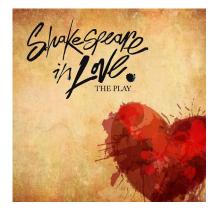
BRIGHTONLittleTHEATRE

AUDITION NOTICE



Shakespeare in Love

Adapted for the stage by Lee Hall Based on the screenplay by Marc Norman & Tom Stoppard

Director: Claire Lewis
Musical Director: Michael James
Movement Director: Graham Brown
Production Dates: Brighton Little Theatre 08-12 August, BOAT 17-19 August (Matinee 19)
Auditions: Sunday 23 April, 11am onwards
Rehearsals: To begin in June, 4 sessions a week

Promising young playwright Will Shakespeare is plagued by debt and tormented by writer's block – until he finds his muse in the form of passionate noblewoman, Viola de Lesseps. Their forbidden love draws many others into the drama, including Queen Elizabeth I, and inspires Will to write the greatest love story of all time: Romeo and Juliet.

This sparkling, romantic romp is a highly theatrical production bursting with energy. It has everything you'd expect from the Bard: romance, comedy, drama, thrilling stage fights, music, dancing, singing and maybe even a dog

Pre-Audition: We would like you to prepare a self-tape of you performing an own choice folk song, 1-2 minutes long (unaccompanied or with your own backing track) in the style of one of the characters you are reading for and send it by Thursday 20 April, to Claire (details below).

You will be taught some basic movement at the audition.

If you play a musical instrument please let Claire know. You will not be required to play your instrument at the audition.

Sword fights will be taught and choreographed by a professional fight director.

CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION	PLAYING AGE
Will Shakespeare	A passionate poet and playwright. Brooding,	30s
	charismatic, charming, with a sensitive soul.	
	Intimacy required. Sword fights.	
Kit Marlowe	Successful playwright. Smooth, confident	30s
	and good-humoured.	
Viola de Lesseps	A noblewoman who fiercely dreams of	20s
	becoming an actor. Disguises as Thomas	
	Kent. Plays both Romeo & Juliet. Rebellious,	
	playful and determined.	
	Intimacy required.	
Nurse	Devoted servant to Viola. Knowing, kind,	40-70s
	humorous.	
Sir Robert de Lesseps	Viola's father. Arrogant, selfish.	50-60s
Lord Wessex	Insufferable, cash poor nobleman. A	40s
	shameless misogynist desires Viola for her	
	wealth.	
Henslowe	Owner/Manager of Rose Theatre. A slippery	30-60s
	equivocator, ripe fodder for a comedic actor.	
Fennyman	Producer of plays. Ruthless loan shark with	40-70s
	no sense of humour. Imperious &	
	intimidating. However his enthusiasm at	
	playing the Apothecary endears him to his	
	fellow players and audiences alike.	
Ralph	A tavern server by day and ambitious actor.	40-60s
	Plays Juliet's Nurse & Capulet.	
Nol	Actor at The Rose. Plays Benvolio. Sword	20/30s
	fights.	
Robin	Actor at The Rose. Plays Tybalt & Lady	20/30s
	Capulet. Sword fights.	
John Webster	Street urchin aspiring to be an actor.	14
	Possesses an unsettling fondness for plays	
	featuring pain and gore.	
Wabash	Henslowe's tailor. Aspiring actor with a	20-40s
	stutter. He delivers the prologue to Romeo &	
	Juliet.	

Ned Alleyn	Handsome lead actor of the Admiral's Men. Plays Mercutio. Self-absorbed, reckless, pompous. Sword fights.	30s
Sam	Young actor with the Admiral's Men. Plays Juliet, sincerely.	16
Peter	Admiral's Men Actor. Plays Petruchio. Sword fights.	20s
Burbage	Lead actor of the Chamberlain's Men, a rival troupe, and owner of the Curtain Theatre. Hot-headed. Sword fights.	40s
Edmund Tilney	Lord Chamberlain and obsequious courtier to Queen Elizabeth I. Strict & exacting.	40-60s
Queen Elizabeth I	England's shrewd monarch who loves theatre. Daunting presence. Droll, stern with a twinkle in her eye.	60s
Ensemble	A host of characters: whores, guests, wardrobe mistress, dancers, flunkies, actors, heavies, servants, guards, attendants etc	Any

BLT actively encourages auditionees from ethnic minority communities and any of the above parts can be played by any race.

Some characters will be doubled.

At a later stage we will be looking for a small dog that can do some simple tricks.

For audition pieces and further information about this exciting production, please contact Claire Lewis.

(e) <u>claire.lewis@sky.com</u> (m) 07841 115250