



Easy Read

A Visual Story

To support your visit to Shakespeare's Globe.

SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE

HENRY VIII



The Cast



Jamie Ballard
CARDINAL WOLSEY



Esmonde Cole
SURREY /
CROMWELL



**Natasha
Cottrill**
PRINCESS MARY



Janet Etuk
ANNE BULLEN



Adam Gillen
KING HENRY VIII



Debbie Korley
WOMAN 1 /
PATIENCE /
ELIZABETH



**Kevin
McMonagle**
CHAMBERLAIN



Baker Mukasa
NORFOLK / SANDS



Jonah Russell
BUCKINGHAM /
CARDINAL
CAMPEIUS



Anna Savva
WOMAN 2 / HOPE



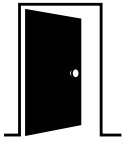
Bea Segura
QUEEN KATHARINE

Show Notes



Relaxed Performance

A relaxed performance will take place on Saturday 30th July at 2pm



This will mean:

- There will be an open-door policy so that you can come and go.
- There are ear defenders available in different sizes to borrow from the Welcome Desk in the main foyer.
- We have worked with our creative team to reduce loud and sudden noises and other sensory elements.
- Some areas of the audience will have reduced capacity.
- There will be a Quiet Space available. Please ask our team to show you where it is.

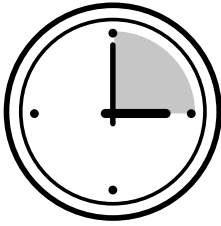


Content and Trigger Warnings

The production includes:

- Overt sexual content
- On-stage depiction of an execution
- On-stage depiction of childbirth
- Latex balloons
- Sudden loud noises
- Stage blood and a prop gun

Show Notes



Times

The show is about 2 hours 30 minutes

There is a 15 minute interval.



Music and sound

Check out our sonic story for full information.

Throughout the performance there are:

- Live music
- Sudden loud noises
- Gunshot from a prop gun
- Balloons popping



Lighting

The lighting is the same throughout.

In the matinee the show is lit by daylight.

Show Notes



Set

The back of the stage is covered in shiny gold and gold tiles. There are gold bars around the base of the pillars on the right and left of the stage.

A banner hangs across the stage in the opening scene. It has the words France and England in shiny gold and purple letters, in the middle of the words is a picture of a handshake

There is a large gold cross on the stage. The set pieces throughout the play are also covered in gold.



Costume

The costumes are from the Tudor period. They are flamboyant and many of the cast are wearing the colour purple, which is the colour of royalty.

Some of the characters wear something modern; the King and Queen are wearing purple Converse. This shows that there is a modern twist to the play.



In the opening scene, King Henry VIII and Queen Katharine are wearing purple with gold crowns. Buckingham is wearing black with a Tudor neck ruffle. Anne Bullen is wearing a black dress,

The Cardinals are wearing traditional red cardinal outfits.



Princess Mary is wearing a purple dress with a purple sequin top.

The Story



The Duke of Norfolk tells Buckingham about the meeting between Henry VIII and Francis I of France to celebrate peace between the kingdoms.

⚠ 10 mins: A gun is bought onto stage but not fired.

The Cardinal Wolsey calls for Buckingham to be arrested for high treason.



The Queen interrupts the accusation to demand that the King undo a tax which Wolsey put in place to finance the French war.

⚠ 24 mins: A gold inflatable penis is thrown on stage from the Musicians Gallery.



⚠ 27 mins: Confetti is fired into Yard from stage, popping sound.

Cardinal Wolsey holds a party.
Henry VIII meets Anne Bullen and falls in love with her.

⚠ 37 mins: Gunshot (execution style).



Buckingham is tried and executed.
The Dukes of Norfolk and Surrey try to turn the King against Wolsey, but they fail.

Henry wants to marry Anne Bullen and questions whether his marriage to Katharine is legal. He sets up a tribunal which Cardinal Wolsey and Cardinal Campeius will be in charge of.
Anne Bullen is given a royal title.

⚠ 1 hour 10 mins: A small, contained fire is on stage.

The Story



Princess Mary tells of the things she will do with her power.

Katharine walks out of the tribunal and demands that the case be decided before the Pope in Rome.

Henry concludes that he must break away from the church in order to marry the woman that he loves.



Wolsey and Campeius try and convince Katharine to throw herself on the King's mercy, but she refuses. Anne and Henry are married in secret.

⚠ 1 hour 15 mins: Balloons on stage, some are popped.

⏸ Act 2 – interval is 15 minutes



The Dukes of Norfolk and Surrey plot to disgrace Wolsey. They are successful and Wolsey is forced to step down.

Henry divorces Katharine. Anne Bullen is crowned Queen.



Katharine is told that Wolsey has died. She dies soon after.

⚠ 42 mins: On-stage acting of childbirth.

Queen Anne gives birth to a baby girl, who will grow up to become Queen Elizabeth I.

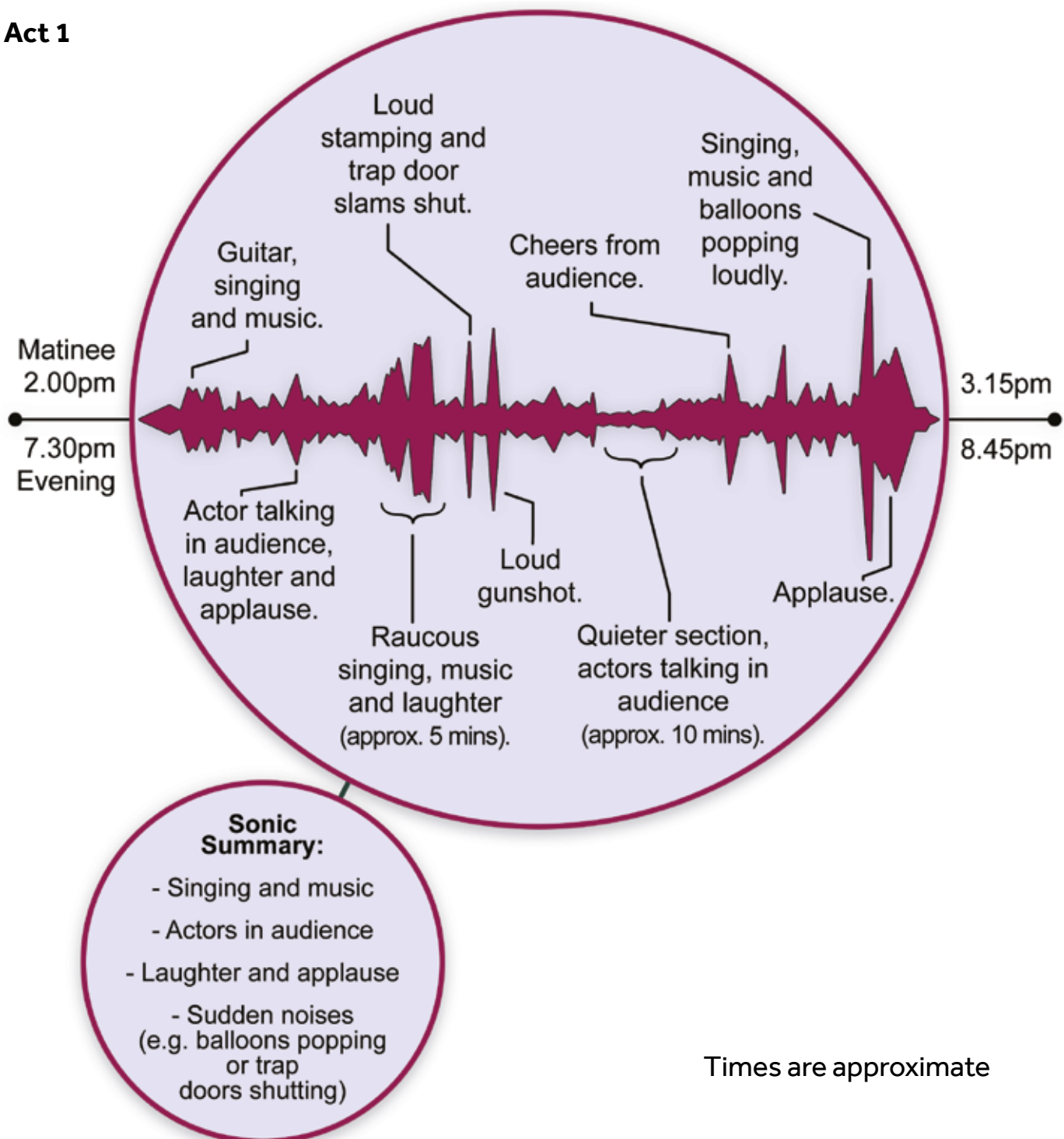
Elizabeth is christened and Cromwell predicts that her reign will be glorious. The future Queen Elizabeth appears on stage. The play ends with all four Queens on stage together.

Sonic Story

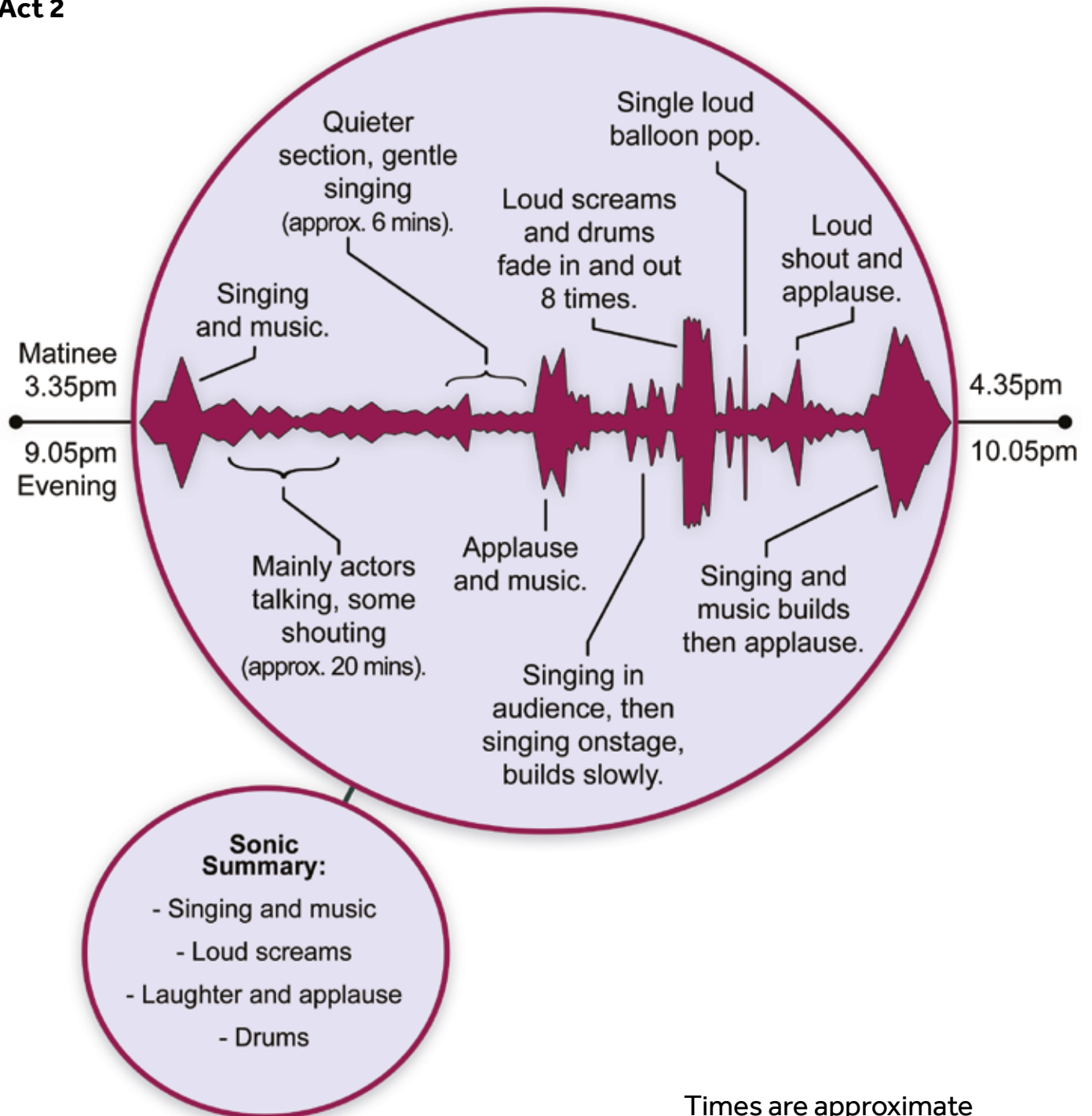
This 'Sonic Story' provides information about what to expect from the music and sounds of Henry VIII.

It shows the volume changes throughout the performance and highlights loud and quiet moments and moments when the sound changes suddenly.

Act 1



Act 2



Further information



Have further questions about this performance?

Find out more about Shakespeare's Globe here:
<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/>



Getting here:

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