



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
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GLOBE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JACK O'BRIEN WINS SECOND CONSECUTIVE TONY AWARD®!!

San Diego – The Old Globe is thrilled to announce that **Artistic Director Jack O'Brien** received the **2004 Tony Award®** for his direction of the acclaimed Broadway production of *Henry IV* at the 58th annual Tony Awards ceremony last night at Radio City Music Hall. The award marks O'Brien's **second consecutive win**, having taken home this top award last year for his direction of the mega-hit musical *Hairspray*. *Henry IV* also won this year's Tony Award for Best Revival of a Play.

The award was presented to O'Brien by **John Lithgow**, who will star in the Globe's upcoming world-premiere musical *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, directed by Jack O'Brien, with music and lyrics by David Yazbek (*The Full Monty*) and book by Jeffrey Lane. The production will run at the Old Globe Theatre September 15 through October 24 and is scheduled to move to Broadway for a March 17, 2005 opening.

O'Brien has received a total of six Tony® Award nominations, including nods for *Henry IV*, *Hairspray*, *The Full Monty* (2001), *The Invention of Love* (2001), *Two Shakespearean Actors* (1992) and *Porgy and Bess* (1977). Just a few weeks ago, O'Brien won the **Drama Desk** and **Outer Critics Circle Award** for his direction of *Henry IV*. The production itself also took home the Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards for Best Revival of a Play.

Other Globe-related artists won or were nominated for Tony Awards this season as well, including **Joe Mantello**, who will direct the Globe's Season 2004/5 production of *Take Me Out* (for which he won last year's Tony Award for Best Director of a Play). Mantello took home the Tony last night for his direction of the acclaimed revival of Stephen Sondheim's *Assassins*. **Globe Associate Artist Ralph Funicello**, set designer for the Globe's **2004 Summer Shakespeare Festival**, received a nomination for Outstanding Set Design for *Henry IV*. **Jerry Mitchell**, O'Brien's choreographic partner for *The Full Monty*, *Imaginary Friends* and the Globe's upcoming Season 2004/5 production of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, was nominated for Best Choreographer for the new musical *Never Gonna Dance*. Earlier this awards season **Globe Associate Artist Dakin Matthews** received a special **Drama Desk Award** for his adaptation of *Henry IV*. Matthews' adaptation was also used for the Globe's acclaimed production of *Henry IV* in 1995, directed by O'Brien and featuring John Goodman and Richard Easton. Easton reprised his role in the Broadway production.

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Henry IV, which played to rave reviews at Lincoln Center Theatre last fall, received six Tony Award nominations overall – the most for any play this season. In addition to O’Brien’s nomination for direction, the production received nominations for Best Revival of a Play, Kevin Kline for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play; Globe Associate Artist Ralph Funicello for Outstanding Set Design; Jess Goldstein for Outstanding Costume Design; and Brian MacDevitt for Outstanding Lighting Design

In addition to directing *Henry IV* at Lincoln Center, this past year O’Brien helmed the Globe’s world premiere production of Stephen Metcalfe’s *Loves & Hours*, a world-premiere production of *His Girl Friday* at London’s Royal National Theatre, which received rave reviews, as well as the national tour and Toronto productions of *Hairspray*. O’Brien also won the 2002 “Mr. Abbott” Award winner by the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF). This prestigious award is presented annually to a director whose distinguished body of work has made a lasting and outstanding contribution to the American Theatre.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego’s flagship arts institution for over 68 years. The Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including the highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, as exemplified by Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, Tina Landau, Nora Ephron and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Imaginary Friends, The Full Monty, Pride’s Crossing and Damn Yankees, have been developed at the Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Jack O’Brien and Craig Noel and Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, The Old Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting the standard for excellence in the American theatre.