Stage Combat Choreography for "Romeo and Juliet" at Greenwood Community Theatre, Greenwood, SC

Andrew Vorder Bruegge, Winthrop University
Sampson (rapier and buckler/dagger)  Abram (rapier)  Benvolio (rapier and dagger)  Tybalt (rapier and dagger)

Attack 7 and 6 (out of range) as preparation for Attack 2 and press forward

Parry 2 and retreat. Grabs Sampson’s R arm with off hand and slings Sampson behind him DSR.

Attack 1.  ❘❘❘❘❘❘❘❘

Parry 1.  ❘❘❘❘❘❘❘❘

Steps in and binds Sampson’s blade with quilllon and pushes Sampson’s blade up. Grabs Abram’s R hand and sword with L arm as he says, “Part, you fools . . .”

On “Have at thee . . .” he attacks 1 at Benvolio

Steps back one step

Steps back one step

Parry 1.  ❘❘❘❘❘❘❘❘

Close to corps-à-corps with Tybalt and circle CCW.

Trying to get around Tybalt and Benvolio to attack

Trying to get around Tybalt and Benvolio to attack

Circles CCW.

A Abram circling CW

Sampson circling CW
Sampson (rapier and buckler/dagger) Engages Abram SR with 4 digit cycle of attacks.

Abram (rapier) Engages Sampson SR with 4 digit cycle of attacks.

Benvolio (rapier and dagger) Retreats DSR and falls to the ground.

Tybalt (rapier and dagger) Knees Benvolio in groin.

Citizen #1 advances UC to Tybalt. Attack 7

Parry 7 with dagger.

Citizen #1 falls. Tybalt’s page moves DS in front of citizen #1 and head slams citizen #1 4 times.

Cut citizen #1 left knee

Turns and moves DSL to engage officer in 4 digit cycle of attacks
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sampson (rapier and buckler/dagger)</th>
<th>Abram (rapier)</th>
<th>Benvolio (rapier and dagger)</th>
<th>Tybalt) (rapier and dagger)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balthazar has come over from far SL. When Abram delivers his second high 5, Balthazar does a rear choke on Sampson and throws him CS, turning US to do that. Balthazar moves DSR of Abram.</td>
<td>Officer engages Tybalt in 4 digit cycle of attacks DLC.</td>
<td>Engages Officer in 4 digit cycle of attacks DLC.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sampson advances SR towards them with a moulinet over his head and attacks 9 at the two of them.</td>
<td>&lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt;</td>
<td>Both avoid 9. Abram attacks Sampson at 4, Balthazar attacks at 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parries both and advances past Abram and Balthazar to far SR.</td>
<td>&lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt;</td>
<td>A and B pass SL and turn to face Sampson.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feigns attack at Balthazar</td>
<td>&lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt; &lt;</td>
<td>Balthazar retreats. Abram attacks 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Romeo and Juliet**  Greenwood Community Theatre  February-March 2010  Act I, Scene 1

**Sampson**
(rapier and buckler/dagger)

Parries 1 with dagger, then steps in and pommels Abram with sword.

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Spins CCW and attacks High 5 at Balthazar

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Balthazar parries 5. Pushes Sampson with foot to stomach.

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Falls SR

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**Gregory (rapier and buckler/dagger)**

Running Attack 4. ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶

Has run past Balthazar. Turns to face Balthazar. Attack 8 wildly three times.

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Retreats and falls backwards. ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀

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Parry with buckler/dagger. ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀

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Roll to left and stand up. ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀

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Parry low 5 with sword and buckler/dagger. ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀

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Attack 4. ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶

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**Balthazar (rapier)**

Retreat, void L and draw weapon.

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Void 8 three times.

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Grabs the hilt of his weapon with both hands and pommels Gregory on his head

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Attack high 5

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Attack high 7.

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Attack low 5.

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Retreat and parry 4.

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Gregory (rapier and buckler/dagger)

Parry 1.

Attack 2

Attack 7.

Retreat and parry 3.

Gregory collapses to knees

Gregory collapses flat on floor

Balthazar (rapier)

Attack 1.

Parry 2.

Void 7.

Attack 3

Officer (armed with sword) and two citizens (armed with staffs) enter from DL. Officer and citizen #2 move towards Balthazar and Gregory. Citizen #2 beats Balthazar’s sword down with staff and pins him at the neck against the proscenium arch SL. Officer punches Gregory with left fist.

Officer shoves Gregory’s head down so that Gregory is now on all fours. Officer kicks Gregory in stomach.
Gregory (rapier and buckler/dagger)

Tybalt’s page moves to Citizen #1 and head bangs Citizen #1 5 times. Tybalt’s page then moves to help Gregory.

Balthazar (rapier)

Abram’s page crosses SL and kicks citizen #2 in back of left leg. Citizen #2 attacks Abram’s page straight US at L with 6, 7, and 8. Abram’s page retreats on each attack, then bites Citizen #2 in left arm. Abram’s page moves DL and taunts citizen #2. Citizen #2 eventually moves UC to assist citizen #1.

Balthazar crosses SR to assist Abram against Sampson.
Tybalt (rapier and dagger)

Draws sword to high guard on “Ala staccata”

Takes blade in L hand and bows on “…will you walk?”

Circles Tybalt CCW on “King of Cats” speech.

Attack 8 on “ere it be out” and returns to high guard.

Mercutio (rapier)

Circles CW

Circles CW

Romeo (rapier and dagger)

Dancing around behind Mercutio on “Gentle Mercutio… “ speech.
Tybalt (rapier and dagger)

Attack 4

Parry 5

Lock hilts up and high. He grips Mercutio’s sword wrist with off hand circling CCW.

Holds off hand out behind him.

A Capulet puts a dagger in his off hand.

Attack 3 with dagger, stabbing Mercutio in stomach.

Retreats with dagger, and then exits.

Mercutio (rapier)

Spin CCW on step to L

Attack high 5

Pinches Tybalt’s nose with off hand, circling CCW.

Romeo (rapier and dagger)

On “Good Mercutio!” he steps to L side of Mercutio and grasps his off hand away from Tybalt’s nose. He is between Tybalt and Mercutio, facing Mercutio.

“I am hurt.” Falls backwards after the line. Romeo kneels down with him. Benvolio takes up Mercutio’s sword.
Tybalt (rapier and dagger)

On “Thou wretched boy . . .” grabs Romeo’s wrists. They circle CW. He throws Romeo’s hands off on “. . . with him hence” and draws sword to reverse guard.

Attack 3 and presses into CW circle run 180 degrees

Spins CCW away from Romeo

Retreat SL

Circle CW 180 degrees

Feign attack 2

Feign attack low 5

Retreat one step

Romeo (rapier and dagger)

On “Either thou or I . . .” he leaps at Tybalt to strangle him

On “This shall determine that” draws sword into outside guard.

Parry 3 and circle run CW 180 degrees.

Croisé Tybalt’s sword up

Attack 9 at retreating Tybalt

Circle CW 180 degrees

Retreat one step

Attack 8 (out of range) as a preparation for Attack 7.
Tybalt (rapier and dagger)

\[\text{Attack 4.}\]

Grabs forte of Romeo’s blade

With off hand and pommels Romeo in L ribcage.

(Now with case of rapiers) Circle CW

Attack 1-2-4-3 stepping forward each time.

Void 7 and rolls upstage into alcove.

Attack 10 from ground, then stands up

Romeo (rapier and dagger)

\[\text{Parry 4.}\]

\[\text{Attempt high 5 attack}\]

\[\text{Pushes at Tybalt’s face with left hand}\]

Releases his sword and retreats backwards SL. Montagues help him stand up. Benvolio gives him Mercutio’s sword. Romeo draws his own dagger in off hand. Circles CW

\[\text{Parry 1-2-4 alternately with dagger and sword, retreating. Envelopes last attack to 3.}\]

\[\text{Attack 6.}\]

\[\text{Pursues Tybalt upstage}\]

\[\text{Voids 10 and retreat 2 steps DS}\]
Tybalt (rapier and dagger)

Parry 5. ▼

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Bind Romeo’s blade with R hand weapon and move to corps-à-corps circling DS. Disengages L hand weapon and attacks 1 with L hand.

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Staggers, spreads weapons out to sides. Leans onto Romeo.

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Falls backwards SL

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Romeo (rapier and dagger)

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attacks high 5

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Parry 1 with dagger.

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Attack 1 with sword—penetrating Tybalt’s torso on upstage side

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Pushes Tybalt away from him.

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**Romeo (Mattock and dagger)**

(Kneeling on left knee at tomb; mattock in L hand, business end down.)

On “Then have at thee, boy.” Turn over L should; beat sword with mattock.

Parry 5 with mattock, croisé to the left

Thrust butt of mattock to Paris’ stomach

Drop mattock to left. Jump on top of Paris

Disarms Paris.

Stabs Paris.

**Paris (rapier)**

Approaches Romeo from rear and extends sword arm to point sword at back of Romeo on “Stop thy unhallowed toil, Montague.”

Attack high 5

Falls backwards and releases sword.

Both barrel roll to Paris’ left.

Draws Romeo’s dagger.

“O, I am slain . . .”