

A new play by Katherine Tozer for Palimpsest, commissioned by Dr Johnson's House for performance 17th/24th April 2016 at 3 and 7pm

Playing to the Crowd follows Dr Johnson as he begins the process of editing Shakespeare's plays. With him in his Gough Square drawing room are Charlotte Lennox, who surveyed Shakespeare's sources in her Shakespear Illustrated, and Johnson's former pupil, David Garrick, the celebrated actor and theatre manager. Johnson wants to hear Lennox read King Lear 'as Shakespeare wrote it'- Garrick, however, wants to know: will un-edited Shakespeare sell?

## CAST

Dr Samuel Johnson - Alex Blake.
David Garrick - Nick Barber.
Charlotte Lennox - Katherine Tozer.

## CREW

Director - Patrick Sandford.
Online - Oli and Chloe at Node.
Short Film - Gavin Leisfield and David Smith.
Props - Mario Ruiz.
Costume - Alicia Bloundele.

## THANKS

Laura Irwin and Celine Luppo McDaid and all the volunteers at Dr Johnson's house.

Mark Elstob, Blanche Marvin & Ana Garcia at Leighton House.

Plus thanks to Henry Hitchings, Phyllis Nagy,
Guy Ladenburg and Patrick Sandford for scriptural advice.

KING LEAR Tate, 1681 Act 4 GLOSTER O matter and impertinency mixt. Reason in madness. If thou wilt weep my fortunes, take my eyes, I know ther well enough, thy name is Gloster. LEAR Thou must be patient, we came crying hither, Thou knowst, the first time that we taste air. We wail and cry-Ill preach to thee, Mark-Break, labouring heart. When we are born we cry that we are come EDGAR To this great stage of fools LEAR [Enter two or three quatlemen] O here he is, lay hand upon him, Sir No rescee, what a prisoner? I am even the natural fool of Fortune: Your dearest daughter sends Use me well, you shall have ranson let me have surgeons, oh I am cut to the braits. LEAR No seconds? All to myself? I will die bravely like a smog bridegroom. flushed and pampered CENT like a priest's whore, I am king, my masters, know ye that? LEAR It were an excellent strategem to shoe a troop of horse with felt, I'll put in proof no noise, so soise now will we steal upon those sons in law, and then kill, kill, kill, kill. GENT LEAR

KING LEAR Tox. 1681 garick 1750 Act 4 Seems 5 If thou wilt weep my fortunes, take my eyes." I know ther well enough, thy name is Gloster. Thou must be patient, we came crying hither, Thou knowst, the first time that we seeke air. Small wasole We washand cry-Ill preach to thee, Mark BCAR Bresh Ishowing heart Thiles - Alech the When we are born we cry that we are come To this great stage of fools [Enter two or three gentlemen] O here he is, lay hand upon him, Sir Your deriver drughter ready far male our soughts No rescue chat a prisoner I am even the natural (ool of Fortune: Use me well you shall have ranson let me have surgeony of lam out to the brains. You shall have anything.

No seconds: All to myself? I will die bravels like a smug bridegroom. Hushed and pampered. LEAR CENT bles profess whole, I am king my masters, know ye that? It were an excellent stratagem to shoe a troop of horse with felt, I'll put in proof no noise, LEAR no noise now will we steal upon those some in law, and then kill, kill, kill, kill, GENT LEAR

KING LEAR Tetc. 1681 Johnson 1765 CLOSTER O matter and impertinency mixt. Reason in madness. / If thou wilt weep my fortunes, take my eyes. I know thee well enough thy name is Gloster. Thos must be patient, we came crying hither, Thou knowst, the first time that we assecut. mell warelewe westend cry. Ill press to thee Marty shell

HINGAR Break between them of the star Clack, alock the day!

LEAR When we are horn we cry that we are come

To this great stage of fools - This good block! O here he is lay hand upon him. Six Your descent drughter sends No rescee, what a prisoner? I am even the natural food of Pottunes Use me well you shall have ranson let me have surgeons of 12m cut to she british No seconds? All to myself? I will die bravely like a sung bridegroom. Hushed and primpered like a priest's whore I am king, my matters, become that? It were an account traiting in to shoe a troop of horse with felt. I'll put in proof no noise. that when I've stal a upon there on in live and then kill kill kill Kill, Kill, Kill

## GLOSSARY - First Folio and Quarto.

During the Elizabethan era, plays were commonly printed as separate works in 'quarto' format.

A 'quarto' is a book produced from large pieces of paper, each of which is printed with eight pages of text, four to a side, then folded twice to produce four leaves (eight pages). Quartos are generally around eight inches high and consist of around an hundred pages.

Eighteen of Shakespeare's thirty six plays were printed as quartos, many within his lifetime. For example,  $Henry\ IV\ Part\ I$  was first published as a quarto in 1598, with a second quarto edition in 1599 followed by a number of further quarto editions.

The texts of some of the extant quartos are highly inaccurate, full of errors and omissions. It has been speculated that they were produced by actors who had badly memorised their lines.

After Shakespeare's death, the 'First Folio' of his plays was published in 1623. It is thirteen inches tall and contains four hundred and fifty four leaves, created by folding each large sheet of printed paper only once, creating four pages, to the quarto's eight.

Collated by two actors from Shakespeare's company, the First Folio gathers together pretty much Shakespeare's collected works. Only around 230 First Folio editions now survive.

This weighty (and now priceless) volume is considered to contain some of the fairest versions of Shakespeare's plays, however the quartos still hold a scholarly allure and are pored over by those who seek to divine what Shakespeare actually wrote.

For a wealth of online supporting material created to augment this play, please visit @Play2thecrowd on Twitter and visit www.palimpsest.co for tickets and more information.