeare's most elemental and passionate play **King Lear** at fifteen wilderness locations across Cornwall from **13 July - 27 August**.

From a remote 'blasted heath' on Bodmin Moor framed by the magnificent horizon of Brown Willy and Rough Tor to the cliff-top below St Agnes Beacon, with the rugged coast and Atlantic ocean as a backdrop, this is *King Lear* as you've never seen it before. For full venue listings visit www.miracletheatre.co.uk



King Lear is an exquisitely dark tale about a family squabble that grows out of all proportion, blowing up into a storm of deadly force. This fresh and fast-paced adaptation of Shakespeare's text - performed by a cast of five – tells a shocking, yet tender, story of ageing and madness, fuelled by ambition and fired by betrayal. Full of life and wit this brand-new adaptation is pared down to its bare essentials delivering the full impact of Shakespeare's gripping story and spell-binding language in just half the time.

Director Bill Scott Says: *"These days we expect an economy in story-telling which would have been disappointing to Elizabethan audiences who liked to while away a long afternoon at the theatre. We want Miracle's adaptation of King Lear to be fast-paced, enthralling entertainment, embedded in glorious locations the length and breadth of Cornwall and enjoyed by grown-ups of all ages and their fearless children!"*

Miracle's previous Shakespeare adaptations (*Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *The Tempest*) have all been hugely popular with Cornwall's summer audiences who said:

"A triumph of artistry over logic, so inspired and hugely enjoyable" **The Tempest**

"Better than Stratford in June" **Romeo & Juliet**

In the title role, Rosie Hughes transcends gender to bring the old king to life and show his unpredictable nature: a fading physical presence occasionally bursting with formidable energy, half mad but completely sane, an angry old man capable of moments of great tenderness. The ensemble cast also includes Miracle regulars Steve Jacobs (*Twelfth Night*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Bah Humbug*), Charlotte Merriam (*Everyman*), Cat Lake (*The Tempest*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Third Policeman*) and new company member, Ian Harris (*Rude Mechanicals*).

The production is designed by Cornish artist Paul Spooner, whose work has been described as 'eccentrically beautiful and endlessly fascinating' and 'full of wonder and whimsy.'

Shakespeare loved to weave theatrical magic out of tragedy in a way that is never far from farce, making *King Lear* ripe for Miracle's offbeat treatment! Brave the elements this summer and let Shakespeare's tragic farce surprise you!

Touring to cliff tops, gardens, amphitheatres (and now moorlands) across the South West, since 1979, Miracle's outdoor productions have become a 'must do' activity' with audiences bringing along their own seating and picnics to enjoy an evening's entertainment whatever the weather. Book your tickets now at www.miracletheatre.co.uk

- ENDS -

LISTINGS

13 & 14 JULY	CARN MARTH AMPHITHEATRE - REDRUTH
15 & 16 JULY	PENLEE PARK - PENZANCE
19 & 20 JULY	TRELISSICK GARDEN - TRURO
21- 23 JULY	THE BEACON - ST AGNES
26 & 27 JULY	BOCONNOC - LOSTWITHIEL
29 JULY	POOL GREEN, ST MARTIN'S - ISLES OF SCILLY



30 JULY	ST MARY'S CHAPLAINCY - ISLES OF SCILLY
04 & 05 AUGUST	THE ISLAND - ST IVES
06 & 07 AUGUST	STERTS THEATRE - LISKEARD
09 & 10 AUGUST	STOWE BARTON - BUDE
11 - 12 AUGUST	BODMIN MOOR - NEAR CAMELFORD
16 & 17 AUGUST	NEWQUAY ORCHARD - NEWQUAY
18 - 20 AUGUST	TRELOWARREN – HELSTON/LIZARD
23 & 24 AUGUST	TREGREHAN GARDENS - ST AUSTELL
25 – 27 AUGUST	ENYS GARDENS - PENRYN

Recommended age 12+ | Approx running time: 2 hours plus interval

Press night will be held at NT Trelissick on 19th July. Please request your press review tickets from Becky@bm-pr.co.uk =- note tickets are available to other performances by request.

EDITORS NOTES

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About Miracle

Miracle is an award-winning touring theatre company, based in Cornwall with a reputation for producing, comical, highly entertaining and thought provoking shows suitable for anyone & everyone.

Since 1979 they have been touring to the far-flung corners of the South West. Miracles outdoor productions have become a 'must do' activity and pop up in unexpected and extraordinary, including gardens beaches, castles and clifftops.

In 2016 Miracle Founder and Artistic Director Bill Scott was awarded British Empire Medal in recognition of his services to the arts in Cornwall.

Miracle Theatre is a registered charity No. 1092029 & this production is funded by Arts Council England, Cornwall Council, Garfield Weston, Foyle Foundation, Cultural Recovery Fund and Cornwall Community Foundation.

Interviews with the creative team are available by request.

For more information or to discuss any editorial opportunities please contact:

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