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PRESS RELEASE - 19th December 2008

Southwark Playhouse presents

A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare

Directed by Jonathan Man
Designed by Wai-Yin Kwok

4 to 28 February 2009

PRESS PERFORMANCES: FRIDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2009 at 2pm & 7.30pm

Southwark Playhouse presents *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by Jonathan Man, this year's winner of the Better Bankside Shakespeare Award.

Southwark Playhouse's eighth annual Shakespeare production re-imagines Shakespeare's most magical play in **Samurai Japan**, bringing the mysticism of the East to the atmospheric cellars beneath London Bridge Station.

Inspired by the delights of Japanese **Kabuki dance**, the grace of **Noh theatre** and the comedy of knockabout **Kyogen clowns** this *Midsummer Night's Dream* will create a world where the charmed and the charming co-exist.

As always this year's accessible, 90 minute production will be offered free to all Southwark and Lambeth schools. Last year's Richard III played to over 2,100 local school children giving them their first experience of Shakespeare played live. This year, for the first time, schools will also be offered free pre-show, in-school workshops in which the play's cast will introduce interactive elements of the show so that pupils can take an active part when they attend the performance.

Taking on this exciting challenge is an experienced and energetic creative team chosen from almost 100 applications. Jonathan Man is one of the foremost British Chinese theatre directors and his most recent work includes the Polka Theatre's successful promenade production of *Monkey!* Designer Wai-Yin Kwok was finalist in 2005 for the Linbury Stage Design Competition, and recent work includes designs for Yellow Earth Theatre, Greenwich and Docklands Festival and Polka Theatre.

**For press information or reviewing tickets please contact:
Chris Smyrnios on 020 7407 0234 or
e-mail chris.smyrnios@southwarkplayhouse.co.uk**



JAPAN FOUNDATION



Listings Information

Southwark Playhouse presents

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare

Southwark Playhouse
Shipwright Yard
(Corner of Bermondsey Street and Tooley Street)
London SE1 2TF

NEAREST TUBE: LONDON BRIDGE

Performances

4 to 28 February 2009
Wednesday to Saturday
(Except 16 to 21 February
Monday to Saturday)

Evening performances start at 7.30pm sharp
Matinee performances at 10.30am, 2pm and 3pm

See website for full schedule

Box Office

Online

www.southwarkplayhouse.co.uk
24 HOURS

By Telephone (New No.)

020 7407 0234
Mon-Fri, 10.30-18.30

In Person

The ticket office at Southwark Playhouse is open from 1 hour before the beginning of each performance.

Ticket Prices

£8, £13, £18
'Airline Style' Pricing
The earlier you book the cheaper the tickets!

Concessions

Disabled people can bring one companion free of charge
There are no other concessions