

Audition Notice

Marian, or the True Tale of Robin Hood

Audition dates

AUDITIONS	10.11.21, starting at 18:30 at HIM-E-1 11.11.21, starting at 18:30 at HIM-E-1
CALLBACKS	17.11.21, starting at 18:30 at HIM-E-1

Important production dates

REGULAR REHEARSALS	during the semester every Wednesday 18:30–22:30
PRODUCTION KICK-OFF	27.11.21
EXTRA REHEARSALS	02.02.22
DURING WINTER BREAK	09.02.22
REHEARSAL WEEK	14.02.22–18.02.22
WEEKEND REHEARSALS	06.03.22 20.03.22 09.04.22–10.04.22
DRESS REHEARSAL	21.04.22
PERFORMANCES	22.04.22, 23.04.22, 27.04.22, 28.04.22, 29.04.22

Play summary

Described as “a gender-bending, patriarchy-smashing, hilarious new take on the classic tale,” *Marian, or the True Tale of Robin Hood* uses the well-known story to explore modern themes of companionship, love, LGBTQ+ issues and standing up for what you believe in.

The story starts out with ALANNA, a talented archer, set on winning an archery competition at the court of PRINCE JOHN. She manages to impress ROBIN, who turns out to be MARIAN in disguise, and ends up joining the Merry Men, a gang of misfits (few of them actually men) who are set on destabilising the current systems of power. While they spend some of their time fighting the PRINCE and his men, they also get caught up in personal matters: questioning their identities, struggling with feelings (romantic and otherwise), but always supporting each other throughout all of their adventures.

Audition Sign Up Form



Crew Sign Up Form



Roles

A few general remarks:

- The characters are listed approximately by how big the part is. MARIAN and ALANNA can be regarded as the main characters. But the play very much works with an ensemble cast with most of the roles having equal weight.
- The gender indicated next to the roles is more of a guideline and not binding.
- The characters marked with * are involved in fight scenes. The characters marked with ° are involved in make-out scenes. How exactly these scenes are staged will be worked out in collaboration with the actors involved. But if you audition for one of these roles you have to be comfortable with being involved in these types of scenes.

MARIAN/ROBIN *° – Female

The leader of the Merry Men. Marian has many disguises (dressing up as an old man for the archery contest at court, pretending to be Robin Hood with the Merry Men) but also plays a role as herself at court because PRINCE JOHN has taken a liking to her. She skilfully manages to switch between her different identities right until the very end, where she gives up on her disguises to finally confess her true feelings for her loyal companion LITTLE JOHN.

ALANNA DALE *° – Female

Proclaims that she's the only one who is allowed to talk directly to the audience. She ends up joining the Merry Men, disguising herself as a man to do so. But things take a turn when she is challenged by and subsequently falls in love with WILL SCARLETT. After they discover that they are both women (and not, as they previously assumed, men), they happily announce to their peers that they are in love.

WILL SCARLETT *° – Female

To fit in with the Merry Men, she disguises herself as a man. She is an excellent fighter and is taken aback when she is bested by ALANNA. She is reluctant to admit her true feelings for ALANNA, but after some back and forth and spending some time alone with ALANNA, SCARLETT opens up and they become a happy couple.

PRINCE JOHN *° – Male

In the absence of his brother Richard, PRINCE JOHN has taken over as the ruler of Nottingham Castle. He is mostly involved in one of two things: tyrannising his subjects and loudly enjoying the company of his mistress LUCY.

LADY SHIRLEY ° – Female

Is part of the court but secretly helps the Merry Men. She is not easily satisfied and has an affair with both the FRIAR and the SHERIFF. She is also not above using these connections to extract secret information to help free the Merry Men who have been captured by the PRINCE.

SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM *° – Male

As PRINCE JOHN's right-hand man, he has to put up with all of the PRINCE's plans and tantrums. He is also (unsuccessfully) trying to convince LADY SHIRLEY to stay by his side.

FRIAR TUCK *° – Male

The counterpart to the SHERIFF. FRIAR TUCK is aligned with the Merry Men. His is also very much in love with SHIRLEY and is (unsuccessfully) trying to convince her to stay by his side.

LITTLE JOHN *° – Male, tall

Part of the Merry Men (and everyone's favourite himbo). He is not the smartest, but he is tall, strong, a good fighter and fiercely loyal to the Merry Men. He is also struggling to reconcile the feelings he has for both MARIAN and ROBIN and is relieved to find out at the very end of the play that they are in fact the same person.

MUCH THE MILLER'S SON * – Nonbinary

One of the Merry Men. Much is discovering their gender identity over the course of the play. At the beginning, Much is referred to by he/him pronouns. But at a pivotal moment, Much comes out as nonbinary to the Merry Men who, after some confusion, fully support Much and subsequently refer to them by they/them pronouns. (As well as changing the name of their group to "The Merry Men & Much")

TOMMY OF NO CONSEQUENCE * – Played as male

One of the Merry Men. He is always struggling to prove himself and become of some consequence. After he is captured by some guards, he offers to switch sides and spy on the Merry Men for the court. Unfortunately for him, he dies before he ever gets the chance to make an impact.

LUCY ° – Played as female (TANNER – Any gender)

[With this doubling, LUCY is the much more important role]

LUCY is PRINCE JOHN's favourite mistress. She spends most of her time in the PRINCE's bedchamber and tries to use her position to better her standing at court and to free her family, who have been captured by the PRINCE.

TANNER (who only briefly shows up in one scene) is barely scraping by and is very grateful that the Merry Men provide him with gold whenever they plunder PRINCE JOHN's vaults.

SIR LENNY THE OBSERVANT * – Played as male (doubles as GUARD 1 * – Any gender)

SIR LENNY is one of PRINCE JOHN's men. When he isn't being made fun of by SIR THEO, the two of them try to get rid of the Merry Men. In an effort to do so, they manage to capture TOMMY, but the PRINCE is not impressed.

GUARD 1 spends most of his time standing guard with GUARD 2 in front of PRINCE JOHN's bedchamber and making wagers on how the PRINCE's encounters with LUCY are going to culminate.

SIR THEO THE PUNCTUAL * – Played as male (doubles as GUARD 2 * – Any gender)

SIR THEO is one of PRINCE JOHN's men. When he isn't making fun of SIR LENNY, the two of them try to get rid of the Merry Men. In an effort to do so, they manage to capture TOMMY, but the PRINCE is not impressed.

GUARD 2 spends most of his time standing guard with GUARD 1 in front of PRINCE JOHN's bedchamber and making wagers on how the PRINCE's encounters with LUCY are going to culminate.