



Easy Read

A Visual Story

To support your visit to Shakespeare's Globe.

SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING



The Cast



Comrade / Fryer
Peter Bourke



Margaret / Watchman
Rachel Hannah Clarke



Benedick
Ralph Davis



Dogberry
George Fouracres



Antonia / Verges
Joanne Howarth



Don John
Olivier Huband



Hero
Nadi Kemp-Sayfi



Bracio
Ciarán O'Brien



Claudio
Patrick Osborn



Beatrice
Lucy Phelps



Don Pedro
Ferdie Roberts



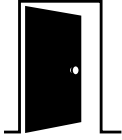
Leonata
Katy Stephens

Show Notes



Relaxed Performance

A relaxed performance will take place on Saturday 2nd 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.



Content and Trigger Warnings

The production includes:

- Strong language
- Sexual references

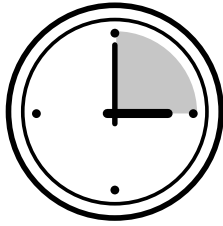
- Loud noises

- Smoke/haze

- Use of prop guns

- Audience interaction

Show Notes



Times

The show is about 2 hours 45 minutes

There is a 15 minute interval.



Music and sound

Music and sound

Check out our sonic story for full information.

Throughout the performance there are:

- Loud noises
- Live music (accordions) and singing

Lighting

The lighting is the same throughout.

In the matinee the show is lit by daylight.

The Story



Set

The play is set in 1945 in Italy, at a big Italian house or 'palazzo'. The back of the stage and the pillars are decorated with greenery and flowers. It has the feel of a garden.

The sides of the stage are covered in grass and raised slightly. The middle of the stage is flat and made of wood. The grassy area on the right hand side of the stage comes out into the audience and there are steps down into the yard (where the audience stand).



Costume

Don Pedro, Benedick and Claudio first appear dressed as soldiers in khaki. They are carrying rifles. They change into tuxedos when the party begins.

The female characters are dressed for a party in 1940s style dresses. Leonata is wearing black, Beatrice is wearing a blue dress, and Hero is wearing a dark pink dress. Margeret is wearing a cream dress and Antonia a red one.



Don John is wearing a blue suit with a black hat.

Animal masks made from willow are worn when the dancing at the party begins, which creates a playful atmosphere.



The main characters wear different outfits during the play but are always dressed in smart 1940s style clothes.

The Story



The Second World War has ended. Don Pedro, Claudio and Benedick return from fighting. They visit Leonata's palazzo, where they are warmly welcomed.

Claudio falls in love with Hero, Leonata's daughter, and their marriage is agreed upon.

Benedick and Beatrice despise love and make jokes about it.



The other characters plot to make Benedick and Beatrice fall in love with each other. They will trick them both into thinking that the other is in love with them. Don John, Don Pedro's brother, and his follower Boracio also make a plot. It is an evil plot which will trick Claudio into thinking that Hero has been disloyal.



Don Pedro, Claudio and Leonata trick Benedick by talking about Beatrice's supposed love for him while they know that he is listening. Hero then talks about Benedick's love for Beatrice when she knows that Beatrice can hear her.



Don John tries to ruin the wedding and tells Claudio that Hero is disloyal.

The Story



Claudio is led to believe that he has seen Hero being unfaithful on the night before her wedding. In fact, it is not Hero but her maid Margaret and Boracio. Claudio denounces Hero during the marriage ceremony.



Beatrice and Benedick kiss. Beatrice demands that Benedick kill Claudio to make amends for the damage to Hero's reputation.

The constable Dogberry overhears Boracio showing off about tricking Claudio and the plot is exposed.

Leonata announces that Hero is dead.



Benedick grieves at Hero's grave and promises to make amends to Leonata. He is required to marry a cousin of Hero's in her place. When she is unmasked, she is revealed as Hero.

Beatrice agrees to marry Benedick.

The play ends joyfully with dancing and celebration.

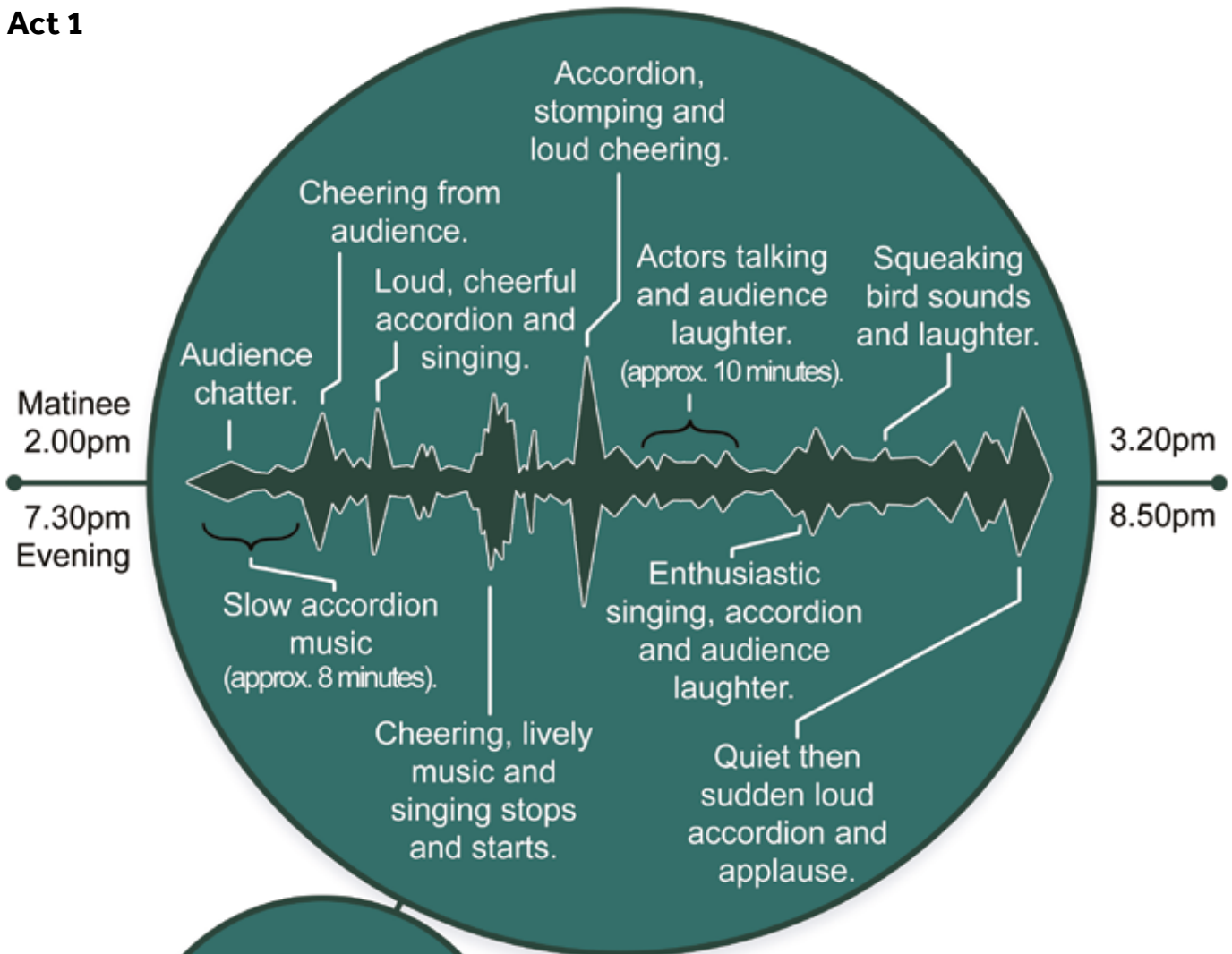


Sonic Story

This 'Sonic Story' provides information about what to expect from the music and sounds of Much Ado About Nothing.

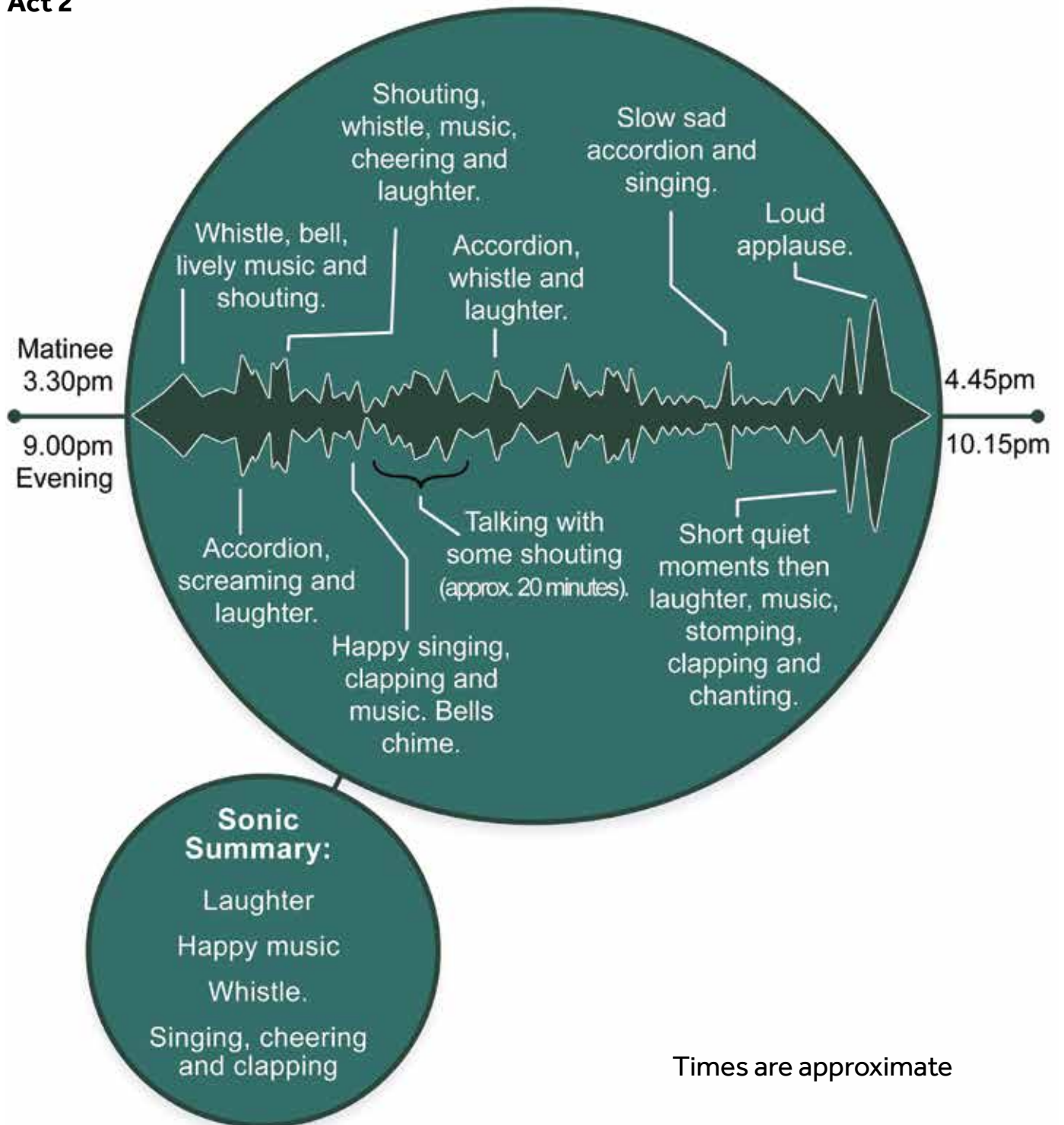
It shows the volume changes throughout the performance and highlights loud and quiet moments and moments when the sound changes suddenly.

Act 1



Times are approximate

Act 2



Further information



Have further questions about this performance?

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



Getting here:

Find directions and our Easy Read Guide to getting to Sam Wanamaker's Playhouse here:

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/visit/getting-here/>