

O GOD, THAT I WERE A MAN! I WOULD EAT HIS HEART IN THE MARKET-PLACE



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

JUNE 13 - JUNE 29 2025

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This production was originally meant to go up in 2020. It was in a different church, with a different cast, in what felt like a different world. But in (roughly) 427 years of this play's existence, what is five years?

Like most things in this play, it's everything and nothing.

Much Ado About Nothing in many ways is about the small things that take on lives of their own. A misheard conversation. Grudges and egos that can't be let go of. Jokes and pranks not everyone finds funny. Somehow these micro moments lead to hook ups, break ups, engagements, scandals, funerals; they lead to laughter, dancing, screaming, and tears.

Much Ado is a beautiful reminder our lives can be enough to be the center of a great story. Something as simple as time with loved ones can be worthy of Shakespeare's time and words. People dismissed as silly or sour are more important in our lives than we imagined. Even when everything falls apart on a Tuesday, life can be great again by Thursday.

After preparing this show five years ago, and imagining it in the years since, it has been a wonderful and bizarre experience to finally be in rehearsal. It is different from what I imagined in 2020; for every moment of struggle or waiting, I wouldn't have it any other way. Like in the play, things have worked out the way they were meant to.

We walked into 2025 casting with the goal of shaping this production around the people we cast. This ensemble is full of bold and energetic people excited to share this story with you, and that guided this show. It is a treat to have them look you in the eye, ask questions and want your answers, mutter their side commentary to you and your seat mate, or offer you a hand for a dance. With such a warm and welcoming cast, it's our hope that you find a moment in this play to not only watch the story but experience it. To join them in a way you didn't expect. At least for the next two- and a-bit hours, it is our hope that the outside world may fade away and you can revel in life's small moments with us. To make some ado over what may be nothing, and let it feel like everything.

KAITLYN FOWLER

CAST



Bobby Henneberg (Benedick) is a Columbia, MD based actor making his BSF debut. He has previously been seen in *Into the Forest Wild* (Maryland Renaissance Festival), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Comedy of Errors*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream* (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company), *Squidbury* (Truepenny Productions), *13 Dead Husbands*, and *Nowhere* (Cohesion Theatre Company).

Erin Branigan (Beatrice) is making her BSF debut. Performance credits include *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Taming of the Shrew* (Maryland Shakespeare Company), *Richard III*, *The Tempest*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Maryland Renaissance Festival), *Sweeney Todd* (The Arlington Players), *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (2nd Star Productions), *Triumph of Love*, *Avenue Q* (Red Branch Theater Company), *Death of a Salesman* (Samuel Beckett Theatre). Directing credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (The Arlington Players). She has been a member of the Maryland Renaissance Festival's Company of the Rose since 2008.



CAST



Michael Changwe (Claudio) is a Baltimore/DMV-based artist making his Baltimore Shakespeare Factory debut. Recent stage credits include *Mary Stuart* (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company), *A Raisin in the Sun* (Spotlighters Theatre), *Sophisticated Ladies* (Arena Players Inc.), *A Computer That Loves* (Baltimore Rock Opera Society), and *It's Showdown Time* (Arena Players).

Anabel Milton (Hero/First Watchman) is thrilled to make her BSF debut after joining their education team in 2020! A DMV actor, singer, and theater educator, Anabel studied at Shakespeare & Company and the Gaiety School of Acting. Previous credits include: *Galatea* (Theater Prometheus), *Galatea*, *The Town Fop*, *Eastward, Ho!*, *Romeo & Juliet* (Maryland Renaissance Festival), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Grassroots Shakespeare DC), *Not My Monkey!* (InterAct Story Theatre), *Little Women* (Strand Theater), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Silver Spring Stage). Anabel joined the Maryland Renaissance Festival's Company of the Rose in 2019, and music-directs *The Weyward Sisters*. Love always to my family.



CAST



Semaj Kelly (Don Pedro) is making his Baltimore Shakespeare Factory debut as your Prince of Aragon. His previous credits include *Romeo & Juliette* as Tybalt (Laurel Mill Playhouse), *Richard II* as Lord Ross and others (Frederick Shakespeare Festival), and *Medea* as Jason (Capital Fringe Festival). He would like to send love to all of his friends and family for their kind words and encouragement to keep moving forward on this journey.

Isaiah C. Evans (Leonato) is excited to work with Baltimore Shakespeare Factory for the first time. Regional Theatre credits include *Gem of the Ocean*, *Hamlet*, *Stick Fly*, *Kill Move Paradise*, and *The Piano Lesson* at Arena Players; *To Sir with Love* and *Did You See Jackie Robinson* at the Waxter Center and *Serenity House* at the Chesapeake Arts Center and the Harrisburg Fringe Festival. Film and Television credits include *House of Cards* and *For My Woman*. Isaiah is currently studying acting and scoring under Vera Katz.
IG: @actor_isaiahevans



CAST



Frankie Marsh (Don John / Sexton) is returning to BSF after previously working on Henry VIII (2023). Other recent credits include: How to Transcend a Happy Marriage Track (Iron Crow Theatre), and Spring Awakening (Maryland Theatre Collective). She graduated from Towson University's BFA Program in 2022.
IG: @frankiemarshonline
FB: @FrankieMarsh

Glen Haupt (Borachio) is making his BSF debut after having worked as Show Cast Manager and a performer at Medieval Times. Performance Credits Include: Ma Rainey's Black Bottom (ArtsCentric), The Devil in Me (The Green Glove Theatre), Macbeth (The Green Globe Theatre), and Force Continuum (Cohesion Theatre Company). Glen has also worked as Co-Owner and Technical Director at The Green Globe Theatre.



CAST



Katie Rey Bogdan (Margaret / Dogberry) returns to BSF after assistant directing Henry VIII (2023) and performing in Mini-Midsummer (2021), As You Like It on the Air (2021) and The Knight of the Burning Pestle (2019). Recent performance credits also include Gallathea, The Town Fop and Richard III (Maryland Renaissance Festival), A Christmas Carol (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company), and A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Tempest, and Macbeth (Prince George's Shakespeare in the Parks).

Brian Gilbert (Antonio / Verges) is excited to return to BSF after previously working on The Merry Wives of Windsor (2019). Recent favorite performance credits include The Book of Will (Henry Condell, Colonial Players), The Great Gatsby (Nick Carroway, Belmont Theater), Into the Forest Wild, Merry Wives of Windsor, Eastward Ho (Maryland Renaissance Festival). He has been a member of the Maryland Renaissance Festival's Company of the Rose since 2022.



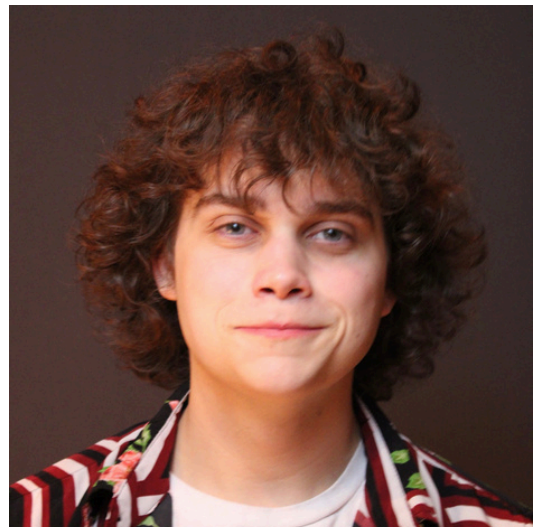
CAST



Adanya Koger-Hobson (Conrade / Messenger 2) is ecstatic to be returning to BSF in Much Ado About Nothing. They are a DMV actor that graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design with a BFA in Performing Arts in 2022. Recent shows they've been in are Gallathea (Gallathea 2023) with Baltimore Shakespeare Factory, Honey Bee Baby (Veronica) With Rapid Lemon Productions, The Wolves (#00) at Spotlighters Theatre, Little Women (Laurie) with Strand Theatre, The Wedding Singer (Shane) with Silhouette Stages, and Lizzie: A Rock Musical (Mr/Mrs. Borden).

adanyakogerhobson.com
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Wesley Mauder (Swing | Friar Francis / Messenger 1 / Second Watchman) is making his BSF debut here with Much Ado. Being a swing actor has allowed him to experience every aspect that this show has to offer. He currently is studying for his BFA in Acting at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. Outside of the theatre Wesley can be found making short films with his team. He is very excited to be sharing the stage with this group of amazing performers.



CREW



Kaitlyn Fowler (Director) is returning to BSF after previously working on Cymbeline (2019), A Chaste Maid in Cheapside (2018), Macbeth (2018), and the BSF educational tours of Macbeth and A Midsummer Night's Dream. Directing credits include: Streetspeare Siblings Track (Maryland Renaissance Festival), Little Women (Strand Theater Company), Macbeth, Dentity Crisis (Washington Tawes Theater). Performance Credits Include: Mary Stuart (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company), Honey Bee Baby (Rapid Lemon Productions), Into the Forest Wild, The Town Fop, Richard III (Maryland Renaissance Festival), Mary Kate Olsen is in Love, The Most Massive Woman Wins (Strand Theater Company), The Winter's Tale, Twelfth Night (Prague Shakespeare Company). She has been a member of the Maryland Renaissance Festival's Company of the Rose since 2019.

www.kaitlynfowler.com

CREW



Molly K. Laska (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be making her BSF debut. She has been performing for 23 years highlights include: voice over, long & short form improv, and 40+ productions including THE WIZARD OF OZ (Aunt Em), THE LATEST SHOW (Producer), THE SECRET GARDEN (Mrs. Sowerby) and A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Puck). Stage management credits include NUNSENSE (Salem Players), LITTLE WOMEN and CROCODILE FEVER (Strand) and STUPID [EXPLETIVE] BIRD at Miami University (Ohio). She was most recently the AD/SM and Horatio in HAMLET (BWP). This one's for the girls, Mom, Emily, Kaitlyn, Adelaide you make this worth it.

Lauren Romagnano (Producer) has served as the Artistic Director at BSF since 2023 and most recently was seen working on Gallathea and Henry VIII, both in 2023. Lauren earned her Master of Letters and Master of Fine Arts (both in Shakespeare) from Mary Baldwin University in 2019 and 2020 respectively. She would like to thank her husband, Casey, for all of his support in all things BSF-related and to this amazing cast and crew: "Thank you all for bringing this show to life after 5 years of waiting--it has been worth every second."



CREW



Adam (Music Director / Balthasar) is elated to be working on his sixth BSF production. Previous BSF credits are Cymbeline (Posthumous), The Knight of the Burning Pestle (Jasper & others), The Merry Wives of Windsor (Page), Henry V (Westmoreland & others). He was also Ferdinand in The Tempest (Baltimore Shakespeare Factory On-Air).

Matthew Crawford (Fight & Intimacy Choreographer) has been a teaching artist with BSF since 2018 beginning with their 3-person educational tours of Macbeth and A Midsummer Night's Dream. He has also appeared in their previous productions of Gallathea (2023) & Henry V (2020).

Choreographer credits include: Little Shop of Horrors, Proof (Compass Rose Theater); Into the Forest Wild (Maryland Renaissance Festival); Bardroom Brawl (Studio 39 APEX). Performance credits include: Galatea (Theatre Prometheus); Into the Forest Wild, Merry Wives of Windsor, Eastward Ho!, Romeo & Juliet, La Dama Boba (Maryland Renaissance Festival). Matthew is an Advanced Actor Combatant with the SAFD.



SPECIAL CREDITS

In addition to all of their hard work on this production in their roles, we also want to highlight the work of our cast members outside of their production roles:

Brian Gilbert

Choral Arrangement

Bobby Henneberg

Fight Captain

Frankie Marsh

Music Captain

Katie Rey Bogdan

Dance Captain

Erin Branigan

Seamstress

SPECIAL THANKS

The world of theatre is a collaborative one.
Therefore, we want to thank those who have
volunteered their efforts and support to make
this production a success in a variety of ways:

The Church of the Nativity and Holy Comforter
(space rental)

Erin Branigan (costume donation)

Erin Riley (costume donation)

Tom Brown (scenic element construction)

Mythical Designs and Branson's General Store
(mask suppliers: shops on Etsy.com)

EG Photography
(production photos: www.egphotostudio.com)