

THE HANDLEBARDS

Cycling Shakespeare Tour 2018

Call for Male Actors

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 our all-male troupe will travel 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.

We are seeking actors for the HandleBards' 2018 Summer season.

- The roles will require each actor to cycle approximately 30 miles per day, for up to six days per week during the length of the contract. The 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 are looking for actors with a flair for adventure and friendly personality, who are prepared to participate and immerse themselves in all that the experience on- and off-stage requires.
- On-stage experience with Shakespeare texts, movement and some musical ability is essential.
- Offstage experience with bicycles, bicycle touring, and/or long-term fitness training is desirable.
- Desirable onstage skills include clowning, devising, singing and playing an instrument small enough to carry on a bike.
- Desirable offstage skills include first aid, tent erecting, bike fixing, photography, blogging, sewing, barbecuing and having a general Bear Grylls-esque skillset and mindset.
- We actively encourage applications from under-represented groups, including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) artists.

The fee for all posts is £360 per week. The details of audition dates, contract lengths and key tour dates can be found on the next page.

For the first round we will ask you to prepare a short unaccompanied song, and two short monologues from Shakespeare's canon - one male and one female speech of your choice. The second round will involve highly physical tasks and practical exercises. More information on each round will be provided should you be invited to audition.

Please direct all questions about the positions to the producer, Tom Dixon, at auditions@handlebards.com.

To apply, please send a CV, headshot, completed application form and Equal Opportunities form to auditions@handlebards.com by 12pm on Monday 12th February, with the subject line 'HB18 Actor Application' followed by your name.

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The HandleBards: *Twelfth Night*

An all-male production

19 week contract, approximately 1500 miles of cycling

Director: James Farrell

Key dates:

First round auditions **19 and 21 February**

Second round audition workshop **23 February (6pm - 10pm)**

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.