

**THE CHICAGO ACADEMY
FOR THE ARTS**

**THEATRE & MUSICAL THEATRE
DEPARTMENTS**

10th ANNUAL

BRUSH UP YOUR SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

JANUARY 28 - 31, 2021

**THE TAMING OF THE SHREW
ROMEO AND JULIET
AS YOU LIKE IT
THE TEMPEST**

BRUSH UP YOUR SHAKESPEARE

Thursday, January 28 - **THE TAMING OF THE SHREW**

Friday, January 29 - **ROMEO AND JULIET**

Saturday, January 30 - **AS YOU LIKE IT**

Sunday, January 31 - **THE TEMPEST**

About The Shakespeare Festival

The Musical Theatre Department started the Brush Up Your Shakespeare Festival in 2012. Ben Dicke was a guest artist and co-directed the two comedies with Andy Robinson. In 2014, then-senior Bella Pelz co-directed *Twelfth Night* as a student. In 2016, the Theatre Department joined the project, which increased the number of titles per festival, the same year we had five snow days in a three-week rehearsal period! The name "Brush Up Your Shakespeare" comes from the Cole Porter musical "Kiss Me, Kate."

2021 *The Tempest, As You Like It, The Taming of the Shrew, Romeo and Juliet*

2020 *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Macbeth, Hamlet*

2019 *Twelfth Night, King Lear*

2018 *The Winter's Tale, The Comedy of Errors*

2017 *The Merchant of Venice, The Tempest, Cymbeline*

2016 *As You Like It, Macbeth*

2015 *Romeo and Juliet*

2014 *Twelfth Night*

2013 *The Winter's Tale*

2012 *The Taming of the Shrew, A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Directors over the years have included guest artists like Bella Pelz, David Schlumpf, Kira Lace Hawkins, Sophie Grimm, and Ben Barker; also, our acting faculty has directed, including Andy Robinson, Ben Dicke, Adam Goldstein, Sasha Hildebrand, Geoff Button, Saren Nofs-Snyder, Emily Luhrs, and Sarah Grant. We often enjoy having assistance from Academy alums, which this year includes Mark Finnerty, Isabelle Jennings, Tori Wheeler, and Peter Varga.

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Production Team

Director
Assistant Director
Production Manager

*Ben Dicke
Isabelle Jennings
Buck Blue*

Cast

BAPTISTA, WEALTHY MAN OF PADUA
KATHARINA, ELDEST DAUGHTER OF BAPTISTA
BIANCA, YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF BAPTISTA

*Kendel Rose
Abbie Jacobson
Isabel Contreras*

PETRUCHIO, SUITOR TO KATHARINA
GRUMIO, SERVANT TO PETRUCHIO
CURTIS, SERVANT TO PETRUCHIO
PETER, SERVANT TO PETRUCHIO
NATHANIEL, SERVANT TO PETRUCHIO

*Asher Ramaly
Shaya Scales
Kendel Rose
Jabari Thurman
Ethan Alonzo*

LUCENTIO, SUITOR TO BIANCA
TRANIO, SERVANT TO LUCENTIO
BIONDELLO, SERVANT TO LUCENTIO

*Ethan Alonzo
Ben Eble
Isabel Conteras*

GREMIO, SUITOR TO BIANCA
HORTENSIO, SUITOR TO BIANCA

*Elena Quandt
Jabari Thurman*

VINCENTIO, FATHER TO LUCENTIO
MERCHANT, DISGUISED AS VINCENTIO
OFFICER OF THE LAW

*Shaya Scales
Elena Quandt
Jabari Thurman*



Synopsis

ACT I, SCENE I - Lucentio and his servant Tranio arrive in Padua and switch identities in an attempt to woo Baptista's youngest daughter Bianca. Gremio and Hortensio, also suitors to Bianca, scheme to find a match for Baptista's eldest daughter Katharina.

ACT I, SCENE II - Petruchio and his servant Grumio arrive in Padua looking for a rich bride. Gremio and Hortensio recommend Katharina to Petruchio and all head to Baptista's house to woo their respective interests.

ACT II, SCENE I - Bianca begs her elder sister Katharina to marry in order that she may find a husband. To gain favor with Bianca, Gremio offers the disguised Lucentio as a tutor. Likewise, Petruchio offers a disguised Hortensio to serenade Katharina. Petruchio and Katharina discover their wits match well with one another.

ACT III, SCENE I - Lucentio and Hortensio, still disguised as tutors, present amorous "lessons" to Bianca who is still locked away at home until her eldest sister Katharina finds a match.



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2020 - *The Scottish Play*

ACT III, SCENE II - The wedding day of Katharina and Petruchio is marked by many surprises including a shirtless bridegroom.

INTERMISSION

ACT IV, SCENE I - Whisked away suddenly from her family, Katharina encounters the servants of Petruchio's house who are forbidden to offer her food, drink, or comfort.

ACT IV, SCENE II - Hortensio, unwilling to compete any longer with Lucentio for Bianca's hand, leaves to court a widow for his wife. Tranio, needing to locate a "father" to vouch for Lucentio's bid for Bianca's hand, convinces a passing merchant to join in their deception.

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ACT IV, SCENE III - Katharina, fed up with being underfed and underdressed, returns with Petruchio to her father's house in Padua.

ACT IV, SCENE IV - Tranio and the merchant deceive Baptista who agrees to Lucentio's bid for Bianca's hand.

ACT IV, SCENE V - On the road back to Padua, Katharina agrees with all of Petruchio's contrary declarations

ACT V, SCENE I - With all parties returned to Padua, deceptions are uncovered and matches finally clapped up.

ACT V, SCENE II - What's a wedding banquet without a wager? Will Katharina instruct or incite?

ROMEO AND JULIET

Production Team

Director
Assistant Director
Production Manager

*Emily Luhrs
Tori Wheeler
Buck Blue*

Ensemble

*Martin Collins
Olivia Daly-Short
Hans Furr
Tvesha Gupta
Tyler Mannelly
Eden Naiditch
Justin Spoor*



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2020 - *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Director's Note

The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet is a story so familiar, that it has been absorbed into the cannon of our culture's collective consciousness. The reach of the story's influence is broad and deep. There are forty-five film and TV adaptations of Shakespeare's script (the earliest a silent film created in 1908) and that number does not include such intellectual properties as *West Side Story* or *Titanic*. The ripples of Romeo and Juliet's star crossed love can be traced through our literature, popular music, visual art, and even dance — Tchaikovsky's ballet remains one of the most popular adaptations of the enduring tragedy. It is a story that has transcended its original medium and stretched its reach through time to continue speaking to us today.

These seven actors have the momentous challenge of retelling this story through yet another medium — the virtual medium of Zoom. To do this, each member of the ensemble will portray many roles, each carrying an equal burden of the story. I encourage you to listen with fresh ears, and imagine you are hearing this story for the first time.

Emily Luhrs, Director

Synopsis

PROLOGUE

Full Company

ACT I, SCENE I. A public place in Verona.

A Fight erupts in the street between the rival Capulets and Montagues. BENVOLIO teases his cousin ROMEO for being lovesick.

GREGORY	<i>Martin Collins</i>
TYBALT	<i>Hans Furr</i>
ABRAHAM	<i>Olivia Daly-Short</i>
BENVOLIO	<i>Eden Naiditch</i>
CAPULET	<i>Tyler Mannelly</i>
MONTAGUE/ROMEO	<i>Justin Spoor</i>
PRINCE	<i>Tvesha Gupta</i>

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ACT I, SCENE II. A street in Verona.

LORD CAPULET invites the COUNT PARIS to a party to woo his daughter. ROMEO and BENVOLIO decide to crash CAPULET'S party.

PARIS	Hans Furr
CAPULET	Martin Collins
Servant	Olivia Daly-Short
ROMEO	Justin Spoor
BENVOLIO	Eden Naiditch

ACT I, SCENE III. A room in Capulet's house.

LADY CAPULET and the Nurse encourage JULIET to consider PARIS for a husband.

LADY CAPULET	Olivia Daly-Short
Nurse	Tvesha Gupta
JULIET	Tyler Mannelly
Servant	Justin Spoor

ACT I, SCENE IV. A street in Verona.

ROMEO has reservations about crashing the CAPULET'S party. MERCUTIO and BENVOLIO convince him to go along.

ROMEO	Martin Collins
MERCUTIO	Hans Furr
BENVOLIO	Justin Spoor

ACT I, SCENE V. A hall in Capulet's house.

TYBALT discovers ROMEO at his uncle's party. ROMEO and JULIET meet and instantly fall for one another.

CAPULET	Martin Collins
ROMEO	Eden Naiditch
TYBALT	Tvesha Gupta
JULIET	Tyler Mannelly
Nurse	Olivia Daly-Short

ACT II, SCENE II. Lord Capulet's orchard.

ROMEO confesses his love to JULIET.

ROMEO	Hans Furr
JULIET	Tvesha Gupta
Nurse	Tyler Mannelly

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ACT II, SCENE IV. A street in Verona.

BENVOLIO and MERCUTIO tease ROMEO. The Nurse delivers a message from JULIET.

MERCUTIO
BENVOLIO
ROMEO
Nurse

Justin Spoor
Martin Collins
Tyler Mannelly
Eden Naiditch

ACT II, SCENE V. Lord Capulet's orchard.

JULIET anxiously awaits news of ROMEO.

JULIET
Nurse

Olivia Daly-Short
Tyler Mannelly

ACT III, SCENE I. A public place in Verona.

TYBALT seeks revenge on ROMEO. MERCUTIO, TYBALT and ROMEO duel to the death.

BENVOLIO
MERCUTIO
TYBALT
ROMEO

Eden Naiditch
Hans Furr
Justin Spoor
Martin Collins

ACT III, SCENE II. JULIET'S Balcony.

JULIET grieves the loss of cousin, TYBALT, and mourns the banishment of her new husband, ROMEO.

JULIET
Nurse

Olivia Daly-Short
Tyler Mannelly

ACT III, SCENE III. Friar Laurence's cell.

ROMEO hides in the Friar's cell. The Nurse and FRIAR LAURENCE advise ROMEO to comfort JULIET then flee to Mantua.

ROMEO
FRIAR LAURENCE
Nurse

Justin Spoor
Tvesha Gupta
Eden Naiditch

Brush Up Your Shakespeare

ACT III, SCENE V. JULIET's Balcony.

ROMEO and JULIET part after their wedding night. LADY CAPULET and CAPULET advise their daughter to marry the Count PARIS.

JULIET	<i>Eden Naiditch</i>
ROMEO	<i>Martin Collins</i>
Nurse	<i>Olivia Daly-Short</i>
LADY CAPULET	<i>Tyler Mannelly</i>
CAPULET	<i>Justin Spoor</i>

ACT IV SCENE I. Friar Laurence's cell.

FRIAR LAURENCE gives JULIET a potion that will make her appear dead in order to prevent marriage to PARIS.

JULIET	<i>Tvesha Gupta</i>
FRIAR LAURENCE	<i>Olivia Daly-Short</i>

ACT IV, SCENE V. Juliet's chamber.

On the morning of JULIET's intended wedding with PARIS, her body is discovered and believed to be dead.

Nurse	<i>Eden Naiditch</i>
LADY CAPULET	<i>Tyler Mannelly</i>
CAPULET	<i>Hans Furr</i>
FRIAR LAURENCE	<i>Justin Spoor</i>
PARIS	<i>Martin Collins</i>

ACT V, SCENE I. A Street in Mantua.

BALTHASAR brings ROMEO news of JULIET's death. ROMEO purchases poison from the Apothecary.

ROMEO	<i>Tversha Gupta</i>
BALTHASAR	<i>Martin Collins</i>
Apothecary	<i>Justin Spoor</i>

ACT V, SCENE II. Friar Laurence's cell.

FRIAR LAURENCE discovers his instructions never reached ROMEO in Mantua.

FRIAR JOHN	<i>Justin Spoor</i>
FRIAR LAURENCE	<i>Hans Furr</i>

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ACT V, SCENE III. A churchyard; in it a tomb belonging to the Capulets.

PARIS comes to mourn JULIET and meets with a desperate ROMEO. JULIET wakes in the crypt.

PARIS	<i>Tyler Mannelly</i>
ROMEO	<i>Martin Collins</i>
BALTHASAR	<i>Justin Spoor</i>
JULIET	<i>Eden Naiditch</i>
FRIAR LAURENCE	<i>Tvesha Gupta</i>

ACT V, SCENE III...Continued. The Churchyard Outside the Crypt.

The tragedy of ROMEO and JULIET is revealed.

PRINCE	<i>Olivia Daly-Short</i>
First Watchman	<i>Justin Spoor</i>
FRIAR LAURENCE	<i>Hans Furr</i>
BALTHASAR	<i>Tvesha Gupta</i>
CAPULET	<i>Tyler Mannelly</i>
MONTAGUE	<i>Eden Naiditch</i>
Second Watchman	<i>Martin Collins</i>



AS YOU LIKE IT

Production Team

Director
Director
Production Manager

Andy Robinson
Mark Finnerty
Buck Blue

Cast

ORLANDO, youngest son of Rowland DeBoys
OLIVER, his oldest brother
OLD ADAM, their servant
DENNIS, Oliver's servant

Austin Peyton
Aleksi Henderson
Ava Baldassari
Annsley Helenhouse

ROSALIND, daughter of the banished duke
(who will disguise as Ganymede)
CELIA, daughter of the rebel duke
(who will disguise as Aliena)
TOUCHSTONE, the fool (or jester)

Natalee Hapaniewski
Izzie Claudio
Danielle Ryan

MONSIEUR LEBEAU, master of revels
CHARLES the Wrestler

Ava Baldassari
Lila Napientek

DUKE FREDERICK, the rebel duke
(who usurped the throne from his brother Duke Senior)

India Renteria

DUKE SENIOR, the rightful duke
(Rosalind's father, banished to the Forest of Arden)
AMIENS, a minstrel

Aleksi Henderson
Annsley Helenhouse
Lila Napientek

JAQUES, a melancholy lord

CORIN, an old shepherd
SILVIUS, a shepherd in love with Phebe
PHEBE, a proud shepherdess
AUDREY, a shepherdess in love with Touchstone
WILIAM, in love with Audrey

Ava Baldassari
Annsley Helenhouse
India Renteria
Annsley Helenhouse
Izzie Claudio

Synopsis

ACT I, SCENE I

Orlando fights with his older brother Oliver because he has received neither schooling or money.

Oliver plots to have Orlando killed by Charles the Wrestler in tomorrow's wrestling match.

ACT I, SCENE II

Duke Frederick has rebelled and banished his older brother Duke Senior to the Forest of Arden.



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2016 - *As You Like It*

Rosalind (daughter of the banished Duke Senior) and Celia (daughter of the rebel Duke Frederick) banter with Touchstone the Court Jester and receive news of a wrestling match.

Celia and Rosalind watch the wrestling match, where Orlando wins, and Rosalind and he fall in love.

ACT I, SCENE III

Rosalind confesses to Celia about her love for Orlando, when Celia's father Frederick interrupts them and banishes Rosalind.

Celia proposes they escape to the Forest of Arden! Celia will disguise herself as a country girl named Aliena and Rosalind will dress as a boy called Ganymede.

ACT 1, SCENE IV

The banished Duke Senior tells the minstrel Amiens how much he likes Forest life.

Amiens describes how their melancholy friend Jaques cried at the death of a deer they found.

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ACT I, SCENE V

Duke Frederick is angry to discover that his daughter Celia and niece Rosalind have fled the Court.

ACT I, SCENE VI

Orlando's old servant Adam warns him of Oliver's plot to kill him, gives him money enough to escape, and goes with him to the Forest of Arden.

ACT I, SCENE VII

Rosalind (as Ganymede) and Celia (as Aliena) arrive with Touchstone in the Forest where they meet an old shepherd named Corin and a young shepherd named Silvius who is crying over a shepherdess named Phebe.

ACT I, SCENE VIII

The melancholy Jaques pleads that Amiens will sing him a sad song.

ACT I, SCENE IX

Old Adam collapses with hunger and exhaustion. Orlando vows to find him food.

ACT I, SCENE X

At the Duke Senior's banquet in the forest, Jaques tells the Duke he met a fool (who is Touchstone the jester).

Orlando arrives to rob them of their food but is welcomed into the camp with hospitality.

Jaques ponders the seven stages of human life like parts in a play.



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2016 - *The Merchant of Venice*

INTERMISSION

Brush Up Your Shakespeare

ACT II, SCENE I

The forest trees are hung with Orlando's love poems for Rosalind.

Touchstone and Corin debate the courtly life versus the country life.

Jaques and Orlando meet and spar verbally.

And Rosalind (in disguise) tricks Orlando that she will cure him of his love for Rosalind by pretending to be herself!



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2019 - *King Lear*

ACT II, SCENE II

Meanwhile back in Court, the rebel Duke Frederick threatens Orlando's brother Oliver to find Orlando in the Forest.

ACT II, SCENE III

Rosalind is sad when Orlando is a no-show. Corin invites Celia and Rosalind to watch how the shepherdess Phebe scorns the courtship of the shepherd Silvius.

ACT II, SCENE IV

Phebe defends herself at the literal idea that "her looks could kill."

Rosalind berates Phebe for her cruelty to Silvius, but Phebe falls instantly in love with Rosalind (as Ganymede) and writes him an angry letter sent with Silvius.

ACT II, SCENE V

The melancholy Jaques and the lovesick Rosalind banter. Orlando is late to "court" Rosalind but vows to return in two hours.

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ACT II, SCENE VI

Amiens sings a song in the Forest.

Silvius delivers Phebe's letter, which Rosalind says is too rude for a woman to write.

Oliver arrives to bring apologies from Orlando who was injured while defending Oliver from a tiger. The brothers have reconciled, and Orlando sends his bloody handkerchief to Rosalind as an excuse, who promptly faints.

ACT II, SCENE VII

Touchstone courts another shepherdess named Audrey and scares away her other suitor Wiliam.

ACT II, SCENE VIII

Oliver and Celia fell in love at first sight and will be married!

Rosalind promises Orlando that—through magic—place the real Rosalind before him for marriage tomorrow, and she makes Phebe promise that she will choose to marry Silvius!

ACT II, SCENE IX

Corin acts as priest for the wedding as Rosalind is revealed! How many weddings will there be?

EPILOGUE

SPECIAL THANKS: Kelli Harrington, Nick Davio, Saren Nofs-Snyder, Ava Saunders, Maywood Fine Arts



THE TEMPEST

Production Team

Director
Assistant Director
Production Manager

Sarah Grant
Peter Varga
Buck Blue

Cast

ON THE ISLAND

PROSPERA, a magician and the usurped Duchess of Milan *Isabel Newman*
MIRANDA, his daughter *Madelaine Steffen*
ARIEL, a spirit of the air *Jodie Lloyd*
CALIBAN, a beast *Mia Nadborne*

OF THE SHIPWRECK

ALONSO, King of Naples *Asim Baraka*
FERDINAND, prince and Alonzo's son *Jack Henning-Sepkoski*
ANTONIO, Duke of Milan, brother to Prospera *Leni Morr*
SEBASTIAN, brother of Alonzo *Anna Volk*
TRINCULO, Jester to Alonzo *Nick Spallone*
STEFANO, Butler to Alonzo *Gabbie Cannon*
GONZALO, Councilor to Alonzo *Madelaine Steffen,*
Mia Nadborne

OTHERS

SHIP MASTER *Gabbie Cannon*
BOATSWAIN *Nick Spallone*
MARINERS *Madelaine Steffen,*
Jack Henning-Sepkoski
IRIS *Leni Morr*
CERES *Anna Volk*
JUNO *Asim Baraka*

Synopsis

The Tempest takes place on a fictional island in the Mediterranean where Prospera, the former duchess of Milan lives with her only child and daughter, Miranda. Prospera had been usurped twelve years previous by her brother Antonio who received help in overthrowing her from the King of Naples, Alonzo, in return for fealty. When the play begins, Antonio and Alonzo are sailing by Prospera's island when she summons a storm, shipwrecking the crew on her island to exact her long-awaited revenge. *The Tempest*, the last play Shakespeare wrote in its entirety, explores the meaning of revenge and the power of forgiveness.



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2017 - *The Tempest*

ACT I, SCENE I

A violent storm threatens to wreck the ship carrying King Alonzo, Duke Antonio, and their courtiers as they travel back to Naples from the wedding of Alonzo's daughter in Africa. The sailors struggle to control the masts and sails.

ACT I, SCENE II

Prospera tells Miranda the story of their royal past and reveals that Alonzo and Antonio will soon be wrecked on their shores. Prospera's two servants, Ariel and Caliban are introduced, and Ferdinand, the son of King Alonzo, is brought safely ashore.

ACT II, SCENE I

Having safely arrived on shore, the king's party tries to console Alonzo, who believes his son Ferdinand has drowned. When Alonzo and Gonzalo abruptly fall asleep, Antonio persuades Sebastian to kill his brother Alonzo and take the throne.

Synopsis

ACT II, SCENE II

Other members of the king's party meet up on yet another part of the island: Trinculo, the king's jester and Stephano, the king's butler. They meet Caliban, who discovers wine and decides to worship Stephano as his new master.

INTERMISSION

ACT III, SCENE I

Now in the servitude of Prospera, Ferdinand collects wood while Miranda watches him. They profess their love for each other as Prospera listens, unseen.

ACT III, SCENE II

Caliban convinces Stephano he should kill Prospera, marry Miranda, and take the island for himself. Ariel overhears them and leaves to tell Prospera of their plan.

ACT III, SCENE III

As the royal party continue their search for Ferdinand they stumble upon a magical banquet in the woods where Ariel, disguised as a harpy, reminds Alonso of his past wrongs against Prospera.

ACT IV, SCENE I

Prospera holds a wedding ceremony for Ferdinand and Miranda and the gods Iris, Ceres, and Juno arrive to give their blessing. Prospera prepares to meet Alonso, Antonio and their company who have been put in a trance by Ariel. Caliban leads Stephano and Trinculo to Prospera's cottage to carry out their plan but they get distracted.

ACT V, SCENE I

Prospera confronts Alonso and Antonio and forgives them for taking her Dukedom. Stephano, Trinculo, and Caliban are brought to her as well. The ship's crew is reunited with the group, Prospera frees Ariel, and all is mended.



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2017 - *The Tempest*

Brush Up Your Shakespeare

Backstage Experience

"Brush Up Your Shakespeare" Backstage Experience
Friday, January 29 - 6:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 999 3593 0127
Passcode: CAA2021



Brush Up Your Shakespeare, 2017 - *The Winter's Tale*

The Chicago Academy for the Arts

All photos by Thomas Mohr Photography