

ROGUE SHAKESPEARE®



www.rogueshakespeare.com

THE ROGUE SHAKESPEARE EXPERIENCE - LIVE!

The exciting LIVE solo show, starring OFFIE Award-winning poet-playwright, Ryan J-W Smith (aka '[Rogue Shakespeare](#)') - next performances @ 3pm / 6pm Aug. 22, 2026 @ Shakespeare North Playhouse, Preston.

ENGLAND AUGUST 2, 2026

Rogue Shakespeare® (aka Ryan J-W Smith) is the most prolific [sonneteer](#) in world history.

"Smith has become the most prolific sonneteer in history. Over the course of nearly two decades, he has created around 3,400 sonnets – considerably more than the Bard's 154, Wordsworth's 600, and even more than the prolific Golden Age Spanish poet, Lope de Vega (Smith's closest rival), who wrote around 3,000 sonnets." – The Yorkshire Post

On July 3rd, 2026, the first 1,000 of Smith's sonnets were published in his new book: ***Rogue Shakespeare's Sonnets - Truth in Verse - Part I: The Path to Enlightenment in the Brave New World.***

"Candid, spiritual, philosophical and sometimes boldly political... a landmark in literature" - Watkins Magazine

"Mr Smith's greatest achievement is to surpass Lope De Vega... This volume runs to a noteworthy 1,000 sonnets..."
– Times Literary Supplement

"Rogue Shakespeare's Sonnets – Truth in Verse – is a masterclass in poetry... a 17 year secret diary which is both political and personal as Smith challenges the norm with his artistic genius." – Our Man on the Ground Magazine

To help promote his new book, and his mission to bring raw, honest poetry to the people, Smith has created a brand new solo show called ***The Rogue Shakespeare Experience - LIVE!*** Based loosely on his new podcast, where Smith writes sonnets on the spot for his guests, this brand new audience-interactive live show consists of various fun theatre games for the audience to raise their poetry skills whilst demonstrating Smith's inimitable ability to write perfectly structured rhyming iambic sonnets at lightening speed. This show is completely unique as Smith is the sole known living poet that can effortlessly write a structurally perfect iambic [sonnet](#) in under 10 minutes.

Clearly this show is highly educational, but it is also fun, as Smith is also known for his award-winning comedic [plays](#) and comedic [acting](#). Thus, humour, intelligent conversation, and some on-point political observations ensure something for everyone. Never the same show twice! Due to the improvisational nature of the show, no two performances of the Rogue Shakespeare Experience will ever be the same. Thus, audiences can see the show again and again - as every show will feature new sonnets, new topics, new comedy and new volunteers!

Smith's verse, in the form of his [plays](#), has already received innumerable accolades, including: OFFIES Award-winner 2025; two-time Hollywood Fringe International Award Winner (and two-time nominee); Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award Nomination; two-time Encore Producers' Award Winner; Hollywood Fringe Comedy Award Nomination; Gandhi Foundation Award Recipient; The Observer - Edinburgh Fringe Producer of the Year Award; three-time Arts Council England Award Recipient, and countless 4 and 5-star reviews from professional theatre critics all over the world. Smith's verse on film has also been selected for inclusion in notable international film festivals, including the Cannes Film Festival.

Find out more here: <https://www.rogueshakespeare.com/experience>

SHOW TIMES AND DATES: Aug 22 @ 3pm and 6pm (approx 60 mins) @ Shakespeare North Playhouse, Preston

TICKETS: on sale now: <https://shakespearenorthplayhouse.co.uk/event/rogue-shakespeare/>

PRESS PREVIEWS/FEATURES etc - email: info@rogueshakespeare.com

Press photos etc: <https://www.rogueshakespeare.com/press>