English - Drama - History

School Programme



THURS 18 TH SEPT 10 AM

UNVERSED

What do you get when you mix Shakespeare, a rebellious 17th-century woman, and a one-woman powerhouse of a performance? You get Unversed

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Set in 1623, Unversed follows Antonia Carrington — a wannabe actress with big dreams, bad timing, and zero access to the stage (thanks, patriarchy). But when a certain Mr. Shakespeare's First Folio falls into her hands, she decides she's had enough of waiting in the wings. What follows is a secret, bold, and brilliant performance in the shadows of The Globe — where Antonia plays every part, and refuses to stay silent.

Brought to life by the ridiculously talented Beckis Cooper, this one-woman show sees over ten characters leap off the page in a lightning-fast, emotionally charged journey through gender, ambition, and theatrical defiance. It's funny, sharp, and surprisingly moving — basically, if Shakespeare had a feminist rewrite, this would be it.

Best for: Ages 14–18 (GCSE & A-Level) **Subjects:** English Literature (Shakespeare), Drama (performance and monologue), History (Tudor/Jacobean society, gender roles)

Why bring your students?

This is a powerful way to explore Shakespeare beyond the page – with a female lens and a modern heartbeat. The post-show workshop lets students get hands-on with text and character.

Watch the show trailer here:



In addition to the performanace we are offering a two-hour, workshop designed to help students bring Shakespeare's text to life on stage.

What to expect:

AFTERNOON

WORKSHOP

- Professional acting warm-up to boost focus and confidence
- Practical scene work exploring Shakespeare's language
- Group and solo performance techniques
- Tools to decode the text breath work, punctuation, rhythm, cues
- Exercises on volume, intensity, character power dynamics
- Memory tricks and stagecraft tips from a working actor
- Directed sharing session with peer feedback at the end

Why book this workshop?

- Builds confidence and creativity
- Supports curriculum aims in English and Drama
- Fun, energetic, and engaging for all ability levels
- Taught by Beckis Cooper professional actress and writer of Unversed

Teachers and drama staff are welcome to observe or join for the sharing.

This workshop is only available for 30 students and is an **additional £4.50** per student.



HOW TO BOOK

- Visit <u>www.blackfriarstheatre.co.uk/schools</u>
- Click Book Now
- Complete the short form and select the performance of your choice
- We will be in touch to confirm your booking and arrange payment by invoice or secure link