

**Merced Shakespearefest's  
DON QUIXOTE - OPEN AUDITIONS via Zoom**

Saturday, March 13, 11:00am

Monday, March 15, 7:00pm

**Bilingual Audition Plan**

Excerpt 1: Narrator, Antonia Quixana

Excerpt 2: Don Quixote, Punk Teenagers 1 & 2, Mall Cop

Excerpt 3: Professor Sigüenza, Nicolás, Antonia Quixana

Excerpt 4: Don Quixote, Sancho Panza

Monologue: Don Quixote

**Supplemental Materials**

These materials will be supplemented at the audition with dry-reads of sections of the script based on various characters. The following excerpts are the only materials available prior to the audition.

For more information contact Merced Shakespearefest and the production team!

**To sign-up for Auditions follow this link:**

<https://forms.gle/r2M9vwGoUWRUgSGG8>

**EXCERPT 1 QUIXOTE - Episode 1: El Caballero**

**1.1 EXT. QUIXOTE'S HOUSE, LA MANCHA - MORNING**

*Live Action: Aerial shot of Merced with peaceful music. Documentary style. Followed by a shot of QUIXOTE's house. Images follow: QUIXOTE, and shows the following: lance, shield, bicycle, and his faithful dog. And shots of QUIXOTE and his niece, ANTONIA QUIXANA as they go about relevant activities.*

**NARRATOR (V.O.)**

In a village of La Mancha, the name of which I have no desire to call to mind, there lived not long ago a gentlemen that kept a lance in the lance-rack, an old shield, a "lean steed", and a greyhound for coursing.

*Narrator's Studio: director presentational delivery.*

**NARRATOR (CONT'D)**

The age of this gentleman was bordering on fifty; he was tall, slender, and gaunt-featured, and he had a niece under twenty. Some say his surname was Quixada or Quesada for here there is some difference of opinion. This, however, is of but little importance to our story. Whenever he was at leisure:

*Live Action: Close-up on ANTONIA QUIXANA doing housework for QUIXOTE.*

**ANTONIA QUIXANA**

Which was mostly all the year round.

*Narrator's Studio: Interview-style shot with ANTONIA QUIXANA seated in front of the camera.*

**ANTONIA QUIXANA (CONT'D)**

He gave himself up to reading books of chivalry with such ardour and that he almost entirely neglected the management of his property.

*Live Action: ANTONIA QUIXANA works tirelessly. She looks at the camera, highly annoyed - side eye. Images continue to reflect the NARRATOR's lines.*

**NARRATOR (V.O.)**

Because of this, the poor gentleman lost his wits, and used to lie awake striving to understand them and unpack the meaning out of them.

**EXCERPT 2 QUIXOTE - Episode 2: La Aventura**

**2.2 EXT. OUTSIDE THE MERCED MALL - Evening**

*Live action: PUNK TEENAGERS watch DON QUIXOTE approach the Merced Mall.*

**PUNK TEENAGER 1 (V.O.)**

Seeing that we were not **doing any of these things**, he made for the door.

**PUNK TEENAGER 2 (V.O.)**

He **thought** we were two fair maidens taking our ease at the castle gate.

*At this moment a car drives by and loudly blows its horn. QUIXOTE is thrilled by this development.*

*NARRATOR's studio: an interview with PUNK TEENAGERS.*

**PUNK TEENAGER 2 (CONT'D)**

It seemed to Don Quixote to be what he was expecting, the signal of some dwarf announcing his arrival.

*Live action with PUNK TEENAGERS watching DON QUIXOTE in all of his armor and regalia approach the inn/Merced Mall.*

**QUIXOTE**

Your ladyships need not fly or fear any rudeness, for that it belongs not to the order of knighthood which I profess to offer to anyone, much less to highborn maidens as your appearance proclaims you to be.

*The girls looking at him heard themselves called maidens, a thing so much out of their line, they could not restrain their laughter, which made Don Quixote further his indignance.*

**QUIXOTE (CONT'D)**

Modesty becomes the fair, and moreover laughter that has little cause is great silliness; this, however, I say not to pain or anger you, for my desire is none other than to serve you.

*NARRATOR's studio: an interview with PUNK TEENAGERS.*

**PUNK TEENAGER 1**

His language and looks only caused us to laugh more!

**PUNK TEENAGER 2**

At that moment the **mall cop** came out.

*Live action: PUNK TEENAGERS watching DON QUIXOTE approach.*

**MALL COP**

Señor Caballero, if your worship wants lodging, for there is not one in the mall, there is plenty of everything else here.

**QUIXOTE**

Sir, for me anything will suffice, for *'My armour is my only wear, My only rest the fray.'*

**PUNK TEENAGER 1 (V.O.)**

The Mall Cop fancied he called him "Sir".

**MALL COP**

If so, you may dine in **the food court**.

**EXCERPT 3 QUIXOTE - Episode 3: La Merced**

**3.2 - INT. DON QUIXOTE'S LIBRARY, HIS HOUSE**

**NICOLÁS**

Don Quixote was still sleeping; so the professor asked his niece for the keys of the room where the books, the authors of all the mischief, were, and right willingly she gave them.

**PROF. SIGÜENZA**

We all went in and found more than a hundred volumes of big books very well bound, and some other small ones.

*Live Action: The moment ANTONIA QUIXANA sees them she turns and runs out of the room. She returns immediately with a saucer of holy water and a sprinkler.*

**ANTONIA QUIXANA**

Here se~nor professor, don't leave any magician of the many there are in these books to bewitch us in revenge.

*PROF. SIGÜENZA and NICOLÁS laugh and begin rummaging through the books.*

**PROF. SIGÜENZA**

(to Nicolás)

Give me the books one by one so we can see what they are about, as there might be some that do not deserve the penalty.

**ANTONIA QUIXANA**

No, there is no reason for showing mercy to any of them; better fling them out of the window!

*ANTONIA QUIXANA quickly grabs a book and throws out the window. PROF. SIGÜENZA signals to her to stop.*

**NICOLÁS**

(Reading)

The four books of "Amadis of Gaul".

**PROF. SIGÜENZA**

This was the first book of chivalry printed in Spain, and from this all the others derive their birth and origin.

A beat. *PROF. SIGÜENZA* tosses the book into a large trash bin *ANTONIA QUIXANA* has provided.

**NICOLÁS**

Nay, sir, I heard him say that this is the best of all, it ought to be pardoned.

*NICOLÁS* retrieves the book from the trash bin; *ANTONIA QUIXANA* rolls her eyes.

**PROF. SIGÜENZA**

True. (beat) For that reason let its life be spared for the present.

**NICOLÁS**

"The Sergas de Esplandian".

**PROF. SIGÜENZA**

Proceed.

**NICOLÁS**

"Amadis of Greece," and, indeed, I believe all those on this side are of the same Amadis lineage.

*All the books on the side are thrown out. PROF. SIGÜENZA* holds up another, this time a Shakespearean text, he tilts his head as if to ask "Should we throw it out?"

**NICOLÁS**

I am of the same mind.

**ANTONIA QUIXANA**

And so am I.

**PROF. SIGÜENZA**

In that case--

*PROF. SIGÜENZA* dumps all of Shakespeare texts into the trash.

**EXCERPT 4 QUIXOTE - Episode 3: La Merced**

**3.5 - EXT. THE WINDMILLS - DAY**

*The pair arrives at a location where large modern windmills are visible in the distance; they stop their cycles.*

**DON QUIXOTE**

For there you see, friend Sancho Panza, thirty or more enormous giants with whom I intend to do battle.

**SANCHO PANZA**

What giants?

**DON QUIXOTE**

Those. Over there!

**SANCHO PANZA**

Those aren't giants but windmills!

**DON QUIXOTE**

It seems clear to me, that thou art not well-versed in the matter of adventures.

*With this, DON QUIXOTE gets on ROCINANTE and rides toward the windmills.*

*The next shot shows DON QUIXOTE stopped as close as possible to the windmills, he raises his lance, mounts ROCINANTE and charges. Immediate cut to black.*

*A beat; black screen remains.*

**SANCHO PANZA (V.O.)**

Didn't I tell your grace to watch what you were doing!

Live Action: SANCHO PANZA is running while saying his line; close tracking shot.

**SANCHO PANZA (CONT'D)**

These were nothing but windmills!

**DON QUIXOTE**

(Extreme close-up as he lies knocked out)

Be quiet, Sancho my friend. Matters of war, more than any others, are subject to continual change;

moreover, I think that same devil who stole my books has turned these giants into windmills in order to deprive me of the glory of defeating them. But in the end, his evil arts will not prevail against my power of my virtuous sword.

*In the distance several people are spotted by SANCHO PANZA.*

**SANCHO PANZA**

This will be worse than the windmills.

## Monologue QUIXOTE - Episode 8: La Literature

### SR CANÓNIGO

Nor is it reasonable that a man like your worship, endowed with such a good understanding, should allow himself to be persuaded that such wild crazy things as are written in those absurd books of chivalry are really true.

*As QUIXOTE gives this speech he imagines some of the following natural imagery and recalls his many adventures with a series of flashbacks.*

### QUIXOTE

Hush, sir; utter not such blasphemy; only read them, and you will see the pleasure you will derive from them. The sky seems more transparent there, and the sun shines with a strange brilliancy, and a delightful grove of green leafy trees presents itself to the eyes and charms the sight with its verdure, while the ear is soothed by the sweet untutored melody of the countless birds of gay plumage that flit to and fro among the interlacing branches. Here he sees a brook whose limpid waters, mingled with fragments of glittering crystal and mock emeralds, make up a work of varied aspect, where art, imitating nature, seems to have outdone it. But I will not expatiate any further upon this..whatever part of whatever history of a knight-errant one reads, it will fill the reader, whoever he be, with delight and wonder.. For myself I can say that since I have been a knight-errant I have become valiant, polite, generous, well-bred, magnanimous, courteous, dauntless, gentle, patient, and have learned to bear hardships, imprisonments, and enchantments; and though it be such a short time since I have seen myself shut up in a cage like a madman, I hope to see myself king of some kingdom where I may be able to show the gratitude and generosity that dwell in my heart; particularly to this poor Sancho Panza, my squire, who is the best fellow in the world.