



BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

2.21.25 - 3.2.25

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE CHAIR



I reread the “chair’s note” from my first year two years ago; it focused on the idea of newness as I embraced all that being a first-time Chair meant. Two years later, newness is again the watchword of the moment as the Department embraces some fairly significant, impactful, and exciting changes!

After three years of planning, and anticipation, I am thrilled to share that we have joined forces with our colleagues in the former Division of Dance to become the Department of Theatre and Dance! We have a long history of collaboration with Dance: Theatre students have composed original music, designed lights, and stage managed for the Winter and Spring Dance Works concerts since well before I started here in 2004. Coming together as one unit is an exciting evolution of the connections that have always been there, and I can’t express how excited I am to see it happening.

We are trying some new things on stage this year, too. Continuing our tradition of bringing more contemporary plays by women playwrights and playwrights of color, we open our season with Sarah Ruhl’s *Dead Man’s Cell Phone* and close it with Branden Jacobs-Jenkins’s *Gloria*, both in the Mallett Theatre. With *Mary Shelley Presents: Frankenstein*, a brand-new, Purdue adaptation of the classic novel, we explore what it means to create and participate in an experiential, theatrical exploration of story and form. And our presentation of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* will feature our graduate acting cohort in their terminal projects in a way you may not have seen before, as they explore both unexpected casting and participating in the directorial process.

Innovation and exploration is embedded deeply in our DNA. The students you will see today (and some you won’t see, whose work has made this experience possible) are practicing their craft, applying new skills, and exploring new modalities and forms. This is risky: both for them, and for you because you won’t always know what you will get! I am thankful that you have chosen to share your time with us, to be such an integral part of this exploration. We couldn’t do it without you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich Dionne'.

Rich Dionne - Chair

February 21 - March 2, 2025 | Nancy T. Hansen Theatre
Yue-Kong Pao Hall of Visual and Performing Arts

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DIRECTED BY
Anne Marie Damman

CHOREOGRAPHY BY
Vivian Kim

SCENIC DESIGNER
Rozy Isquith

COSTUME DESIGNER
Emily Rosolowski

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Nina Pebeahsy

SOUND DESIGNER
Jacob Clouse

COMPOSED BY
Jacob Clouse

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Ellen McLean

STAGE MANAGER
Morgan Grabczak

ANIMATRONICS DESIGNER
Phoebe Petsalis

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Video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

It feels a little strange writing a “director’s note” for this show, as it has been an ensemble work, from start to finish, by design. While this idea seems very new, it is historically based, and accurate to the period. Shakespeare didn’t have directors—the actors helped each other find what works—and that is what we have done here. Ultimately, it means that the characters, the beautiful a Capella songs, and most of the funny bits you see here today are not my work at all, but those of the students you are watching!

I also had the help of an incredible team behind the scenes. This production is the terminal project for our current group of MFA Acting students, and they are serving as both actors in the show, and as my assistant directors. This is the first time we’ve tried anything quite like this, and from my point of view, it has been a roaring success.

Midsummer is one of Shakespeare’s best-known and most-beloved comedies, but we wanted to bring a fresh perspective to it, while remaining true to the text. And so, we cordially welcome you to Midsummer Fest, a modern music festival, sponsored by Athens Corp. This concept worked very easily with Shakespeare’s divided world: the powerful lords in Athens, the “rude mechanicals” working in the city, the lovers trying to escape the control of their parents, and the fairies showing the power and magic of the natural world. By setting our *Midsummer* at a music festival, we were also able to send a little more love to the many people who you rarely see—the designers, technicians, and staff who bring shows like this to life. You’ll note that our Mechanicals are all based on backstage jobs, from costumes to security. If they happen to resemble people you know, so much the better!

The main question I posed to the cast is “What is love?” In a show that deals with many kinds of love, from friendship to romance, and from arranged marriages to a spoof of *Romeo and Juliet*, they each found their own answer, and we hope you find yours. After all, in a world that can often seem dark and bleak, it is the people we love who bring us back to the light.

Enjoy the festival!

Anne Marie Damman, Director

CAST

Helena	Maggie Hinckley
Hermia	Juanita Mejia Restrepo
Lysander	Zhong Wang
Demetrius	Donovan Hibbeln
Oberon	Cecelia Jaskel
Titania	Sophia Paulino Adames
Puck	Jaime Collaco
Bottom	Jack Fulkerson
Hippolyta	Nayantara Nair
Theseus	Syd Coe
Egeus	Lillian Roberts
Philostrate	Nick Stromberg
Peter Quince	Henry Ulrich
Flute	Elizabeth Zerfas
Snout	Eilam Deinard
Snug	Josie McIntyre
Starveling	Margaret Gaughan
Peaseblossom	Madelyn Thomas
Cobweb	Margaret Gholdson
Mustardseed	Sydney Studer
Moth	Negha Sethuramalingam
U/S Helena, Hermia	Eleni Rappa
U/S Lysander, Demetrius	Ryan Gormaly
U/S Oberon, Moth	Amelia Bailey
U/S Titania, Hippolyta	Remmi Lett
U/S Puck	Marina Perez
U/S Bottom, Snout, Snug	Elli Jones
U/S Theseus	Evan Peterson
U/S Egeus, Philostrate	Gabriel Figueiredo Barbosa
U/S Peter Quince, Flute, Starveling	Jaylin Murray

RUNTIME: 2 hours + Intermission

CONTENT DISCLOSURES: Flashing lights, theatrical haze

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCER

Rich Dionne

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Lucy Yahr

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

Jaime Collaco

Jack Fulkerson

Maggie Hinckley

Cecelia Jaskel

Juanita Mejia Restrepo

Sophia Paulino Adames

Zhong Wang

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

Amelia Gardner

Ava Moreno

PRODUCTION

ASSISTANTS

Hannah Barsoum

Ethan Betances

Sara Kestenbaum

SCENIC CONSTRUCTION

SUPERVISOR

Vince Lobello

ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER

Rachel Kossler

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Alexander Myers

TECHNICAL DESIGNERS

Clare Hilton

Heather Mello

DECK CARPENTER

Biddy Moore

SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST

Jake Wood

HEAD OF PROPERTIES

Jiacheng Sun

SCENIC CONSTRUCTION CREW

Shlok Bairagi

Elle Bishop

Emily Bolen

Gwen Carey

Lucas Eversole

SCENIC CONSTRUCTION

CREW (CONT.)

Maddie Figganbaum

Adam Gillette

Ethan Gray

Sara Kestenbaum

Gemma Klisovic

Ziyue Kong

Sawyer Mariga

Abriana Martin

Ellen McLean

Emily Morelli

Ava Moreno

Alex Morris-Cass

John Nesler

Marina Perez

Andrew Reyes

Joe Sansone

Alaina Smith

Emily Vorng

Grace Weller

Kessid Wicker

Keegan Wright

PROPERTIES ASSISTANTS

Mary Cudworth

Ellen Rath

PAINT ASSISTANTS

Mary Cudworth

Alejandro Rodriguez, Jr

COSTUME SHOP MANAGER

Anthony Sirk

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER

Daniella Przyborski

HEAD OF WARDOBE

Anna Surine

WARDOBE CREW

Meggie Salvo

Raymen Spink

STITCHERS

Amelia Bailey

Rivers R. Blue

Margaret Gaughan

Phoebe Petsalis

Caitlin Williams

PRODUCTION TEAM

MAKEUP AND HAIR SUPERVISOR

Caitlin Williams

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Bree Kalina

PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN

Tatyanna Rodriguez

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION
ELECTRICIAN

Michael Murphy

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR

Aaron Schwartz

LIGHTING CREW

Sierra (Sisi) Clark

Ryan Forbes

Sara Kestenbaum

Decker Kress

Brayden Kuxhausen

Sawyer Mariga

Elijah Montanez

Lucas Nierzwicki

Lillie Recker

Allie Rice

Lillian Roberts

Ava Robinson

Georgia Robinson

Jacelyn Villinski

Elizabeth Zerfas

ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER

Andy Powell

PRODUCTION SOUND ENGINEER

Madilyn O'Neal

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION

SOUND ENGINEER

Drew Rogers

A1/PLAYBACK OPERATOR

Caleb Brohlin

STREAMING MIXER

Seager Johnson

ANIMATRONICS PRODUCTION
SUPERVISOR

Michael Meyer

ANIMATRONICS CREW

Taylor Brelage

Madolyn Case

Clare Hilton

Austin Lee

Jacob Levin

Phoebe Petsalis

Isaac Spencer

LIVE VIDEO PRODUCTION
SUPERVISOR

Bobby Chastain

LIVE VIDEO PRODUCTION CREW

Ashlynn Crider

Justin Dobbs

Jacob Faulstich

Greg Klein

Nicholas Koay

Yunzhong Li

Brayden McClellan

Noelle Medrano

Kaili Shan

Arushi Vankar

Matt Wuthrich

Yifan Zhang



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Department of Theatre and Dance

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