BAM presents *The Winter’s Tale* by Cheek by Jowl, Dec 6—11

Influential director Declan Donnellan tackles Shakespeare’s classic tale of jealousy, madness, and magical transformation

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor

*The Winter’s Tale*          US Premiere
By William Shakespeare
Cheek by Jowl
Declan Donnellan and Nick Ormerod

Directed by Declan Donnellan
Designed by Nick Ormerod
Lighting designer Judith Greenwood
Composer and sound designer Paddy Cunneen
Associate and movement director Jane Gibson

**BAM Harvey Theater** (651 Fulton St)
Dec 6—10 at 7:30pm, Dec 11 at 3pm
Tickets start at $25

**Iconic Artist Talk: Declan Donnellan**
With Declan Donnellan in conversation with James Shapiro
Dec 7 at 6pm
BAMcafé (30 Lafayette Ave)
Tickets: $25 ($12.50 for BAM Members)

“An original masterpiece”—Le Figaro

**Oct 26, 2016/Brooklyn, NY**—Known for its imaginative staging of the classics, the British theater troupe Cheek by Jowl returns to BAM with Shakespeare’s late romance *The Winter’s Tale*, in a production originally conceived to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Bard’s death. With actors in casual modern dress and the intelligent use of simple sets, director Declan
Donnellan, who won a Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Biennale this summer, renders the time- and location-shifting storyline fluidly and clearly.

This production puts the Sicilian king Leontes (Orlando James, who played the title role in the staged *Shakespeare in Love* in London) at the center, portraying him as in constant conflict with himself. His unfounded suspicion and refusal to be reasoned with lead to the tragic fulfillment of the oracle “the king shall live without an heir if that which is lost be not found.” With its usual high energy, the entire company infuses this classic tale with heightened drama, crackling hilarity, and genuine emotion.

**About the Artists**

**Cheek by Jowl** was founded by Nick Ormerod and Declan Donnellan in 1981 and performs around the world in three languages: English, French, and Russian. It won the Laurence Olivier Award for Most Promising Newcomer in its first season and has received many Oliviers since then. In 1990, *The Independent* declared, “If there is one company to have influenced British theatre in the 1980s, it is Cheek by Jowl.” Starting with *As You Like It* in the 1994 Next Wave Festival, the company has brought seven acclaimed productions to BAM, including *The Duchess of Malfi* (1995 Next Wave), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Winter/Spring 1998), *Othello* (2004 Next Wave), *Cymbeline* (Winter/Spring 2007), *Macbeth* (2011 Winter/Spring), and *‘Tis Pity She’s a Whore* (2012 Winter/Spring).

**Declan Donnellan** was admitted to the bar before he turned to theater and founded Cheek by Jowl with his partner Nick Ormerod in 1981. He has since directed over 30 productions for the company and toured to nearly 400 cities on six continents. His gender- and color-blind *As You Like It* won critics the world over and was presented by BAM in 1994. He formed a company of actors in Moscow in 2000—under the auspices of The Chekhov International Theatre Festival—whose productions include *Boris Godunov*, *Twelfth Night*, *Three Sisters*, and *The Tempest*. His book, *The Actor and the Target* (2001), originally published in Russian, has since appeared in 15 languages, including a second English edition. Donnellan has received awards in London, Moscow, Paris, and New York. His four Olivier Awards include one for Outstanding Achievement in 1990. In February of 2004 he was made a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres for his work in France.

**Nick Ormerod** is co-founder and joint artistic director of Cheek by Jowl and has designed all but one of its productions. After qualifying as a barrister, Ormerod trained in theater design at Wimbledon School of Art. His first job in theater was a year as an assistant at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh. From there he went on to work with Declan Donnellan on various productions for the Royal Court and Arts Educational Schools before forming Cheek by Jowl in 1981. Ormerod’s work is characterized by its simplicity and directness, an approach that has formed the visual signature of the company’s work and led to winning the Corral de Comedias Award with Donnellan in 2008 and numerous other awards.

For press information, contact David Hsieh at dhsieh@BAM.org or 718.636.4129 x5.

**Credits**

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Produced by Cheek by Jowl in a co-production with the Barbican, London; Les Gémeaux/Sceaux/Scène Nationale; Grand Théâtre de Luxembourg; Piccolo Teatro di Milano-Teatro d’Europa; Chicago Shakespeare Theater; Centro Dramático Nacional, Madrid (INAEM).

General Information
BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn’s only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a bar menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for information.

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.