

# THE HANDLEBARDS

## Cycling Shakespeare Tour 2018

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### Call for Company Managers

The HandleBards are a four-strong troupe of cycling players, who for the past five years have performed their unique brand of Shakespeare in venues across the world. In the summer of 2018 we will be mounting two UK tours. Our all-male troupe will cycle from London to Edinburgh, carrying on their bikes all of the set, props and costumes they require for nightly performances of *Twelfth Night* in castles, gardens, bicycle shops and stately homes throughout the UK. Our all-female troupe will undertake a driving tour of the UK with a revival of their production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

We are seeking two company managers for the HandleBards' 2018 Summer season.

These roles would suit broadly-skilled stage managers, producers and project managers with a flair for adventure and a love of cycling. Each troupe typically perform a six-show week. Accommodation includes camping, dormitories and room-sharing. Most performances will take place in the outdoors, in all weathers. We actively encourage applications from under-represented groups, including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) applicants.

The *Twelfth Night* role will require the company manager to cycle with the troupe approximately 30 miles per day, for up to six days per week during the length of the contract.

The *Romeo and Juliet* role will require a company manager with a full, clean driving license, who is confident driving a six-seater crew van.

#### KEY TASKS

1. To cycle with/drive with and manage the company on tour, acting as team leader, liaising with venues and musicians, and aiding in the organisation of accommodation when required.
2. To be the chief mode of contact between the troupe and the production/creative teams during the tour.
3. To aid with the running and administration of auditions for the all-male troupe (*Twelfth Night* only).
4. To maintain 'the book' during rehearsals, write daily rehearsal reports during the rehearsal period and aid in the preparation of the props and costume inventory.
5. To participate in regular production meetings throughout and prior to the contract.
6. To take responsibility for leading the daily ride/drive, to co-ordinate the sharing of navigation tasks and to be responsible for regular maintenance, cleaning, repairs of the bikes and trailers.
7. To undertake and co-ordinate get-in and get-outs of touring shows and to stage manage during performances, undertaking technical duties as required.
8. To write daily show reports and ride reports, and circulate them to the production and artistic team.
9. To assist the production team in updating social media streams with relevant, topical content throughout rehearsals and the tour.
10. To organise the distribution and collection of audience feedback forms at each performance on the tour.
11. To assist with the setup and sale of merchandise at each performance.
12. To organise, or undertake repairs and laundry/dry cleaning of props, set and costumes as required.
13. To be the primary first aider for the troupe on tour (for which training will be provided, if required).

The fee for both posts is a company wage of £360 per week. The details of contract lengths and key dates can be found on the next page.

Please direct all questions about the positions to the producer, Tom Dixon, at [tom@handlebards.com](mailto:tom@handlebards.com).

First-round interviews will be held on 14th and 15th February in central London.

To apply, please send a CV, covering letter and equal opportunities form to [tom@handlebards.com](mailto:tom@handlebards.com) by 12pm on Friday 9th February, with the subject line 'HB18 Tour Manager Application' followed by your name. Please state in your covering letter which particular production you are interested in.

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### **The HandleBards: *Twelfth Night***

An all-male production

**20 week contract, approximately 1500 miles of cycling.**

Director: James Farrell

#### **Key dates:**

Interviews 14 and 15 February

Auditions 19, 21 and 23 February

Pre-production 23 - 29th April

Rehearsals 30 April - 20 May

Previews 22 and 23 May

First performance 24 May

Last performance 9 September

*Please note that these dates are subject to change.*

### **The HandleBards: *Romeo and Juliet***

An all-female production

**16 week contract, van tour**

Director: Nel Crouch

#### **Key dates:**

Interviews 14 and 15 February

Pre-production 21 - 25 May

Rehearsals 26 and 27 May

First performance 29 May

Last performance 9 September

*Please note that these dates are subject to change.*