SHAKESPEARE 1138

STATEMENT: Cancellation of performances of *The Comedy of Errors* in WA

3 August 2022

It is with great disappointment that we advise, due to a COVID-19 outbreak among *The Comedy of Errors* company, Bell Shakespeare has been forced to make the heartbreaking decision to cancel all performances in Western Australia of *The Comedy of Errors*, including those in Perth, Bunbury and Albany.

Although the company had multiple contingency and risk mitigation strategies in place, including understudies and stringent testing protocols, unfortunately the outbreak has grown beyond our ability to present a cohesive production in a safe environment for artists and audiences.

Bell Shakespeare's national tour is at the heart of what we do – sharing Shakespeare with Australians everywhere. These performances have been a cornerstone of the tour for more than 20 years. It is therefore hugely disappointing not to be able to reunite with Western Australian audiences at this time. However, the health and wellbeing of all, including both artists and audiences must remain our primary concern.

We thank you for your support and friendship and hope we will be able to see you in the theatre soon.

Gill Perkins

Peter Evans

Executive Director

Artistic Director