

Chapman University

Chapman University Digital Commons

Theatre Faculty Books and Book Chapters

Department of Theatre

2015

Zoe Wanamaker

Jocelyn L. Buckner

Chapman University, jbuckner@chapman.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/theatre_books



Part of the [Other Theatre and Performance Studies Commons](#), and the [Theatre History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Buckner, Jocelyn. "Zoe Wanamaker." *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Stage Actors and Acting*. Ed. Simon Williams. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2015. 611. Print.

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Department of Theatre at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theatre Faculty Books and Book Chapters by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact laughtin@chapman.edu.

Wanamaker, Zoë (b. New York City, 13 May 1949). US/British actress. Zoë Wanamaker moved to Great Britain as a child so her father, actor and director Sam Wanamaker, could avoid blacklisting during the McCarthy era HUAC hearings. She remained in Britain and earned dual citizenship in 2000. She studied acting at the Central School of Speech and Drama and has worked in theatre, film, and television since the 1970s. Wanamaker's career is distinguished by her memberships in both the National Theatre and the ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. In 1984 she earned the London Critics' Circle Award for Best Supporting Actress in *Mother Courage* and in 1998 the Laurence Olivier Theatre Award for Best Actress in the 1997 production of *Electra* at the Donmar Warehouse. She also performs in the United States, earning a 2006 New York Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Ensemble Performance in *Awake and Sing*, and a Tony Award nomination as a Featured Actress in the same production. Her most prestigious honour came in 2000 when she was awarded the CBE by Queen Elizabeth II for her distinguished service to drama and theatre. In addition to her stage career, Wanamaker has appeared in British television sitcoms including *Love Hurts* in the early 1990s and has the ongoing role of Susan Harper in *My Family*, which began in 2000. She is well known by Harry Potter fans for her role as Madame Hooch, the flying instructor in the film *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (2001).

JOCELYN L. BUCKNER