

## **The Bard's Greatest Plays Explored on "Shakespeare Uncovered" on NET Television**

Actors and directors reveal their personal passions and the stories behind William Shakespeare's greatest plays in "Shakespeare Uncovered," a unique series of six programs combining history, biography, iconic performances and analysis. The series airs on six Fridays in April and May at 9 p.m. CT on NET1/HD. (Editor's note: the Friday, April 12 program airs at 9:30 p.m. CT)

Each of the six programs is anchored by a celebrated host, including actors Ethan Hawke, Jeremy Irons, Derek Jacobi, Joely Richardson and David Tennant, as well as director Trevor Nunn. Each has deep personal experience with Shakespeare's work and relates not only the stories of the plays themselves, but also the stories of how they came to be written, how they have been performed and how they have survived more than 400 years.

The programs combine interviews with the actors, directors and scholars, along with visits to key locations, clips from some of the most-celebrated film and television adaptations, and illustrative excerpts from the plays staged specially for the series at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London.

In "Macbeth," airing Friday, April 5, at 9 p.m. CT, actor Ethan Hawke describes his quest to play Shakespeare's murderous Thane of Cawdor by researching the true story and real-life events that served as the play's inspiration.

Friday, April 12, at 9:30 p.m. CT, actress Joely Richardson, along with her mother Vanessa Redgrave, investigates the legacy of "Twelfth Night" and "As You Like It," two brilliant cross-dressing comedies, with female roles written for male actors to play.

"Shakespeare Uncovered" continues on Friday, April 19, when "Richard II with Derek Jacobi" airs at 9 p.m. CT. In returning to the role of a deposed monarch whose crown is taken from him, Jacobi takes a 360-degree view of this great political thriller whose title character he played more than 30 years ago.

On Friday, May 3, at 9 p.m. CT, "Henry IV & Henry V with Jeremy Irons" uncovers the enduring appeal of Shakespeare's most iconic "history plays," from the true English history embedded into the works to the father-son drama that Shakespeare created.

Actor David Tennant meets fellow actors who've tackled the iconic role of "Hamlet," digs deep into the text about the doomed Danish Prince and explores the reason it is widely considered the greatest in Shakespeare's canon. "Hamlet with David Tennant" airs Friday, May 10, at 9 p.m. CT.

Lastly, legendary director Trevor Nunn, who has helmed 30 of Shakespeare's 37 plays -- and aims to complete them all before he retires -- takes viewers through the magical and mysterious world created in the playwright's last complete work. "The Tempest with Trevor Nunn" airs Friday, May 24, at 9 p.m. CT.

NET1/HD are part of NET Television. NET Television is a service of NET. For a complete program schedule, visit NET's website ([netNebraska.org/television](http://netNebraska.org/television)).

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