

Special Thanks

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HESSTON COLLEGE THEATRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

William Shakespeare's
**A Midsummer
Night's
Dream**

Directed by Laura Kraybill

Studio Theatre, Northlawn 109

Friday
MARCH 23 & 30
7 p.m.

Saturday
MARCH 24 & 31
7 p.m.

Sunday
APRIL 1
2 p.m.

Director's Note

Welcome to a world turned topsy-turvy! It is Midsummer Solstice, when fairies roam freely in the forest and anything can happen. The Duke of Athens is about to marry Hippolyta, his captured queen, and the parties have begun...

Though written in the late 16th century, Shakespeare's classic story of love and mistaken identities rings as true today as it did for its original audience. While it could be set in any time or culture, its themes of magic, love and drug-induced illusions seem particularly suited to the 1970s. And so our story takes place in an imagined Athens of the 70s, replete with hippies, disco dancers and glam rock stars.

We meet an array of characters chasing after love or acceptance: The young lovers, whose amorous desires are dashed by angry parents and unrequited love, an amateur acting troupe seeking a break in their acting careers, the queen and king of the fairies, whose love is torn apart by jealousy, and the Duke of Athens and his bride, who just want to make it to their nuptial bed.

Each of these groups must first lose themselves in the Athenian forest in order to find their true way. The shenanigans that occur in the forest show the fairies "what fools these mortals be" and reveal how even fairies can be tricked into falling in love with donkeys. Ultimately, we discover along with the characters, what fools we will be for love and how that love blinds us.

In Shakespeare's day all roles would have been played by males. In keeping with the gender non-conformity of both the original production and the 1970s culture, we have also allowed identities to be crossed in many variations.

We invite you to enter this psychedelic ride of mishaps and passions gone awry. May you be transported to new heights of imagination and jollity!

-Laura Kraybill

Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, and watches during the show.

Texting and photography during the show are prohibited.

Setting

The story takes places in three locations: The Duke's palace, Quince's house and the Forest.

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

Cast (In order of appearance)

Theseus/Oberon

Hippolyta

Royal Attendants

Philostrate

Egeus/Quince

Demetrius

Hermia

Lysander

Helena

Snout

Snug

Starveling

Flute

Bottom

Puck

Mustardseed

Mote

Peaseblossom

Cobweb

Titania

Cameron Ponce

Chandler Haury

Sarah Looboonkraingkrai, Emerencia Dudas

Emmali Lapp

Jim Yoder

David Rudy

Alanah Rempel

Robert Howell

Bonita Garber

Emmali Lapp

Libby Waltner

Emerencia Dudas

Nathan Bray

Rachel Jantzi

Michele Hershberger

Rachelle Hanna

Grace Yoder

Kate Steury

Ashley Hager

Kirstie Mattos

Crew

Assistant Director/Choreographer

Technical Director/Set Builder

Scenic Artist

Set Design

Stage Manager

Assistant Stage Manager

Costume Design

Assistant Costume Design

Light Design

Sound Board Operator

Properties Manager

Make-up Design

Make-up Crew

Rachel Jantzi

Doug Peters

Alberto Martinez

Doug Peters and Laura Kraybill

Deni Brummer

Kayla Kuhns

Sarah Looboonkraingkrai

Libby Waltner

Isaac Tice

Victoria Gunawan

Chandler Haury

Rachel Brown

Tori Wheeler