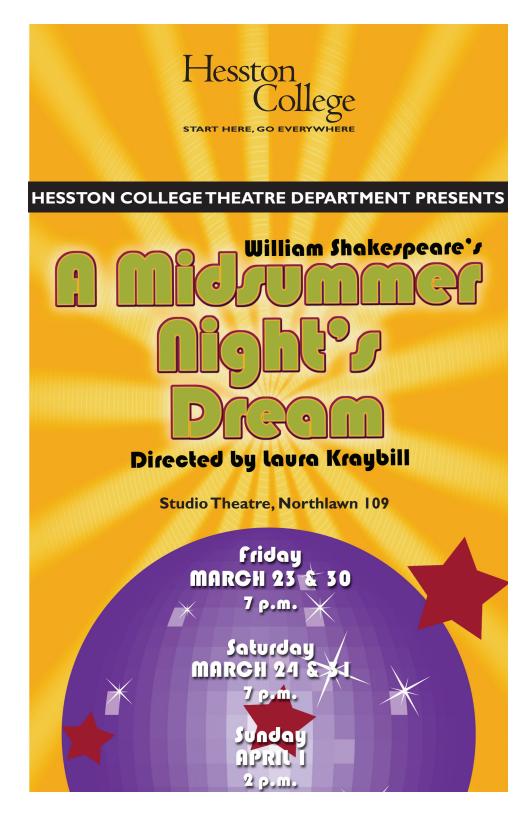
Special Thanks

Megan Tyner, Adam Akers and Bethel College Theatre Department, Judy Harder and Tabor College, Bob Beitler and Hesston High School, Jan Diller, Carson Stutzman, Amy Waltner and Scott Jantzi, Gary Oyer, Verlene Garber, Jan Diller, Pam Weaver and the Hesston College Bookstore.

All music used under license



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 Cameron Ponce Hippolyta Chandler Haury

Royal Attendants Sarah Looboonkraingkrai, Emerencia Dudas

Emmali Lapp

Philostrate Emmali Lapp
Egeus/Quince Jim Yoder
Demetrius David Rudy
Hermia Alanah Rempel
Lysander Robert Howell
Helena Bonita Garber

Snug Libby Waltner
Starveling Emerencia Dudas

Flute Nathan Bray
Bottom Rachel Jantzi

Puck Michele Hershberger

Mustardseed Rachelle Hanna

Mote Grace Yoder

Peaseblossom Kate Steury

Cobweb Ashley Hager

Titania Kirstie Mattos

Crew

Snout

Assistant Director/Choreographer Rachel Jantzi
Technical Director/Set Builder Doug Peters

Scenic Artist Alberto Martinez

Set Design Doug Peters and Laura Kraybill

Stage Manager Deni Brummer
Assistant Stage Manager Kayla Kuhns

Costume Design Sarah Looboonkraingkrai

Assistant Costume Design Libby Waltner Light Design Isaac Tice

Sound Board Operator Victoria Gunawan
Properties Manager Chandler Haury
Make-up Design Rachel Brown
Make-up Crew Tori Wheeler