Spring 2006

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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FIU THEATRE 2006/2007
Titles subject to change

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Call 305-348-3789 For tickets and information

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Call Reuben Pereia 786-473-1764 or Phillip M. Church, Advisor, FIU Student Film Club at 305-348-3358

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival
XXXVIII
Presented and Produced by
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Supported in Part by
The U.S. Department of Education
Dr. and Mrs. Gerald McNichols
The Laura Pels International Foundation
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund
The National Committee for the Performing Arts.

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PLAYBILL

FIU THEATRE
in association with
Roxy Theater Group, Wolfe University Center
FIU Student Government Association
Mack Cycle & SKANSKA
presents
William Shakespeare’s
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM

Directed by Phillip M. Church
Dramaturgy-Marilyn R. Skow, Assistant Director-Danny Suarez
Costumes-Marina Pareja, Lighting-Arnold Bueso, Choreography-James Hipps
Video-Anton Church, Graphics-Haig Durant, Photography-Stephen Neal
A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Great fiction is deemed great because it contains, not one central theme but many accompanying issues with which the reader can identify. The same is true of theatre literature and none standing so eminent in greatness as Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”. The dramatic plot is peppered with confounding twists and turns as the characters are swept from reason and rationality to a comical state of bewildered irrationality. However, in an attempt to bring the play closer to the relevancy of today’s disturbing weather patterns and burgeoning urban landscapes this production has chosen to explore the importance of “balance” in life, both the spiritual and temporal incarnations.

As with nature itself, our own lives are affected by the imbalance brought about by a sense of loss. A great deal of loss is experienced in the play; Egeus loses his daughter Hermia, Demetrius loses Helena, Hermia loses Lysander, the Mechanicals lose Bottom, Theseus loses the trust of Hippolyta who, early in the play, has reason to doubt her decision to marry a seemingly egocentric State Attorney, and Oberon loses Titania in the conflict over child-custody. The balance of Yin and Yang in a relationship plays a far more critical role in our personal wellbeing than any solitary relationship we can have with ourselves. “No man is an island” and it would seem that we have been put together, not only for our own personal survival but to help others survive the same conditions. Outward perceptions and the opinion of others still matter more than the opinions we hold about our own self. As much as one would like to argue the point and depend solely on our own self-evaluation we crave an “other” to help confirm who we are.

The play begins with the imbalance of nature, caused by a domestic war between the super powers of nature, Oberon and Titania. They command the world of natural forces. Ironically, they also mirror human behavior, and, prompted by their inability to compromise over the custody of the Indian child, Titania condemns in her famous speech outlining the tragic destruction taking place on earth that, “We are their parents and originals.” It is as if she is telling us today that by our insatiable need to possess more land and create more industry and use more energy the imbalance of nature has resulted in the chaos of altered seasons that we have only just begun to experience. The center cannot hold. The balance of things cannot be maintained. Yet everything is happily resolved in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”... or is it? Political and social balance are seemingly restored between family, friends and lovers, and Shakespeare sends us out into the world, reassured that things that seem chaotic and contrary can be restored to harmony. Only Puck, that indefatigable force of energy, reminds us that perhaps our idea of balance and harmony was, after all, nothing more than a dream….during a midsummer’s night.

—Phillip M. Church

SPECIAL THANKS!

Richard Pabon, Elizabeth Marsh, Broadcast Video
Ivan Hernandez, Red Bull
Haig Durant, Ivan Santiago, Codic Sexton, UTS
Celso Pereira
Geordan Gottlieb
Peggy Exhume
Frank Lapore, National Hurricane Center
Michael Stewart
Ulysses and Roxy Staffers
and Marianna Murray for her constant vigilance and care in all departmental matters.

A Midsummer Night’s Dream
by William Shakespeare
Directed by Phillip M. Church
Assistant Director Danny Suarez  Dramaturgy Marilyn R. Skow
Costumes by Marina Pareja  Lighting by Arnold Bueso
Choreography by James Hipps  Video Production Anton Church
Photography by Stephen Neal

CAST

Egeus....................PAUL PEREZ  Snugita..................ASHLEY CAPO
Hermia..................ASHLEY ALVAREZ  Theseus.................HESS WESLEY
Helena..................BRIGITTE CANALES  Hippolyta.............MELISSA HUBICSAK
Demetrius..............JOSE URBINO  Oberon ....................KRIS CARDENAS
Lysander...............RYAN RODRIGUEZ  Titania.................DANABELLE DENIS
Nick Bottom............JUAN ESPINOZA  Puck .......................JOSHUA DOBARGANES
Peter Quince............DANNY SUAREZ  Wind........LAURETTA NAVARRO-WATTS
Tom Snout..............TILSON RODRIGUEZ  Fire.................MELISSA HUBICSAK
Robin Starveling.........VAUGHN JOHNSON  Earth ............AMY GONZALEZ
Frances Flute...........JADE GOODRIDGE  Water ............JULYA BAER

The action takes place somewhere between a culturally diverse city and a vortex of nature.

PRODUCTION STAFF

EMMA SAVAIN.................................Stage Manager
SARAH MALTBE..............................Assistant Stage Manager
MATTHEW MUR..............................Costume Head
PEDRO MIR.................................Light Board Operator
CHRIS CLARK..............................Sound Board Operator
JENELLE KELTZ............................. Projectionist
LINA ESCOBAR..............................Costume Construction
MABEL MIR.................................Costume Construction
RYAN RODRIGUEZ.........................Costume Construction
MATTHEW MUR.............................Costume Construction
STEPHEN NEAL............................Business Manager
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