

NEWS FROM THE GLOBE

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www.theglobetheatres.org

GLOBE PRESENTS AMERICAN PREMIERE OF *SPLENDOUR*

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR KAREN CARPENTER HELMS
STUNNING NEW POLITICAL PLAY BY ABI MORGAN

San Diego – The Globe Theatres is pleased to present the American premiere of *Splendour*, by Abi Morgan, directed by Globe Associate Artistic Director Karen Carpenter, playing in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage February 2 through March 16 (press opening: February 8).

Winner of a Fringe First and Herald Angel Award at the 2000 Edinburgh Festival, *Splendour* is a gripping new play about decadence, desire and dictatorship. Set in an unnamed autocracy, four women – a dictator’s wife, her “best” friend, a foreign journalist hungry for an interview, and her enigmatic translator – wait together inside a beautiful state residence for the despot to arrive. As the women talk, secrets and lies are revealed, while outside the snow is falling and civil war looms ever nearer. In a fascinating, non-linear structure, this lush piece keeps returning to earlier scenes--each time with the knowledge of what has been uncovered since, allowing the audience to experience deeper layers that throw light on the implications of each woman’s words and actions.

“Abi Morgan has elaborated a play of remarkable intensity and richness. *Splendour* gleams with ice-cool wit, glistens with the sweat of animal fear,” wrote *Time Out* magazine. Morgan’s other works include *Tender* (for which she received the Most Promising Playwright nomination at the 2002 Olivier Awards), *Tiny Dynamite*, *Fast Food*, *Sleeping Around*, *Skinned*, as well as several British film and television credits.

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The cast of *Splendour* includes Monique Folwer as Genevieve; Joanna Glushak as Kathryn; Gordana Rashovich as Micheleine, and Chelsey Rives as Gilma. The production team includes Karen Carpenter, director; Tony Fanning, scenic designer; Aaron M. Copp, lighting designer; Charlotte Devaux Shields, costume designer; Paul Peterson, sound designer; and Raúl Moncada, stage manager.

Karen Carpenter's Globe credits include *Betrayal*, *Smash* and *Vita and Virginia*. Other directorial credits include Pinter's *Old Times* with Julianne Moore at the Huntington Theatre in Boston, *Water from the Moon*, a new musical, at the Westbeth Theatre in New York (a finalist for the Jonathan Larson Foundation Grant), as well as *Play* by Samuel Beckett and Harry Kondoleon's *Vampires* at Yale. As the founder of Insight Entertainment, she has produced the American premiere of *Time and the Room* by Botho Strauss, the New York premiere of Mac Wellman's *The Lesser Magoo*, and a new musical, *Nirvanov*, for the Pure Pop and Chekhov Now Festivals in NYC. Ms. Carpenter was the Production Stage Manager on Broadway for *Sunset Boulevard*, *Les Miserables* (also for the Toronto Company starring Colm Wilkinson, and the national touring company), the August Wilson plays *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Piano Lesson* (both at the Globe) and *Two Trains Running*. She has stage managed for the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Manhattan Theatre Club, La Jolla Playhouse, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Goodman Theatre, Arena Stage, Seattle Rep and the Martha Graham Dance Company, and many other companies, in her 20 years as a stage manager. Additionally, Ms. Carpenter was a member of the Yale School of Drama faculty from 1990 to 1995.

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GLOBE THEATRES
SPLENDOUR
FACT SHEET

WHAT: **SPLENDOUR**
By Abi Morgan

WHEN: February 2 through March 16, 2003; **Press Opening: Saturday, February 8**
Performances: – Tuesday - Saturday at 8:00 pm; Sunday at 7:00 pm
 – Matinees: Saturday & Sunday at 2:00 pm

WHERE: The Globe Theatres: Cassius Carter Centre Stage, Balboa Park

WHO: Director: Karen Carpenter Scenic Designer: Tony Fanning
 Lighting Designer: Aaron M. Copp Costume Designer: Charlotte Devaux Shields
 Sound Designer: Paul Peterson Stage Manager: Raúl Moncada

Cast:	Monique Fowler	<i>Genevieve</i>
	Joanna Glushak	<i>Kathryn</i>
	Gordana Rashovich	<i>Micheleine</i>
	Chelsey Rives	<i>Gilma</i>

BACKGROUND:

Winner of a Fringe First and Herald Angel Award at the 2002 Edinburgh Festival, *Splendour* is a gripping new work about decadence, desire and dictatorship by up-and-coming British playwright Abi Morgan.

TICKETS: \$19 – 50; Discounts for students, seniors and active military.

BOX OFFICE: (619) 239-2255

Mon: noon to 6:00pm

Tue – Sat: noon to 8:30pm

Sun: noon to 7:30pm

Visa, American Express, MasterCard, Discover Card accepted

The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award-winning Globe Theatres produces 14 plays annually, from Shakespeare to Stoppard to Sondheim. One of the most outstanding and respected regional theaters in the country, the Globe is a gathering place for the leading theatre artists from around the world such as Nora Ephron, Hal Holbrook, Roger Rees, Cherry Jones, Daniel Sullivan, and many others. The Globe has launched many thrilling world premieres like Into the Woods, Play On!, and The Full Monty, which have gone on to successful Broadway runs. For over 65 years the Globe has been at the forefront of the nation's leading arts institutions, setting the standard for excellence in American theater.

