



# Romeo & Juliet

## Visual Story

To help prepare you for your  
visit to Shakespeare's Globe

This production contains depictions of suicide, moments of violence and references to drug use. It contains gunshot sound effects and the use of stage blood.

If you have any questions or concerns about these elements, please contact our Box Office team for further information about the production.

**SHAKESPEARE'S  
GLOBE**

*Romeo & Juliet* is supported by the  
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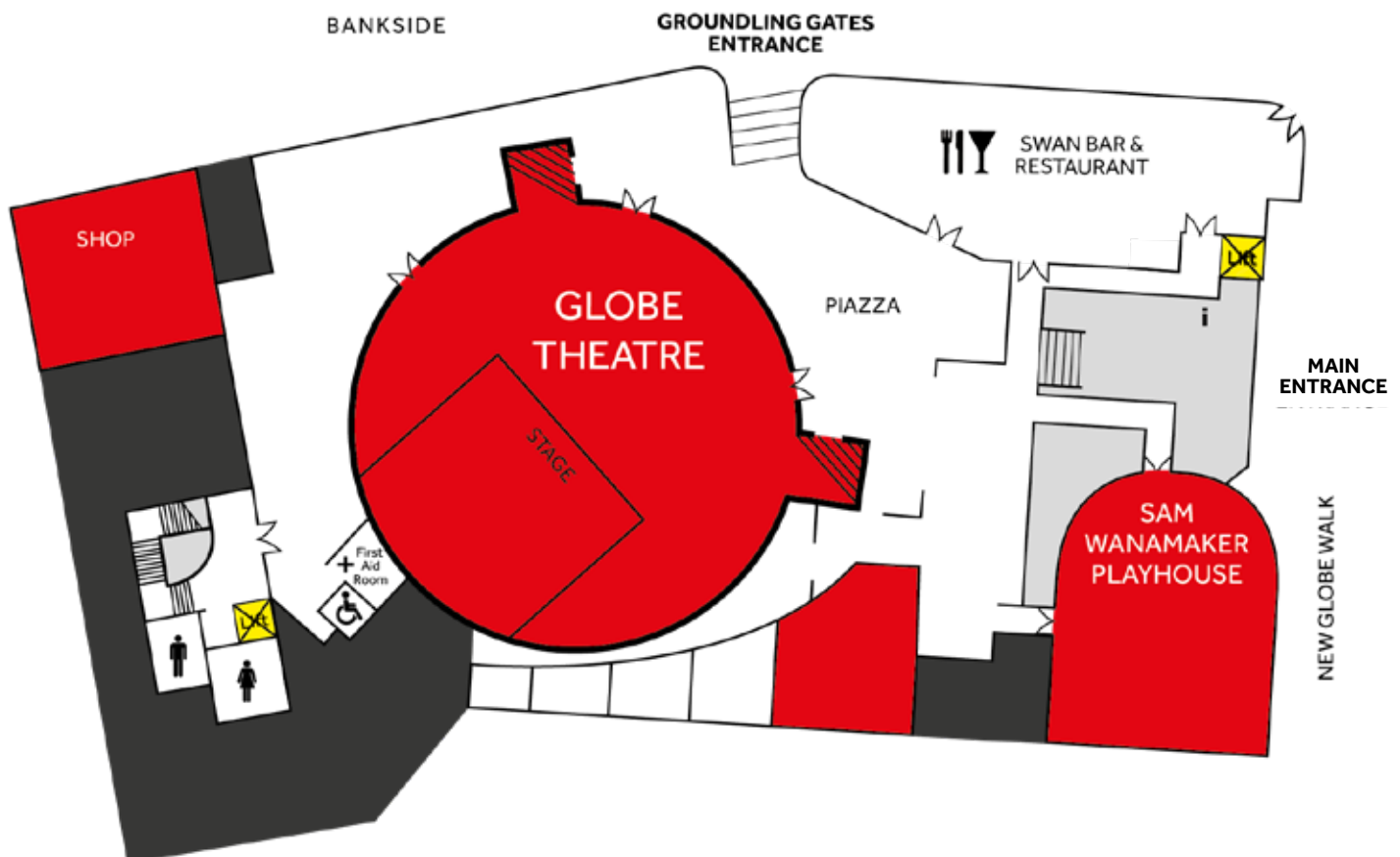
## GETTING TO THE THEATRE

Due to the pandemic, we are now using two different entrances.

The entrance you will be using is marked on your ticket.

You will use either the Main Entrance to Shakespeare's Globe or the Groundling Gates.

Here is a map to show you where both entrances are.



You will need your e-ticket ready to be scanned.

The ticket has a QR code, this is an example of a QR code.



Food and drink can be bought at the Tap Houses.

Please maintain social distancing while queueing.





Your ticket will tell you which gallery, bay and row you are in. Once you have found your row you will need to find the part of the bench reserved for you which will match the number on your ticket.



You may notice that some seats have red covers on them. This is to keep distance between people. You can't sit in these seats at the moment.



Instead of standing in the yard we have provided seats.

There isn't an interval in the show but you can get up and leave the auditorium if you need to. Our stewards will be there to help.







This is the stage. For different plays, designers add pieces of set to make it look different. This is where the actors will be performing.

These are stewards. You can recognise the stewards by their aprons or high-vis jackets.

They will also be wearing a face covering or visor.

The stewards are there to help you. If you feel tired, or need to exit please ask a steward. They can also show you where the toilets are. Stewards are good people to go to if you feel worried about anything.





# Romeo & Juliet

## THE CHARACTERS OF THE PLAY



This is **Romeo**.



This is **Juliet**.



This is **Tybalt**.



This is **Nurse**.



This is **Mercutio**.



This is **Benvolio**.



# Romeo & Juliet



This is **Paris**.



This is **Lady Capulet**.



This is **Capulet**.



This is **Friar Laurence**.



This is **Montague**.

## SYNOPSIS.

This is a detailed description of the events in the play.

### Prologue

*Romeo and Juliet* describe two families living in the city of Verona.

They are enemies. They have a feud, which is an argument which lasts for a very long time. They talk about a long grudge between the families which has led to many violent conflicts.

They also introduce two lovers, whose deaths end their parent's feud and bring peace between the families.

### Act I, scene 1 – Rival families

Tybalt and Benvolio, foes from the rival Capulet and Montague families, are fighting on the streets of Verona. Benvolio, a Montague, is trying to calm the situation but is attacked by Tybalt, a Capulet. The Prince of the city ends the brawl and threatens punishment for disturbing the peace again.

Lady Montague asks Benvolio whether her son, Romeo, was involved in the brawl. She is concerned about his behaviour and wish to know the cause of his sadness.

Benvolio finds out that Romeo is in love with a girl, Rosaline, but she does not love him back. Benvolio advises Romeo to forget Rosaline and seek out other girls, but Romeo says he only has love for her.

### Act I, scene 2 – A Party Invitation

Paris wants to marry Capulet's daughter, Juliet. Lord Capulet will throw a party to help Juliet fall in love with Paris.

### Act I, scene 3 – Juliet and Marriage

Lady Capulet asks Juliet what she thinks about marrying Paris.

Juliet says that she does not yet think of marriage but agrees to take a look at Paris to see if she might love him.



## **Act I, scene 4 – Gate-Crashing the Party**

Romeo, Benvolio and their friend, Mercutio, wait outside the Capulets' House. Romeo is beginning to have second thoughts about the party after a bad dream he had the night before.

## **Act I, scene 5 – Capulet's Party**

At the party, Romeo spots a girl, Juliet, and falls in love with her.

Meanwhile, Tybalt recognises Romeo as a Montague and plans to kill him. Lord Capulet hears Tybalt's rage and stops him.

Romeo meets Juliet, they talk and it is 'love at first sight'. They are soon interrupted by Juliet's Nurse who calls Juliet to her mother. Romeo asks who Juliet's mother is and the Nurse tells him it is Lady Capulet. Meanwhile, Juliet asks her Nurse who Romeo is and discovers that he is the son of their enemy, Lord Montague.

## **Act II, scene 1 – Seeking Juliet**

After the party, Romeo goes to find Juliet. Meanwhile, Benvolio and Mercutio are trying to find him. They call out but when he does not answer they assume he does not want to be found.

## **Act II, scene 2 – Juliet's Balcony**

Romeo climbs a ladder and spots Juliet alone on her balcony. Juliet talks about Romeo unaware that he can hear her. Romeo, unable to keep silent, surprises Juliet and speaks. Juliet worries that he will get caught but Romeo refuses to leave. They are interrupted by Juliet's Nurse who is calling her back inside. Juliet tells Romeo that she will send someone to him tomorrow morning to confirm his love and his intentions to marry her.

## **Act II, scene 3 – A Request to Marry**

Romeo comes to meet Friar Laurence to ask if he will perform the marriage ceremony. Friar Laurence agrees, as he believes it will bring peace between the two households.

## **Act II, scene 4 – Romeo's Marriage Plan**

Romeo is mocked by Mercutio for abandoning his friends in the pursuit of love. Juliet's Nurse comes to see Romeo on behalf of Juliet. Mercutio and Benvolio go to supper whilst Romeo tells the Nurse about the marriage plans. He says that Juliet should meet him that afternoon at Friar Laurence's cell.

## **Act II, scene 5 – Juliet's Nurse Returns**

Juliet waits for her Nurse to return. Eventually she tells Juliet to go to Friar Laurence's cell where Romeo is waiting for her.

## **Act II, scene 6 – A Secret Ceremony**

Friar Laurence and Romeo wait for Juliet to arrive. She comes and Friar Laurence takes the couple off to be married.

## **Act III, scene 1 – The Fight**

Benvolio and Mercutio are talking in the street when they are interrupted by Tybalt. Tybalt sees Romeo coming and draws his sword ready for a fight. Mercutio steps in and he and Tybalt fight instead. Romeo tries to stop them but Tybalt stabs Mercutio under Romeo's arm, killing him. Tybalt flees the scene.

Romeo is angry at himself for not fighting his own battle with Tybalt. Romeo seeks revenge for Mercutio and stabs Tybalt, killing him. Benvolio tells Romeo to run away to avoid the Prince's punishment. The Prince enters with the Capulets and the Montagues.

## **Act III, scene 2 – Juliet's Grief**

Juliet is at home. She wants it to be night when Romeo will come to her. The Nurse tells her that Romeo killed Tybalt and is now banished. Juliet is devastated and worries that she won't get to have her wedding night with him. The Nurse tells Juliet that she will find Romeo for her at Friar Laurence's cell.

## **Act III, scene 3 – Romeo's Banishment**

Friar Laurence tells Romeo that he has been banished for killing Tybalt. Romeo believes banishment is worse than a death sentence because he will never be able to see Juliet again.

Juliet's Nurse comes and wants to speak with Romeo. Romeo is worried what Juliet now thinks of him.



## **Act III, scene 4 – Setting a Date**

Lord Capulet assures Paris that Juliet will do as he wishes and marry him. He asks his wife to go to Juliet and tell her the news.

## **Act III, scene 5 – Juliet's Refusal**

Romeo and Juliet are together in her room. They are sad to soon be leaving one another and wonder when they will meet again. The Nurse tells Juliet that her mother is calling for her so Romeo and Juliet say their goodbyes.

Lady Capulet believes the cause of her daughter's sadness is her grief for Tybalt rather than Romeo's banishment. Lady Capulet tells Juliet she has good news about her intended marriage to Paris but Juliet refuses to accept him.

Capulet is enraged that Juliet is disobeying him and threatens to disown her if she will not marry. Juliet begs her mother to delay the marriage but Lady Capulet wishes to have no involvement. Juliet seeks advice from her Nurse, but she agrees that Juliet should marry Paris because Romeo is as good as dead. Angry and upset, Juliet goes to seek help from Friar Laurence.

## **Act IV, scene 1 – Friar Laurence's Potion**

Paris is at Friar Laurence's cell telling him of his forthcoming marriage to Juliet. Juliet enters and lies that she has come for confession.

Paris leaves them and Juliet weeps to the Friar and threatens to take her own life. Friar Laurence proposes a solution to Juliet. He offers her a drug which will put her into a deep sleep and so make her appear dead. On the morning of the wedding they will believe that she is dead and she will be buried in the family tomb.

Friar Laurence will send a letter with a fellow friar to Romeo telling him of this plan. Romeo can return at night to Verona collect Juliet's sleeping body, and take her back to Mantua.

## **Act IV, scene 2 – Wedding Preparations**

Juliet returns to the house and, playing along, she tells her father that she agrees to marry Paris. Juliet asks her Nurse to come to her bedroom and help her find an outfit for the wedding.

Meanwhile, Lord Capulet goes to Paris to tell him the good news.

## **Act IV, scene 3 – Taking the Potion**

When she is alone Juliet thinks about what she is about to do.

She fears that the potion might really kill her or, if she does live, she worries what it will be like to wake up in the tomb. She finally drinks the potion and falls into a deep sleep.

## **Act IV, scene 4 – The Wedding Morning**

Preparations take place for the wedding ceremony and Lord Capulet asks the Nurse to go and wake his daughter.

## **Act IV, scene 5 – Finding Juliet**

The Nurse discovers Juliet. She looks like she is dead. The Capulets, Friar Laurence and Paris all mourn the death of Juliet.

Friar Laurence orders that they all assemble at church for the funeral in place of the wedding ceremony.

## **Act IV, scene 1 – Romeo's Return**

In Mantua, Romeo is visited by Benvolio, who tells him that Juliet is dead. Romeo is distraught and vows to travel to Verona to be with her again. Romeo visits an apothecary and buys a deadly poison. He intends to drink this poison once he is at Juliet's side.

## **Act V, scene 2 – An Undelivered Message**

Friar John comes to Friar Laurence and informs him that he was unable to deliver his letter to Romeo in Mantua. Friar Laurence is concerned that Romeo will not know to collect Juliet from the tomb.

He therefore plans to get there himself.

## **Act V, scene 3 – The Deaths of Romeo and Juliet**

At the Capulet tomb, Paris comes in secret to lay flowers on Juliet's grave. Romeo and Benvolio approach and Paris hides. Romeo gives Benvolio a letter and asks her to deliver it to his father the next morning.

Paris recognises Romeo as a Montague and the killer of Tybalt.

He believes Romeo is the cause of Juliet's death and so confronts him. There is a standoff which ends with Romeo killing Paris before he approaches Juliet's grave.



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Distraught he takes his deadly poison. Friar Laurence comes to the tomb but is too late. He notices weapons and fears the worst.

Juliet awakes in the tomb and sees the Friar. She asks where Romeo is and Friar Laurence tells her he is dead by her side.

They hear a noise and Friar Laurence begs Juliet to come with him but she refuses to go without Romeo.

Juliet wants to kill herself in order to be with Romeo. She sees the poison he has drunk and tries to take some for herself, but it is all gone. Finally she shoots herself and falls next to Romeo.

## SHOW NOTES

These are notes of things that may happen during the show, or that you may want to think about for the play.

- This production of *Romeo & Juliet* talks about the problems young people face today. The actors discuss mental health problems and suicide.
- This production has moments of tension and violence.
- The actors perform in different parts of the theatre.
- There is stage fighting in this production. The violence is not real and should not be copied.
- The fighting is fake and no one is hurt.
- There is stage blood and vomit in this production. It is not real.
- Near the beginning of the play, the musicians and actors make a series of sudden, loud noises including shouts and screams.
- There are gunshots in this production. The guns are not real, and the sound of the gunshot comes from a small explosive under the stage. This is not dangerous.
- The music contains loud brass instruments.
- The musicians and actors wear animal masks for the Capulet ball.
- When Mercutio gives his speech about Queen Mab, the musicians play their instruments from around the Globe.
- At the Capulet ball, there is an electronic Karaoke machine. The actors sing using a microphone into a speaker. It can be loud.
- During the Capulet ball scene, some of the actors shout at each other.
- Mercutio sometimes throws squibs (small bangers) at the floor.
- Near the end of the play, when Romeo drinks poison, the actor pretends to vomit and convulse. This is not real and he is not hurt.
- At the end, Juliet shoots herself. This is not real.