

Metaverse Shakespeare Dramatics for... Chopine's Grand  
Opening

By

Metaverse Shakespeare Company Private Performance Thinktank  
<http://privateperformances.mshakespeare.com>

Lines taken and modified from William Shakespeare.

(NOTE)

The actor portraying the scenes may be either male or female, depending on who's available. They will likely be rezzed in just one outfit (which will keep the lag sane), even if they impersonate other personalities.

OPENING

BAREFOOT actor approach from somewhere behind audience, mozy through audience greeting them, while walking towards front "stage" area.

[Ham II.ii.420]

"HAMLET"

You are welcome, masters -  
mistresses - welcome, all!

While walking, approach a particular audience member:

"HAMLET"

I am glad to see thee well.

Spin around, embracing everyone: [INAnip09] both arms up conjure behest

"HAMLET"

Welcome, good friends!

Approach a bearded man (or just a man in the audience):

"HAMLET"

O old friend, why, thy face is  
valanced since I saw thee last!  
Comest thou to beard me at yonder  
shoe store?

Arrive at stage area, face and bow to owner of the store (who is wearing chopines or sitting on a single giant chopine!): Chopine Aura.

"HAMLET"

What, my young lady and mistress?  
By'r Lady, your ladyship is nearer  
to heaven than when I saw you last  
by the altitude of a chopine!

Chopine Aura begins to clear her throat.

"HAMLET"

Pray God your voice, like a piece  
of uncurrent gold, be not cracked  
within the ring...

[Cor II.iii.84]

Touch activate Voice Coriolanus Customary Gifts.  
(Pre-recorded sound file associated with Coriolanus statue.)

(CONTINUED)

"CORIOLANUS"

Pray you now, if it may stand with  
the tune of your voice that I may  
be consul, I have here the  
customary gifts.

"Hamlet" walks over to Coriolanus (Beatrice or a valiant  
gift-giving figure)

"HAMLET"

Come, give us a taste of your  
quality.

Turns around to face audience, beckon them over, quickly  
explains the statue is touch-for-free-gift. Clicks  
**Coriolanus Statue Gift Giver** a few times (text chat displays  
free gift giver).

"HAMLET"

Touch thy statue, and ye shall be  
bequeathed... with customary gifts!

Mozy about audience a bit, gathering them to statue gift  
giver.

"HAMLET"

Come, come. Touch, and ye shall  
have!

Silence of some minutes, as audience members figure out this  
interaction bit...

## CORE DRAMATICS

Meander back towards "centerstage", pensive, melancholy:

[Ham II.ii.295 shoe-ized]

"HAMLET"

I have of late - but wherefore I  
know not - lost all my shoes,  
forgone all custom of exercises.  
And indeed it goes so heavily with  
my disposition that this goodly  
frame the earth seems to me a  
sterile promontory.

**Eliza stigmata** pose

"HAMLET"

Alas, I HAVE NO SHOES!

"HAMLET"

Oh...

**INAnip bend down pick up left hand** by a giant chopine.

"HAMLET"

What a piece of work is a chopine,  
/ how noble in reason, how infinite  
in faculties, in form and moving  
how express and admirable, in  
action how like an angel, in  
apprehension how like a god: the  
beauty of the world, the paragon of  
all shoes! And yet to me what is  
this quintessence of dust? Shoes  
delight not me - nor chopines  
neither, though by your smiling you  
seem to say so.

**[INAnip] Head skywards arched neck arms spread:** spin around  
(or just try eliza stigmata again)

"HAMLET"

The most excellent canopy the air,  
look you, this brave o'erhanging  
firmament, this majestical roof  
fretted with marbled fire.

**Fog effect fills up the roof dome.**

(CONTINUED)

"HAMLET"

Why, it appeareth nothing to me  
than a foul and pestilent  
congregation of vapours.

Touch to activate **Miranda and Prospero Bootless Attentive**

"MIRANDA"

You have often / Begun to tell me  
what I am, but stopp'd / And left  
me to a / bootless inquisition, /  
Concluding 'Stay: not yet.'

"PROSPERO"

The hour's now come; / The very  
minute bids thee ope thine ear; /  
Obey and be attentive.

[AC V.ii]

"CHARMIAN"

Dissolve, thick cloud, and rain;  
that I may say, / The gods  
themselves do weep!

Touch to activate **Richard III Much Rain Wears the Marble**

[H4P3 III.ii]

"RICHARD III"

He plies her hard; and much rain  
wears the marble.

**Fog fades.**

[Ham II.ii.369]

"HAMLET"

Gentlemen - and lady's men - you  
are welcome to Chopine's!

**Promotional Stunt: Rain Gifts** A rain of gift cards fall from  
the sky. (They are buy original's, so audience folks can  
pick them up - with their hands!)

[Ham II.ii.370]

"HAMLET"

Your hands. Come then. The  
accessory of welcome is fashion and  
ceremony.

Now wearing a pair of chopines. [which?]

(CONTINUED)

Goes back to facing Chopine Aura:

"HAMLET"

Let me comply with you in this  
garb, allow you thy speech, lest my  
extent to the audience, which I  
tell you must show fairly outwards,  
should more appear like  
entertainment than yours.

Chopine Aura clears her throat again.

[Ham II.ii.420]

"HAMLET"

Now, we'll have a speech straight.  
Come, a passionate speech.

Bow with flourish, and Chopine Aura speaks:

## CHOPINE AURA SPEECH

CHOPINE

Greetings!

CHOPINE

Welcome to the Grand Opening of Chopine's - the culmination of over four month's worth of grueling, nerve-wrecking work!

CHOPINE

Though there have been times when I came close to just trashing everything, I am happy to say that we have finally arrived at this day - this heartwarming grand opening day of SL's first shoe store dedicated exclusively to historically-high-platform shoes - Chopine's!

CHOPINE

Chopine's is the evolution of the historical shoes branch of Wunderlich's - my historical clothing store, established in 2008. The store is built as a shoe shrine, and its main dish is the chopine - a thick, yet tapered platform shoe that has been around for hundreds of years - has been worn by thousands of high ladies, in history - and even rendered immortal in a brief reference by Hamlet (which you just heard in the Metaverse Shakespeare Company private performance).

CHOPINE

[history and such on chopine etc]

CHOPINE

Curiously, Chopine's is also of delight to women in Gorean roleplay - though high-heels are discouraged in Gor, because chopines are historical shoes actually worn by women in such settings.

CHOPINE

The store also features stilts and other modernizations of the concept of the chopine.

(CONTINUED)



CHOPINE  
[more chopine facts]

CHOPINE  
I think you'd have as much fun  
wearing chopines as I had in making  
and envisioning them. Welcome, once  
again, to my Grand Opening - for  
those who missed the free gift  
cards rain, grab a freebie!

MISC

[Well I.i.595] on endless freebies for all:

"KING OF FRANCE"

The gift doth stretch itself as  
'tis received, / And is enough for  
all!