

# USC Department of Theatre and Dance

## Fall 2026 Season

### CONTENT NOTES and CASTING BREAKDOWNS

Auditions for USC's mainstage shows produced in fall 2026 will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026; with callbacks on Tuesday, April 14 and Wednesday, April 15. Actors auditioning will be considered for the following productions:

- ***Witch***, directed by David Britt
- ***The Courage to Right a Woman's Wrongs***, directed by Jesse Jou

Specific content notes and casting breakdowns for each play are provided below.

Note: theatrical intimacy will be choreographed within actor boundaries and in collaboration with actors, director, and resident intimacy director, Marybeth Gorman Craig ([gormanm@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:gormanm@mailbox.sc.edu)).

Bring any questions to auditions/callbacks, or email directors in advance:

David Britt – [BRITTDG@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:BRITTDG@mailbox.sc.edu)

Jesse Jou – [JJOU@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:JJOU@mailbox.sc.edu)

Specific commitment dates are listed on the Audition Form posted at [https://sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/artsandsciences/theatre\\_and\\_dance/theatre/auditions/index.php](https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/theatre_and_dance/theatre/auditions/index.php)

#### ***WITCH***

Written by Jen Silverman

Directed by David Britt

Rehearsal Start: August 18, 2026\*

Tech: September 17-23, 2026

Performances: September 24 – October 4

*\* See audition form for specific rehearsal dates/times and class enrollment requirements.*

#### ***Synopsis:***

Dramatic Comedy. An inventive retelling of a Jacobean drama. Sharp and subversive fable that debates how much our souls are worth when hope is hard to find.

#### ***Content Notes:***

Flirty not sexual. An interpretive dance. A combat scene between two characters that turns into a dance. Adult themes and language. Topics: Friendship, Marriage, Religion and Woman's Experience in and out of a relationship. Father and son relationship.

#### ***Casting Breakdown:***

All characters can be played by actors of any race or ethnicity.

ELIZABETH Female. An outcast, independent, worker and self-educated.

SCRATCH, Male. The devil. Businessman (Sales) Fashionable and confident.

SIR ARTHUR BANKS, Male. A wealthy and powerful man. Missing his late wife but enjoys the company of his son and his employees.

CUDDY BANKS, Male. Sir Arthurs Son. Painfully shy, artistic. A dancer (Performs a solo dance as well as a combat scene that turns into a dance). Secretly in love with Frank. **Stage combat** with Frank, with romantic undertones.

FRANK, Male. Confident and successful, Charming and ruthless. Ambition knows no bounds. May have a secret. **Stage combat** with Cuddy, with potential romantic undertones.

WINNIFRED, Female. Sir Arthur's servant, resigned and pragmatic. Secretly married.

### ***The Courage to Right a Woman's Wrongs***

Written by Ana Caro

Directed by Jesse Jou

Rehearsal Start: September 28, 2026

Tech Dates: November 3-11, 2026

Performances: November 12-20, 2026

### ***Synopsis:***

Doña Leonor, with her clever servant Ribete, has pursued Don Juan to the Spanish Netherlands after he seduces and then abandons her in Sevilla. Disguised as a man and with only her wit and courage, Leonor enacts a plan to reclaim her honor by compelling the unfaithful Don Juan to marry her.

### ***Content Notes:***

The Spanish Empire in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century was an international colonial power reaching as far as Africa and the Philippines to the Americas. Spain's cities would be home to multiple ethnicities and races. All roles are open to actors of any background unless otherwise specified below. The play will be performed in English translation and proficiency in Spanish is not required. Previous experiences with heightened language (e.g., Shakespeare) or clown are beneficial but not required. Age ranges below are for the characters, not necessarily the actors.

As one of Ana Caro's few extant works, *Courage* affirms her importance as a writer of the Spanish Golden Age. The play is a comedy that makes use of familiar devices of this period, including gender-based disguises, mistaken identities, clowning, and sexual innuendo. At the beginning of the play, a group of bandits threaten to assault Estela and Lisarda but are beaten and chased away. Flora drugs and robs Tomillo. Other moments of physical violence occur, including sword fighting.

## ***Casting Breakdown:***

DOÑA LEONOR/LEONARDO, F, 20's. A lady of Sevilla who comes to Brussels to avenge herself on DON JUAN, a lover who abandoned and disgraced her. She disguises herself as a man to enact her plan. Elegant, with a witty and strategic mind, and not afraid to get dirty and throw down when challenged. **Stage combat** experience, especially with sword fighting, is desirable. Shares a moment of **intimacy** with DON JUAN

DON FERNANDO DE RIBERA, M, 30's. Brother to LEONOR, a gentleman who lives in Brussels. Honorable and kind, he has not seen his sister since she was a child so doesn't recognize her in disguise. Harbors a crush on ESTELA, but doesn't believe in his chances with her.

RIBETE, Open Gender, 20-40. loyal and clever servant to Leonor. Protective of her and will support her in any way possible. A naughty clown. Has a rivalry with TOMILLO over FLORA's affections. Will also play ASTOLFO, a bandit, who tries to kidnap ESTELA and LISARDA.

DON JUAN DE CÓRDOBA, M, 30's. A notorious womanizer who has the status of a gentleman. He seduced LEONOR with false promises of marriage then fled to Brussels. He sets his sights on ESTELA, but LEONOR has other plans for him. Charismatic and fickle, and maybe not as intelligent as he imagines himself to be. **Stage combat** experience, especially with sword fighting, is desirable. Shares a moment of **intimacy** with LEONOR.

TOMILLO, Open Gender, 20-40. clever servant to DON JUAN. In it for the pay and the fun chaos of working for someone like DON JUAN. A mercenary clown. Has a rivalry with RIBETE over FLORA's affections.

ESTELA, F, 20's. the Countess of Sora, an observant and sophisticated noblewoman. She knows she has multiple suitors and has clear opinions about each of them. Falls for LEONOR in her disguise as LEONARDO. Ultimately a romantic at heart.

LISARDA, F, 20's. ESTELA's cousin and advisor, a wing woman who is not-so-secretly attracted to LUDOVICO.

LUDOVICO, M, late 20's-30's. the Prince of Pinoy, he pines for ESTELA despite her repeated rejections. Maybe more in love with the idea of being in love than with the person. Talks tough, but often doesn't follow through. **Stage combat** experience, especially with sword fighting, is desirable. Also plays RUFINO, a bandit, who tries to kidnap ESTELA and LISARDA.

FLORA, Open Gender, 20-40. a clever and larcenous maid who charms both TOMILLO and RIBETE. Also plays TIBALDO, a bandit; GODOFRE, captain of FERNANDO's guard; and FINEO, another servant of FERNANDO.