

A Visual Story

To support your visit to Shakespeare's Globe.

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI



**SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE**

Contents



Visual Story

This document will give you a detailed description of what to expect from Duchess of Malfi at Shakespeare's Globe.

Included is:

- Pictures of the cast in and out of costume
- Show notes and helpful information
- Synopsis
- Sonic Story
- Contact Details

Cast

Most of the cast play multiple roles in this production.
You may see them in different costumes to the ones listed below.



Lorraine Adeyefa



Cover/Ensemble



Jamie Ballard



Cardinal



David Burnett



Malatesta



Joshua Dunn



Cover/Ensemble



Tamzin Griffin



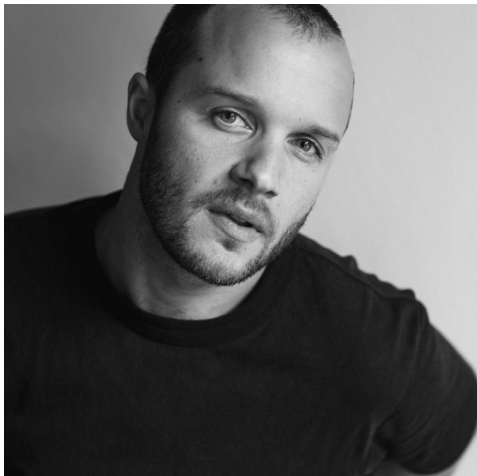
Julia



Olivier Huband



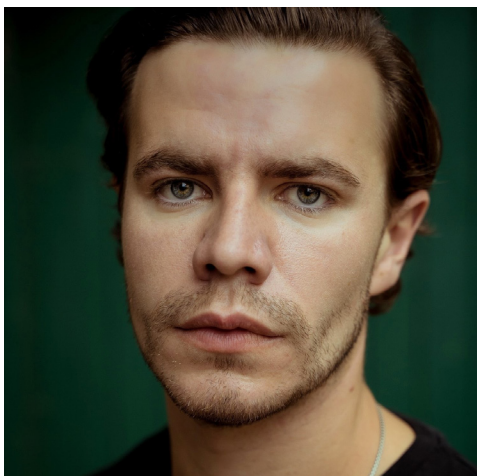
Antonio



Arthur Hughes



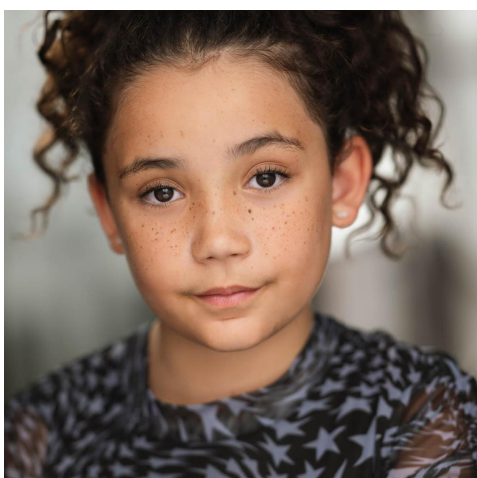
Bosola



Oliver Johnstone



Duke Ferdinand



Poppy Kunorubwe



The Duchess's Daughter



Hari MacKinnon



Silvio/Doctor



Francesca Mills



The Duchess



Shazia Nicholls



Cariola



Glyn Pritchard



Castruccio/Pescara



Ela Soetan



The Duchess's Daughter

Show Notes



Relaxed Performance

A relaxed performance will take place on:

3rd April 2024 at 7:30pm

7th April 2024 at 1:00pm



This will mean:

- An open-door policy: you can come and go as much as you want or need to.
- Quiet Space in the 'Bull Ring', on the level below the entrance.
- A culture of acceptance and respect for however you want to experience the show.
- Movement and noise are welcome should you need or want to.
- Pre-show information packs are available online and at the welcome desk



Content and Trigger Warnings

The production includes themes of:

- Death (child and adult)
- Violence (strangulation)
- Weapons (Daggers and guns)
- Threat to life
- Misogyny
- Verbal Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Blood
- Scenes of a sexual nature
- Severed Hand
- Masks

Show Notes



Times

Act 1: 1 hour and 28 minutes

Interval: 20 minutes

Act 2: 1 hour and 7 minutes



Music and Sound

Check out our sonic story for full information.

Creative Captioning

Creative captioning is used throughout the performance. This means captions will appear on various different parts of the stage.

Lighting

Candle light is used throughout the performance. You might feel some heat from the candles but it is very safe. The creative captioning in the performance provides some artificial light. The colours are white, blue and yellow.

Set

Masks

Masks are used in this production. Each character has their own mask. The masks look like this:



Revolve

There is a revolve in the center of the stage. This is a small circle that rotates at different points in the show.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

ACT 1

The play begins with creative captions appearing on the floor. 4 candelabras come down from the ceiling and an actor in a mask walks through the centre doors to centre stage. There is upbeat music played by a live band in the Musician's Gallery.

The full acting company come on stage. They are all wearing masks.



They dance and move around the stage. At the end, the Duchess stands centre stage. They all exit apart from Antonio who lights a candle.

Cariola runs to Antonio from stage left, jumps onto him and wraps her legs around him. She jumps down. Antonio stands stage right; Cariola stands stage left. They speak.

Bosola enters through the audience. The Cardinal enters through the centre doors. Bosola comes up onto the stage. Antonio stands upstage right, listening. The cardinal exits through the centre doors. Antonio lights the candles as Bosola speaks. Bosola exits through the upstage right door. Antonio stands centre stage and speaks.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Duke Ferdinand, Castruccio, Malateste, Julia, Silvio and two guests enter from centre stage. They move around the stage and speak to each other about relationships and expectations. Antonio stays downstage left. Music starts. The Duchess enters through the centre doors with the Cardinal. Cariola enters through the stage left door. The Cardinal, Duke Ferdinand and the Duchess all stand on the revolve. It turns as Antonio and Cariola speak. Antonio comes down into the pit with Cariola. They watch the 3 siblings. The Cardinal and Duke Ferdinand step off of the revolve, leaving the Duchess alone centre stage. Antonio exits through the audience and returns through the centre doors of the stage.

The Cardinal and Duke Ferdinand speak to Antonio. The Cardinal exits. The Duchess comes to centre stage towards Duke Ferdinand. Everyone exits through the centre doors apart from Duke Ferdinand and Bosola. Bosola comes up onto the stage. They speak. The Duke hands Bosola money. He is paying him to spy on the Duchess. They move around the stage continuing their conversation. Bosola exits upstage right.

Duke Ferdinand comes down from the platform with the Cardinal, The Duchess and Cariola enter. The Duchess stands on the platform. Her brothers speak to her about not re-marrying. Cariola stands upstage left.



The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

The Cardinal joins the Duchess on the platform followed by Duke Ferdinand. The Cardinal exits through the audience.

The Duchess and Duke Ferdinand sit on the stairs, centre stage. Duke Ferdinand shows the Duchess his dagger tattoo on his arm. He leaves through the audience. The Duchess and Cariola are left on stage. The candelabras move positions. The Duchess removes her jacket and gives it to Cariola who exits upstage left.

Antonio enters through the centre doors. He sits on the stairs and takes out a piece of paper and a pen. He writes down what the Duchess is saying. Antonio gets up and goes to leave through the stage centre door. The Duchess stops him. He returns and sits on the stairs. He continues to write. They discuss marriage. The Duchess sits on the stairs on the opposite side to Antonio. Antonio stands. The Duchess gives Antonio her wedding ring. They both stand on the revolve. It turns. They hold hands and kneel together. The Duchess asks Antonio to marry her. They kiss. Antonio stands. Cariola enters from the stage left door. She performs the marriage ceremony of hand fastening.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis



The Duchess and Antonio are married. They kiss again. They both run through the stage centre door to exit. Cariola follows them.

Candles are brought on and placed at the edge of the stage. Bosola enters through the audience and sits on the edge of the stage. The candelabras move. The nurse enters from stage right. She is trying to get to the Duchess. Bosola stops her. She walks around the stage trying to get past Bosola. The nurse puts her bag on the floor and stands on the revolve. It turns and she opens her arms wide. Bosola talks to the audience from centre stage. The nurse exits as Antonio enters running through the audience.

The Duchess enters with the Nurse and Cariola. The Nurse fans the Duchess with a handheld fan. Antonio stands stage left. Bosola gives The Duchess 'Apricocks' in a white paper bag. The Duchess feels unwell and leaves the stage. Bosola exits. Cariola speaks with Antonio and exits through the centre doors. Antonio follows.

Bosola runs through the audience and jumps up onto the stage. He stays in the pit. 4 officers enter and put out all the candles.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

They shout to each other. Antonio enters centre stage and speaks with the officers. The officers exit through the audience. Cariola enters, speaks with Antonio and leaves. Antonio paces along the front of the stage. Cariola enters and tells Antonio he is a father. They both exit.

Bosola enters from stage right through the audience.

He is carrying a lantern. Antonio enters through the audience. Bosola jumps out on him. They speak. Bosola sits on the stairs. Antonio reads two letters. He drops one of the letters as he exits through the stage centre door. Bosola picks it up and reads it. He discovers The Duchess has given birth to a child. He exits stage right.

Two candelabras are brought onstage. The Cardinal and Julia enter through the centre doors. They kiss passionately. Julia sits on the stairs.



The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

The Cardinal stands on the platform. He comes down the stairs. Julia gets up and starts to leave. The Cardinal stops her. They kiss passionately. The Cardinal pushes Julia to her knees in front of him. He holds her neck firmly. The Cardinal pulls Julia to her feet and hugs her from behind. A messenger enters. The Cardinal exits through the centre doors.

Malateste enters and speaks to Julia who is standing on the platform. Malateste tries to give Julia a credit card. A messenger appears and informs Julia her husband has arrived. Malateste asks Julia to be his mistress. She exits through the centre doors. Malateste exits through the stage right door.

Duke Ferdinand enters through the centre doors reading the letter from Bosola. The Cardinal enters. They speak about the Duchess.



The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Duke Ferdinand wipes his face with a red tissue. There is music. The Cardinal exits. Two candle stands are taken off stage. Antonio and Cariola light candles on stage. Cariola exits.



Silvio enters from stage right and speaks with Antonio. Duke Ferdinand is lying on the revolve. He gets up as Antonio speaks. The Duchess and Carola enter through stage center. Malateste enters through the audience. He sings to the Duchess and finishes by dropping to one knee and presenting a bouquet of flowers. He gets up and moves to stage right away from the Duchess. Duke Ferdinand and the Duchess are centre stage. Everyone exits apart from Duke Ferdinand.

Bosola enters through the audience with a lantern. He speaks with Duke Ferdinand. Bosola gets up onto the stage. He hands Duke Ferdinand a set of keys. Duke Ferdinand takes Bosola's hand and pulls him up onto the platform. He exits stage right as Bosola exits stage right.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

The Duchess, Antonio and Cariola enter from the centre doors. The candelabras come down to stage level. Cariola hands the Duchess a bottle of champagne. They all drink.



They sit on the platform.

The Duchess's daughter comes through the centre stage doors. The nurses enter with her other children. They greet each other. She sends them all to bed. Cariola and Antonio exit. The Duchess puts her glass down on the platform. She speaks out loud. Duke Ferdinand enters through the audience and hands the Duchess a dagger. He is also carrying a candelabra. Duke Ferdinand places the dagger and the candelabra on the stage and comes onto the stage. He leans on the back wall. He goes to exit but the Duchess stops him. They stand together on the revolve. The Duchess tries to hold Duke Ferdinand but he throws her away. Duke Ferdinand grabs the dagger and walks around the stage with it in the air. He moves centre stage and points the dagger at the Duchess. Duke Ferdinand falls to his knees. The Duchess takes the dagger from him.



He grabs her hand. The Duchess lets him fall to the floor. Duke Ferdinand gets up and goes to leave the stage through the audience. He comes back and hugs the Duchess saying he will never see her again. He exits through the audience.

Antonio and Cariola run through the centre doors. Cariola runs off stage through the audience. She gets back on stage. Antonio leaves through the centre doors. Bosola enters through the audience to receive instructions from the Duchess and leaves again. Antonio re-enters. Antonio stands centre stage. Soldiers surround him. The Duchess sends him away. He exits through the centre doors. She stands centre stage and addresses the soldiers. The Duchess sends the soldiers away and speaks with Bosola who is standing in the pit. He picks up a candelabra and walks on stage. Bosola places the candelabra on the steps. Cariola comes onto the platform. Bosola speaks. The Duchess tells Bosola she is married to Antonio. They both stand centre stage. The Duchess and Cariola leave. Bosola speaks from centre stage then exits through the centre doors. The candelabras move to the ceiling.

ACT 2

Act two begins with the image of an hourglass projected onto the back wall. The band walk through the centre doors and begin to play. The Cardinal, Duke Ferdinand, Pescara, Malateste and Silvio enter. Bosola enters through the upstage right door and speaks with Duke Ferdinand. Duke Ferdinand sends Bosola away. They both exit. The Cardinal removes his religious robes and puts on a soldier's uniform. He is assisted by a soldier and Pescara. A crucifix is brought down from the ceiling.

Antonio and the Duchess enter with their children. Antonio exits to the pit with his children and Cariola. The Duchess faces the soldiers. All the soldiers exit. Antonio and Cariola join the Duchess onstage with the children. Antonio is banished. Bosola enters from stage right. Antonio sits with the children on the stairs. Bosola spins the candelabra. The Duchess's eldest child goes to the Nurse standing upstage left.

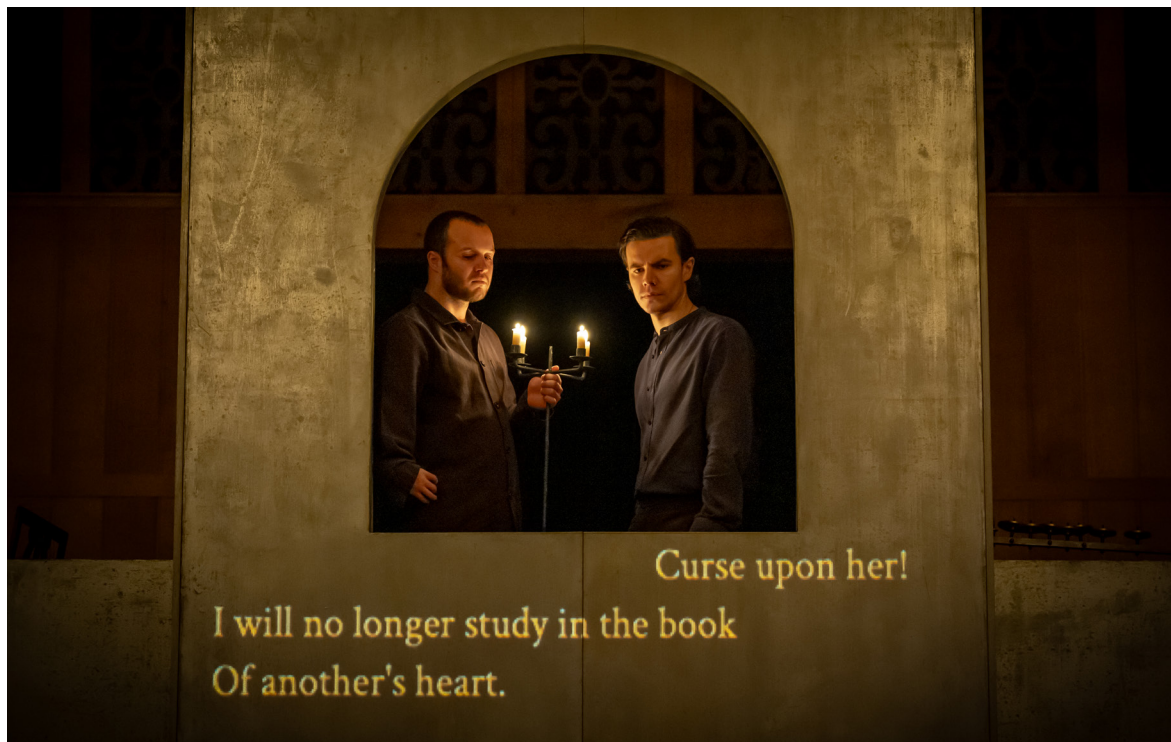


The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Bosola exits through the audience. The Duchess and Antonio embrace centre stage. The Duchess hugs her children. Antonio embraces Cariola and the babies then exits through the audience with his eldest child.

The Duchess hands her baby to Cariola. 5 soldiers come on stage. Bosola enters from stage right and speaks with the Duchess. The Duchess stands centre stage surrounded by soldiers. The image of a fire is projected onto the back wall of the stage. The Duchess and Cariola exit with the babies. The soldiers put the candles out. The Duchess enters from the centre doors. She lies down on the revolve with her arms spread.

Bosola and Duke Ferdinand appear in the Musician's Gallery.



They look at the Duchess and speak. Bosola exits the gallery and enters through the stage centre doors with a candelabra. Duke Ferdinand exits. It gets very dark on stage. All of the lights are put out. The scene continues in the dark. Duke Ferdinand gives the Duchess a severed hand. Bosola enters with a candelabra.

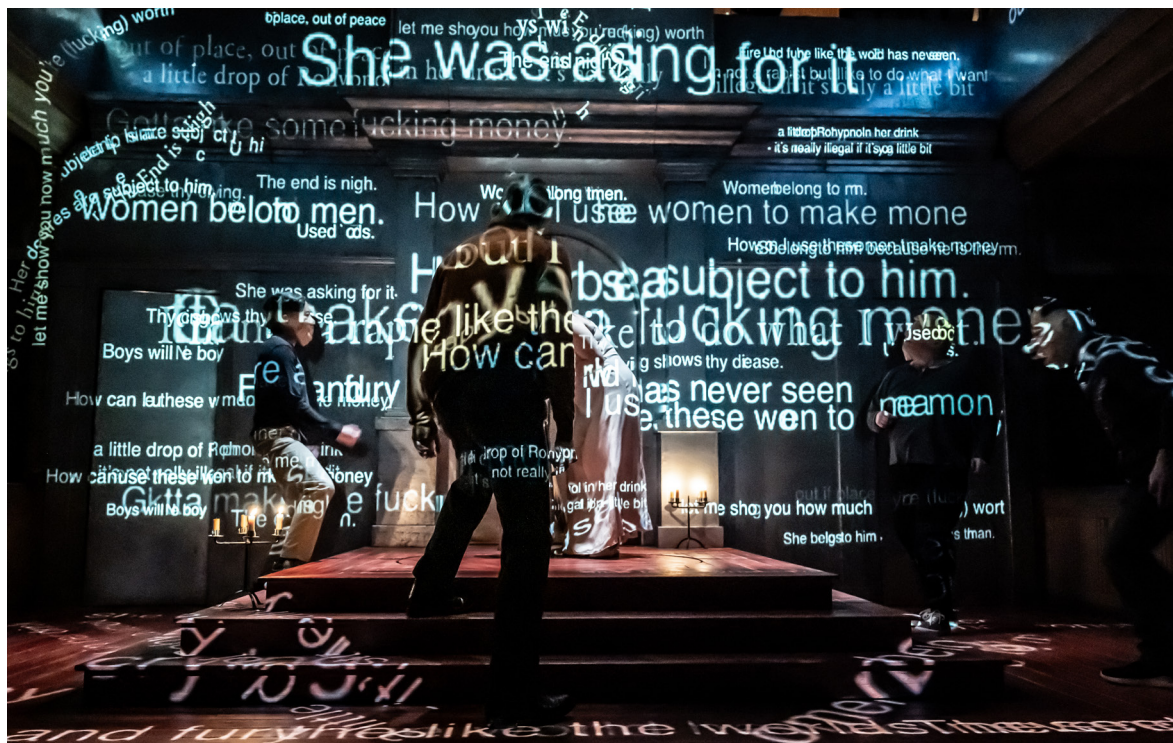
The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

A chair is pushed onstage through the center doors. Antonio and his eldest child sit in the chair. They are covered in fake blood. The figures are wax works of Antonio and his daughter. The Duchess thinks it is the dead bodies of Antonio and her daughter. Duke Ferdinand speaks to Bosola from the Musician's Gallery. Bosola stands downstage right.

! SENSORY INTENSITY !

Bosola exits. Cariola enters to comfort the Duchess. They sit centre stage. Duke Ferdinand appears in the centre doors. He is wearing a silver mask over his face.

He introduces five other men wearing masks. The men are threatening towards the Duchess. The music is very loud, erratic and sudden. The five masked men start to shout at the Duchess and Cariola. Words appear on the back wall. The men shout and scream at the Duchess and Cariola.



The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

They get very close to the women but never touch them. The stage will get very bright suddenly. The men will remove their masks and the lights will go out and candles will appear again. This scene is very loud and has strong contrasts between dark and bright light. The scene finishes when the lights go dark.

! Potentially disturbing and distressing Scene ! (Strangulation, Violence and Death)

A hooded figure – the 'bell man' enters. He speaks with the Duchess.



The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Two men enter the room holding rope. Cariola tries to comfort the Duchess. The Duchess is to be executed by strangling. Cariola fights back the executioners. She screams for help. The soldiers drag her off stage through the centre doors. The executioners return and put ropes around the Duchess's neck. She is strangled to death by two executioners. The Duchess dies. She is laid on the floor. Cariola enters through the centre doors and kneels beside the Duchess.



She fights the executioners, runs from them and tries to escape. The executioners strangle Cariola. She dies and is taken off stage.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Duke Ferdinand enters. He kneels beside the Duchess.



Bosola removes his cloak and speaks with Duke Ferdinand. Both men come to terms with what they have done. Duke Ferdinand exits.

The Duchess stirs. Bosola thinks she is alive. He tells her Antonio and her daughter are alive. The Duchess dies. Bosola exits through the centre doors. The Duchess stands and leaves the stage. Duke Ferdinand crawls onto the stage. Two candelabras are brought on stage by the Doctor and Pescara. The doctor explains Duke Ferdinand's sickness. The Cardinal enters with Malateste. Duke Ferdinand moves quickly around the stage and takes off his top. He runs towards the Doctor and is restrained by Malateste and Pescara. They let him go to the Doctor. Duke Ferdinand tries to strangle the Doctor. He releases him. Duke Ferdinand exits through the centre doors. The Doctor follows him. Bosola enters from upstage right. Everyone exits apart from the Cardinal and Bosola. Julia appears in the Musician's Gallery. The Cardinal exits stage left.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Bosola speaks. Julia enters pointing a gun at Bosola.



He moves slowly towards her and disarms her. They embrace centre stage. Julia and Bosola form a plan. Bosola and Julia exit. The Cardinal enters from upstage left. Julia enters and comes towards the Cardinal. She persuades him to tell her his secrets. The Cardinal forces Julia to kiss the bible. The bible is filled with poison. Bosola runs in from stage right. Julia dies. The Cardinal gives Bosola keys and exits.

The Duchess of Malfi – Synopsis

Bosola stands centre stage and speaks. The candelabras are taken offstage as Bosola exits. Antonio enters through the audience. He runs onto the stage and speaks. He exits.

The Cardinal appears in the Musician's Gallery. Bosola hears the Cardinal say he will die. Duke Ferdinand enters holding a dagger. The stage is dark. Bosola exits. Antonio enters from stage right. Bosola enters from the centre doors and stabs Antonio mistaking him for Duke Ferdinand. Antonio dies. The Cardinal enters from the centre doors reading the bible. He throws it to the ground. He sits on the stairs. Bosola chases the Cardinal; he stabs him. Duke Ferdinand enters. Bosola lunges at the Duke and stabs him. Duke Ferdinand stabs Bosola. Duke Ferdinand, the Cardinal and Bosola all die. Castruccio runs in through the audience.

The Nurse enters with the Duchess's eldest child. The child speaks.

This is the end of the play.

The acting company all come on stage and bow.

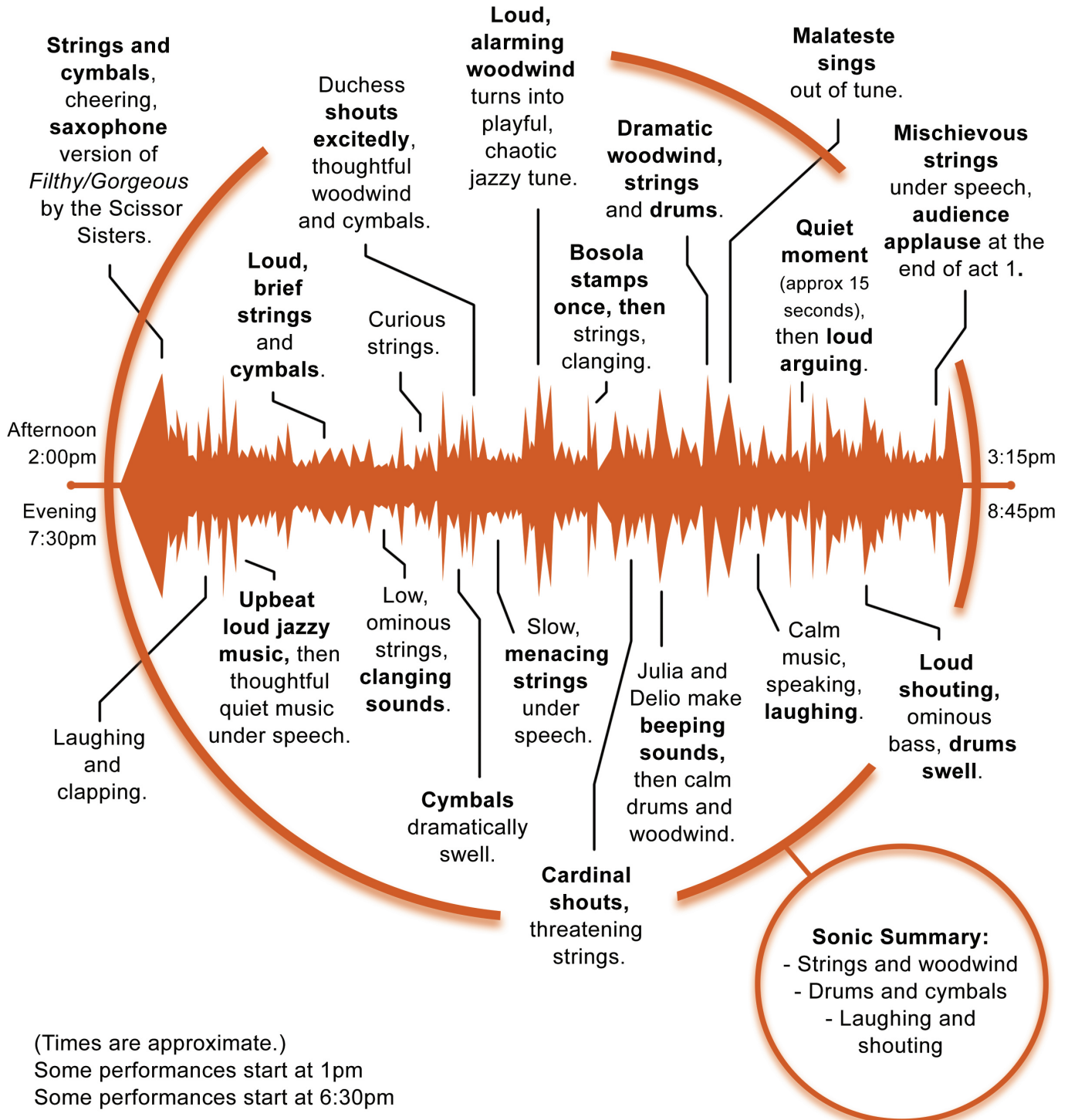
THE END

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI

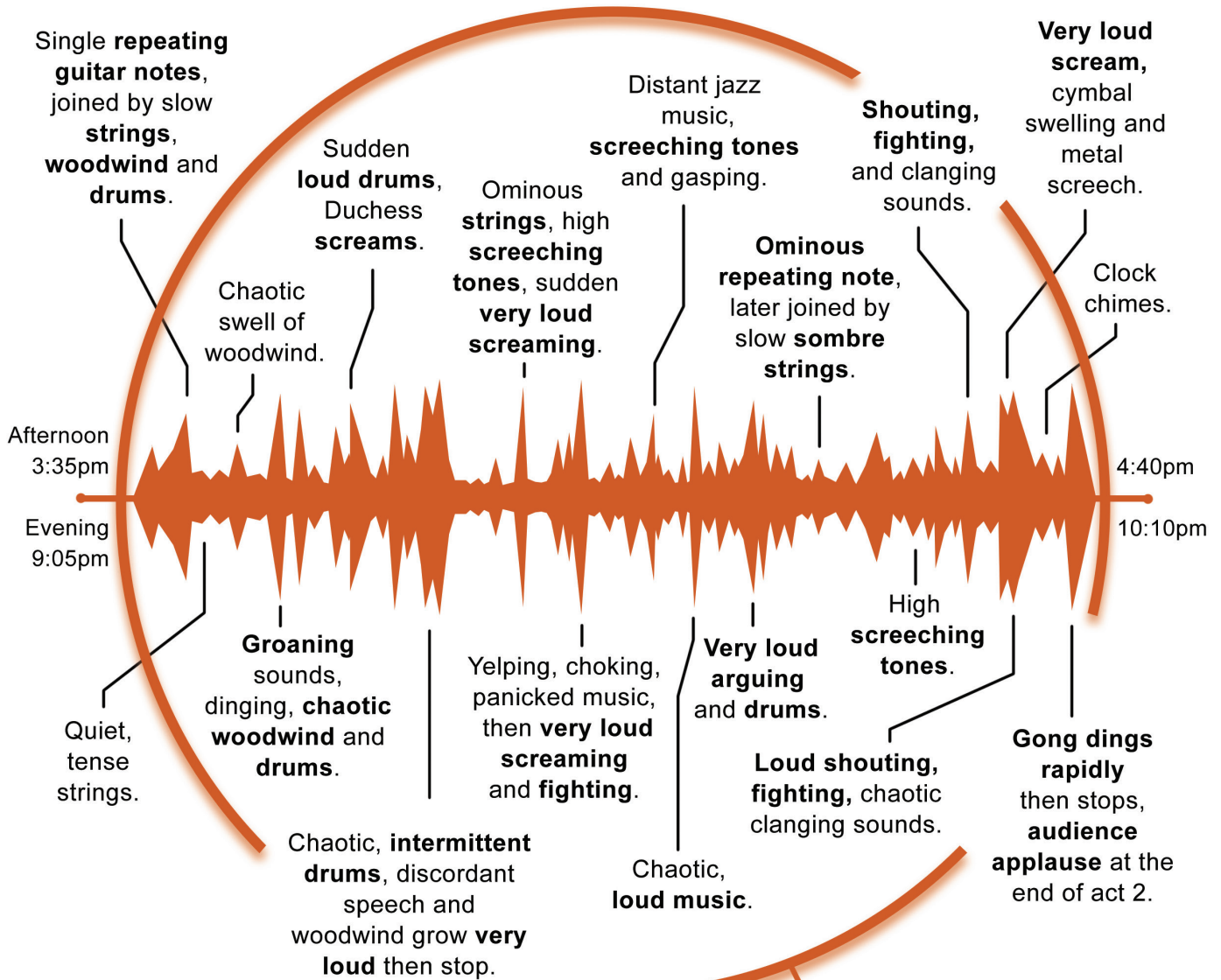
Sonic Story

This 'Sonic Story' provides information about what to expect from the music and sounds of *The Duchess of Malfi*. 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



Sonic Summary:

- Chaotic music
- Screeching noises
- Shouting and fighting

Further information



Contact Details

Should you require more information or wish to discuss your access requirements please contact the Access team on accessteam@shakeapearesglobe.com or 0207 401 1548



We welcome feedback about your Relaxed Performance experience at Shakespeare's Globe. Please contact us on the above details.