Script and Word list

I am your wife
if you will marry me

[The Tempest]
Kristina Blackwell as Miranda

The make-up box
The lamps are lit. A heart drawn on a piece of paper stuck on the mirror.
Seashells in a small basket on the table. Kristina enters and sits down by the mirror. Closeup. Kristina’s face in the mirror.

KRISTINA (voice over)
Theatre to me is a place where you can take huge risks as a performer. It forces you to be spontaneous and be in the moment.
Miranda is a princess living with her father on a small island. Suddenly a storm brings a ship to her island. Miranda meets Ferdinand and she’s struck by love.

On a beach:
The sea, the waves, the sky, walking barefoot in the sand.

On the pub:
Kristina walking barefoot into the pub. She is carrying her shoes in her hand. She puts down the shoes.

KRISTINA (in picture)
Miranda is a girl who’s lived on this island for at least twelve years. So we’ve got to keep in mind she hasn’t had this sort of social constraints that she might have done and she’s very much in connection with nature, with the earth and she’s probably had to be very independent, help her father build somewhere they can stay, cook, fend for herself.

spontaneous – spontan
constraints - tvång
fend for oneself – klara sig själv
On a beach:  
The sea, the waves, the sky, walking barefoot in the sand. Kristina walking on the beach, picking seashells.

KRISTINA (voice over)  
Miranda is swept away by love and she doesn’t care what people say. She wants Ferdinand and she’s not afraid to show her feelings. Miranda explains to Ferdinand that she has never seen any other woman than herself in the mirror.  
I do not know  
One of my sex, no woman’s face remember —  
Save, from my glass, mine own.

Shakespeare depicts Miranda as a strong, young woman, although at the same time a bit absentminded as people sometimes are when they are in love.

On the beach: Kristina draws a heart in the sand.

KRISTINA (voice over)  
I think she is very brave. She dares to say: I am your wife if you will marry me.  
And she asks the bravest question of all: Do you love me?

Rehearsal and preparation  
Relaxed atmosphere – warming up the voice, warming up the body, two actors reading with script in hand, one trying out how to put a chair on the stage, eyes reading to oneself, repeating certain lines, quiet preparation.  
Kristina and Chris rehearsing. The Actor preparing to go on stage. Walking, Warming up, Reading. Chris by the logs.

KRISTINA (voice over)  
Shakespeare is and was a fantastic playwright. He wrote brilliantly for both men and women. And he has a very strong understanding of the human emotions. He knew how people felt and why they felt the way they felt. And the way he uses vowels and consonants sort of highlights the whole idea of where they’re being open and emotional and where are they being quite cutting and aggressive with the language.
And I kind of view it as a piece of music. You’ve got the beats and you’ve got the quavers and you’ve got the rests and you can’t cheat the language and you can’t skip those moments. ‘Cause otherwise the meaning is lost.

**On the pub:**

KRISTINA (in picture)
When I play Miranda I want the audience to feel that sense of liberation and freedom in saying what you want and how you want it. No ego, no pride. These are my feelings, take it or leave it.

**On the pub:** Kristina walking barefoot out of the pub

KRISTINA (voice over)
When Miranda enters the stage Ferdinand is already there. Miranda’s father has put him to work. Miranda prepares to tell Ferdinand about how she feels.
Act 3, scene 1, [The Tempest]

/Sound of tropic atmosphere, the sea not far away, Ferdinand working with some logs/

MIRANDA
I do not know
One of my sex, no woman’s face remember,
Save, from my glass, mine own. Nor have I seen
More that I may call men than you, good friend,
And my dear father. How features are abroad
I am skill- less of, but, by my modesty, —
The jewel in my dower, — I would not wish
Any companion in the world but you,
Nor can imagination form a shape
Besides yourself, to like of. But I prattle
Something too wildly, and my father’s precepts
I therein do forget.

FERDINAND
I am in my condition,
A prince, Miranda, I do think, a king —
I would, not so! —and would no more endure
This wooden slavery than to suffer
The flesh-fly blow my mouth. Hear my soul speak:
The very instant that I saw you, did
My soul fly to your service, there resides
To make me slave to it, and for your sake
Am I this patient log-man.

MIRANDA
Do you love me?

FERDINAND
O heaven, O earth, bear witness to this sound,
And crown what I profess with kind event,
If I speak true! If hollowly, invert
What best is boded me to mischief! I,
Beyond all limit of what else i’ th’ world
Do love, prize, honor you.

MIRANDA
I am a fool
To weep at what I am glad of.

FERDINAND
Wherefore weep you?

MIRANDA
At mine unworthiness, that dare not offer
What I desire to give, and much less take
What I shall die to want. But this is trifling,
And all the more it seeks to hide itself
The bigger bulk it shows. Hence, bashful cunning!
And prompt me, plain and holy innocence!
I am your wife, if you will marry me.
If not, I’ll die your maid. To be your fellow
You may deny me, but I’ll be your servant
Whether you will or no.

FERDINAND /bowing/
My mistress, dearest, and I thus humble ever.

MIRANDA
My husband, then?

FERDINAND
Ay, with a heart as willing
As bondage e’er of freedom. Here’s my hand.

MIRANDA /taking his hand and giving him hers – we try with both hands and one each/
And mine, with my heart in ’t.

Kristina and Chris stay on stage, looking at each other, quiet, smiling