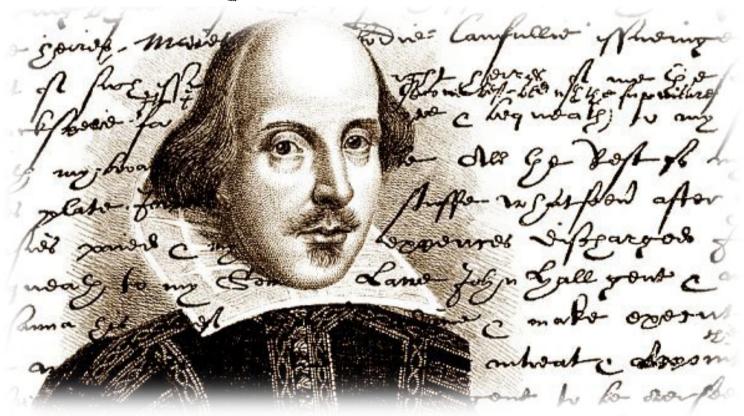
#### WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

## SonnetRock

ROB DICKINSON, A XVI CENTURY TROUBADOUR

# At your school.



With Music, Singing and Acting!
Now with the famous speeches!!

DMMENDED BY THE BRITISH COUNCIL

### An exciting and passionate journey into the bard's world where truth and fiction part company.

Hear the sonnets recited in OP (Original Pronunciation) the way we would have heard them in Shakespeare's time and compare it to the modern English and RP (Received Pronunciation) used today by Shakespearean actors.



With humour, recitation and a hectic pace, Rob Dickinson conjures up many stories how including Shakespeare's Globe Theatre was reduced literally to a cinder when it caught fire after a special effect, in the shape of a real cannon, was fired and sent three thousand people running for their lives!



Be prepared to have some of the audience in giggles and one or two possibly in stitches when they hear the different pronunciation.





# Find out the latest on who wrote Shakespeare. Was it Bacon, Marlow or Mickey Mouse?! ??



"SHAKESPEARE
COULD NOT HAVE A
KEENER
PROTECTOR"

IVAN BRISCOE FOR THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD

"A ROGUE AND A
GENTLEMAN WITH A
UNIQUE SOUND AND
A VOICE THAT CAN
SOULFULLY RISE TO
FULL
ARISTOCRACY.YOU
CANNOT DENY HIS
ENERGY ONSTAGE"
MARK SHORROCK FROM
LONDON FOR THE BUENOS
AIRES HERALD





# DISCOVERING SonnetRock



#### STRATFORD UPON AVON



























6 "Rob has a gift for telling stories, making music, and keeping an audience captive."

"I learnt new things about the sonnets and Shakespeare." Sophie M.

"Musically it was very professional and entertaining."

"It was a really good show and I really enjoyed it, amazing performance!"

Mia

"I found entertaining the comparison of Early Modern English with today's English."

"SONNETROCK was great fun and an entertaining way of learning Shakespeare." Delfina H.

"It was a great opportunity to learn about Shakespeare in a creative way." Mia N.

"I hope this play continues happening for many other kids and schools!"

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#### Rob Dickinson

If it's true that happenstance determines history, we could say that Rob Dickinson became himself one quiet Studio afternoon he had been gifted with a copy of Shakespeare's Sonnets, so he began idly improvising melodies for them on the guitar. Rob remembers: 'The melodies seemed to appear complete, as if downloaded on a light beam."

Three of these Sonnets later figured in his record 'Obsession' (1992), a fusion of rock and pop in the English manner (shades here of David Byrne, David Bowie, and the Peter Gabriel of 'Genesis'). Argentine press and audience reception was enthusiastic, so radio and television It didn't seem to exposure followed. matter at all, that Rob's lyrics were in English, or that his musical heritage was so overtly Anglo-Saxon.

The genre possibilities that appeared with the Sonnets refused to go away shortly thereafter, Rob set Poe's 'The Raven' to music, this leading to a record and show, staged both in London and Buenos Aires. It also inspired director Tim Conrad's film 'Terra', to be shot in London, which in turn attracted the active interest of Peter Lord (producer to Peter Gabriel).

This 'The Raven' recording was presented in 1998 as part of a multidisciplinary event, created by playwright Ivan Briscoe. Sponsored by Argentina's British Council and the City of Buenos Aires, the stage curtain opened











to reveal a world peopled by dancers, actors and Rob Dickinson in live performance. In the words of the Buenos Aires Herald review, 'his voice, a wonderful resonant beast lost somewhere in history, a voice evoking abandoned castles and dank attics, perfectly suited the melancholic grimness of the poem.'

Of course that's not by any means the whole story, which could be summarized as follows: named at birth Robert Paul Dickinson, which despite sounding so English makes him Argentine. This duality, of Anglo-Saxon tradition sounding through the melancholy of the River Plate, provides Rob's work with a brilliance and depth hard to find in many performers.

Rob Dickinson is a trained musician and actor, shaped by different schools and places: studies and work experience in Buenos Aires, London and New York have determined his artistic identity and style. He came of age as an actor through his continued relationship with Pepe Cibrián Campoy, and went on to share stage and recording venues with prime movers of Argentine Rock. Andrés Calamaro himself performed on keyboard for one of

his bands, the 'Dickinson Power Trio'. Rob's third record, 'Obsession', was so well-received that it led to Rob often appearing onstage accompanying Charly García at the Roxy, and sometime later helming the opening act for the Vox Dei concerts, at the 'For Our Indigenous Brother' tour at San Pedro and La Plata (2011).

Today Rob is again working the light beam he now knows how to summon, so as to compose "**SonnetRock**", a new Sonnets recording to serve primarily as the core of a new mixed-media show which is to include English-spoken poetry and music, even further along the path and genre made possible by his rendering of Poe's 'The Raven'.

E.F.

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Shakespeare is made accessible to all!

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