

THE LAST WIFE

By KATE HENNIG

Directed by CHERISSA RICHARDS

PRODUCTION DATES:

Rehearsals Begin	March 2, 2026
First Preview Performance	March 25, 2026
Opening Performance	March 26, 2026
Closing Performance	April 18, 2026

IN-PERSON AUDITIONS:

May 12-13, 2025

Callbacks TBA

Additional Info:

- All applications should include both a headshot and resume.
- Audition materials will be made available to those Artists selected to audition. Scripts are available to read on-site at Royal MTC's John Hirsch Mainstage (174 Market Avenue) during Box Office hours.
- Royal MTC is accepting applications from local Artists currently residing and able to work in Manitoba, and age 18+ as of March 2, 2026. Artists who cannot attend an in-person audition in Winnipeg may request to submit a self-tape.
- The Youth role of EDDIE will be auditioned in Fall 2025. Please check our website for updates: www.royalmtc.ca/Artists/Auditions.aspx
- While we thank all those who apply, only those selected to audition will be contacted.

To Apply:

Please proceed to our Online Audition Portal at

<https://royalmtc.ca/Artists/Auditions.aspx>

Applications received until: April 27, 2025 (11:59pm)

PRODUCTION NOTES (from the Playwright):

“This is an imagining of history. Oh yes, it is based on actual people and events, and though portions of it are deliciously accurate, some may offend the historically concise among you, while still others are completely and utterly fabricated. What I am deeply interested in is the humanity of these iconic historical characters. This is a contemporary play. This is a domestic play. No historical costuming or accents required. This is Kate's story.”

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

Please note: The Youth role of EDDIE will be auditioned in Fall 2025. Please check our website for updates: www.royalmtc.ca/Artists/Auditions.aspx

KATE (she/her, any ethnicity, plays early 30s)

Intelligent, politically astute, and fiercely independent, Kate is Henry's last wife. She is deeply in love with Thom but accepts marriage to the king for survival, position and influence. A skilled negotiator, she balances personal ambition with genuine concern for the future of England and Henry's children; fighting especially for his daughter's place in the succession of the throne.

BESS (she/her, any ethnicity, plays 11-14 years old)**

Clever, strong-willed, and insightful, young Bess has an open and kind heart and is deeply influenced by Kate's guidance. She learns the art of politics and diplomacy from her stepmother, shaping the formidable queen she will one day become. Her resilience and wit make her a compelling presence, even as a child.

***The Artist cast for this role will be at least 18 years old as of March 2, 2026.*

MARY (she/her, any ethnicity, plays late 20s)

Serious, devout, and politically aware, Mary begins the play resenting her father for his cruelty. She is torn between loyalty to her mother's memory and fealty to her father, the King. She is wary of Kate but recognizes her intelligence. As the eldest child, she understands the instability of the Tudor court and is determined to protect her position and legacy.

HENRY (he/him, any ethnicity, plays 50s)

Aging, powerful, and mercurial, Henry is both a charismatic leader and a dangerously unpredictable ruler. He is drawn to Katherine's intellect and strength, yet his insecurity and need for control make their relationship volatile. He craves loyalty and love but often destroys those who challenge his authority.

THOM (he/him, any ethnicity, plays late 30s)

Charming, passionate, and ambitious, Thom is Kate's true love. He is reckless and sometimes selfish, but he genuinely cares for Kate and resents her marriage to Henry. His desire for power and status drives his decisions, making him both a romantic hero and a tragic figure.

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ABOUT ROYAL MTC:

Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre is proud to call Manitoba home, and is located in Winnipeg on Treaty 1, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Anishinew and Dakota people, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We are thankful for the benefits sharing this land has afforded us, acknowledge the responsibilities of the Treaties, and embrace the opportunity to partner with Indigenous communities in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

INCLUSIVE CASTING:

Royal MTC recognizes the importance of inclusivity in casting as part of our commitment to a safe, respectful, and inclusive ecology. For roles where identity characteristics are not prescribed, the Director will consider all Artists, without discrimination on any protected grounds.

CULTURAL INTEGRITY IN CASTING:

When casting culturally-specific roles, or roles requiring specific lived experience, MTC will make every effort to audition and engage Artists who identify as part of the applicable community.

ACCESSIBLE OPPORTUNITIES:

The audition, rehearsal, and performance spaces at the John Hirsch Mainstage are accessible via elevator/freight elevator. While the performance space at the Tom Hendry Warehouse is at ground level, the rehearsal space is accessed only via a flight of stairs.

SAFE AND RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE POLICY:

Royal MTC is committed to fostering a safe and respectful workplace, free from any form of hate, discrimination, or harassment, where every individual treats one another with dignity and respect.

QUESTIONS:

Please reach out to Leslie Watson, Company Manager, if you have any questions or other access needs.