

## Character List and Audition information

Please note: this is a very physical play, with fight scenes, dance scenes, and some active transitions between scenes. Actors must be prepared to be flexible (literally!) and to run around a bit.

Because of the fight scenes, dance scenes, and ensemble work, this play will require quite a bit of rehearsal time. I will try to accommodate schedules as much as possible, but actors must be prepared to be flexible (metaphorically, with their time!) and to arrive ready and willing to work.

Rehearsals will begin in January, and get more frequent in February and March. Performance is March 21-24 at the Imperial.

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Overall, there are 6 female roles and 16 male roles. Because of the play's focus on cross-dressing (males played female roles in Shakespeare's time, and the joke of the play is that one female dresses as a male to join the theatre troupe), there is not much room for me to cast across the male / female roles (unless a female can pass *completely* as a male character).

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There are **11 single-character roles**.

Two (Will Shakespeare and Viola de Lesseps) are already cast, and will arrive part-way through the rehearsal period.

Listed ages are a bit flexible.

### 3 female roles:

- Nurse (40-60s)
- Queen Elizabeth (50-70s)
- Lady de Lesseps (40-50s) (silent; will body-double for Viola in early rehearsals)

### 6 male roles:

- Wessex: (20-40s) courtly bad guy (future husband of Viola)
- Marlowe: (20-40s) Christopher Marlowe (playwright)
- Burbage: (20-40s) Richard Burbage (actor)
- Henslowe: (40-60s) owner of a theatre
- Fennyman: (40-60s) the money man
- Webster: (20s) actor and future playwright

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There are **11 multiple-character roles**.

2 female roles:

- Mistress Quickly / Kate / Courtier: (20-40s) prostitute and courtier
- Molly / Courtier (20-40s): prostitute and courtier

9 male roles:

- Maestro / Courtier (20-40s) (will body-double for Will in early rehearsals) mainly silent
- Tilney / Robert de Lesseps / Burbage Heavy: (50s) (Master of the Revels / Viola's father)

The company (i.e. Shakespeare's acting troupe):

- \*Ned / Courtier / Henchman: (20-40s)
- \*Wabash / Lambert / Henchman / "Prologue": (20-30s)
- \*Ralph / Actor / Courtier / "Nurse": (20-40s)
- \*Sam / "Juliet" / Frees / Guard: (teens/ 20s) (youthful, must be able to play female)
- \*Nol / Guard / "Sampson" / "Benvolio": (20-30s)
- \*Peter / Actor / Barman / Robin / Guard / "Lady Capulet": (20-40s)
- \*Adam / Courtier / Boatman / Burbage Heavy / "Gregory": (20-40s)

There is also a dog (male or female!). Auditions for the dog will be announced shortly.