



# A Midsummer Night's Dream

A comedy by William Shakespeare presented by Catherine McAuley College Bendigo

THURSDAY 5 & FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER 2024 | MARIAN THEATRE BENDIGO

Catherine McAuley College Bendigo | A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd. | ABN 69 154 531 870





# Welcome

Welcome to the 2024 College Play – Shakespeare’s **A Midsummer Night’s Dream**! We are thrilled to present this timeless classic as a highlight of our performing arts calendar. This play offers an extraordinary opportunity for our students to showcase their talents in a fully staged performance, and we are proud of the many ways they contribute, whether in acting, backstage and technical work, makeup, promotion and front-of-house.

A heartfelt thank you and congratulations go to the students and staff from Years 7 to 12 for your unwavering dedication, hard work and creativity in bringing this play to life. We also extend our deepest gratitude to the families who have supported the additional commitments necessary to make this production a success. We were especially excited to welcome guests from our iGEN program to the matinee performance - a wonderful addition to our audience!

Enjoy the show and thank you for being part of this very special experience.

**Mr Frank Dullard, Acting Principal**

## A Word from the Director

A fantastic year for the arts finishes on a high with this innovative performance of William Shakespeare’s **A Midsummer Night’s Dream** in the Marian Theatre.

One of Shakespeare’s best-known plays, this timeless comedy brings to life a world of enchanted forests, mischievous fairies, and the tangled tales of love and magic. Mistaken identities, incorrect spells and hilarious misunderstandings unfold.

Over fifty students have worked hard for months in various capacities, including performing, backstage crew, band, hair and make-up and publicity. On stage are students in their third consecutive show with the College, giving them an opportunity to expand their experience and support the many students taking part for the first time.

While you the audience enjoy the show, the cast and crew have developed lifelong memories, new and strengthened friendships and a sense of achievement, as well as a bit of magic in their hearts.

**Mr Austin Deppeler, Director**



Mr Austin Deppeler  
Director



Ms Deborah Ross  
Musical Director



Ms Nicole Cilauro  
Producer



# From the Musical Director

Welcome to the magic of the Bard, William Shakespeare.

Including music to accompany the visual, non-verbal language of gesture and emotion adds another layer of meaning to **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. The early modern English has its own music, using timing and rhythmic syllable placement. Our students have done an incredible job, not only in learning these lines, but also working on their musical delivery to help the audience follow the plot.

Mendelssohn has famously written a 'soundtrack' to the play, and we have brought together our own pastiche of music, old and new, to underpin this story of dreams and fantasy, with a bit of chaos and the absurd along the way.

The 'Midsummer' band brings together a community of current students, alumni and staff musicians in our mini orchestra pit. This intergenerational music-making adds valuable experiential learning to the College's Music program.

**Ms Deborah Ross, Musical Director**

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

### Overview

**Act I Scene I** – Athens. The Palace of Theseus.

**Act I Scene II** – Athens. Quince's house.

**Act II Scene I** – A wood near Athens.

**Act II Scene II** – Another part of the woods.

#### INTERVAL

**Act III Scene I** – The wood. Titania asleep.

**Act III Scene II** – Another part of the woods.

#### INTERVAL

**Act IV Scene I** – The wood.

Lysander, Demetrius, Helena and Hermia lying asleep.

**Act IV Scene II** – Athens. Quince's house.

**Act V Scene I** – Athens. The Palace of Theseus.



## Synopsis

Overbearing elders cause four young Athenians to escape to the nearby forest, where they become entangled in the schemes of another overbearing elder, this time the magical king of the fairy folk. To confuse matters further, a troupe of amateur actors find themselves in the middle of the fracas. Somehow all is brought to rights, the right couples marry and even the amateur play is a success!

### Act I

As Theseus, Duke of Athens, prepares for his marriage to Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, he is interrupted by a courtier, Egeus. Egeus has chosen the gentleman Demetrius as a husband for his daughter Hermia. However Hermia is in love with Lysander. Theseus orders her to obey her father, or else become a nun in the temple of Diana.

Naturally upset with this, Lysander and Hermia plan to elope that night. They share their secret with Hermia's friend Helena, who is desperately in love with Demetrius. However Demetrius wants the promised Hermia.



In the dark woods outside Athens, Lysander and Hermia are soon hopelessly lost. Demetrius, seeking Hermia, follows but gets lost as well. Helena follows Demetrius and she too gets lost. They are deep in the realm of the fairy folk.

Meanwhile, a group of working men are preparing a play to present before the Duke and his new bride. They have unwisely chosen the tragedy *Pyramus and Thisbe*. Nick Bottom, the weaver, demands to play *Pyramus*, while Flute, the bellows-mender, begrudgingly agrees to play his lover *Thisbe*.

## Act II

Elsewhere in the forest, Oberon, magical king of the fairy folk, wants to spite his queen, Titania. She has refused to give him an Indian child gifted to her, so Oberon calls on Puck, his powerful but slow-witted sprite. Puck gathers a purple flower whose juice causes those touched with it to fall in love with the first thing they see.

Oberon overhears Helena and Demetrius arguing in the forest. It would be fun to meddle in their affairs, thinks Oberon, so he orders Puck to anoint Demetrius. Puck gets it wrong and anoints Lysander... when he wakes to see Helena he falls for her! Oberon does the job properly, but now both Lysander and Demetrius are in love with Helena.

## Act III

The workers' rehearsals in the wood are overheard by Puck, who plays a trick on them by giving Bottom an ass's head. The workers flee in terror, but Bottom is lured towards the sleeping Titania. Oberon has put the magic juice on her... she wakes to see Bottom as an ass, and falls in love with him.

Meanwhile, Demetrius and Lysander are pursuing Helena. Helena is furious at what she takes as mockery. Hermia is jealous and confused about the lack of attention paid to her. Oberon and Puck enjoy the chaos, then Oberon commands Puck to put all to right again. The lovers' arguments have tired them out as they have chased one another through the woods. Exhausted, they fall asleep. Puck places a restorative juice on Lysander.



## Act IV

After a wonderful pampering by Titania's fairies, Bottom falls asleep beside her. Oberon restores Titania's sight and wakes her. After expressing her dismay at the sight of Bottom, she reconciles with Oberon and agrees to give him the little Indian prince for his page.

Bottom is restored and he rejoins his friends as they prepare their performance. The lovers are woken: Lysander sees Hermia and falls in love with her once again.

## Act V

Lysander is back with Hermia and Helena accepts that Demetrius is truly devoted to her. They agree to share the Duke's wedding day. The workers' play, 'Pyramus and Thisbe' is presented to acclaim before all the wedding guests. As the three couples retire to bed, Puck and the fairy folk return to bless the palace, its people, and you, gentle audience.

# Cast

## ATHENIANS



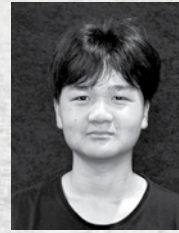
**Lukas Toman**  
Theseus



**Indi Stringer**  
Hippolyta



**Sam Parry**  
Egeus



**Eh Kla Soe**  
Philostrate



**Macey Rye**  
Hermia



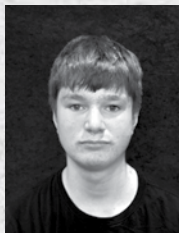
**Ruben Maritz**  
Lysander



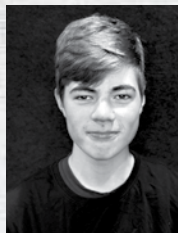
**Sadie Field**  
Helena



**Georgia Thompson**  
Demetrius



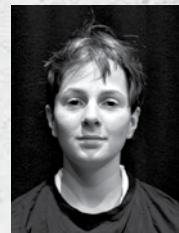
**Montgomery Curwen-Begg**



**Jamie Dearricott**



**Toby McClellan**

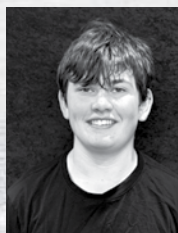


**Naite Paul**

## MECHANICALS



**Zara Beswick-Davison**  
Peter Quince/  
Prologue



**Sam Carrick**  
Nick Bottom/  
Pyramus



**Gus Brook**  
Francis Flute/  
Thisby



**Lauchlan Campbell-Pollard**  
Tom Snout/Wall



**Quinn Guthrie**  
Robin Starveling/  
Moonshine



**River Farrow**  
Snug/Lion



# Cast

## FAIRIES



**Victoria Tomkins**  
Titania



**Aleira Vanis**  
Puck



**Harriet Carson**  
Oberon



**Isabella  
Rothenberger**  
Servant Fairy



**Grace Bradshaw**  
Cobweb



**Mia James**  
Mustardseed



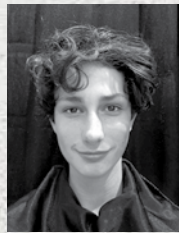
**Lillian  
Jones-Jack**  
Moth



**Emilie Kinsella**  
Peaseblossom



**Ivy Brazill**



**Tyler Bumpstead**



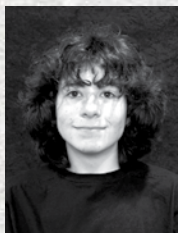
**Tara Collard**



**Lillyanne  
Crennan**



**Gracie Drage**



**Daniel Hockley**



**Amelia Johnson**



**Addison Keller**



**Anabelle Lynch**



**Johara Mistica**



**Chelsea Muston**



**Caitlin Tarrant**



**Emma Watson**





# Orchestra

**Flute:** Thomas Sparrow, Jenna Smith, Ms Meg Martin, Ms Ashleigh Yeates

**Clarinet:** Melissa Moulden, Tobias Sexton, Ms Penny Ingwersen, Ms Meg Martin, Ms Ashleigh Yeates

**Saxophone:** Ms Penny Ingwersen, Ms Meg Martin, Ms Ashleigh Yeates

**Trumpet:** Liam Truscott, Mr Mark Thompson

**French Horn:** Ms Claire McLean

**Trombone:** Zac Mott

**Guitar/Bass:** Mr Jeremie Collard, Mr Steve O'Hern

**Strings (Violin and cello reimagined):** Mr Jeremie Collard, Mr Harrison Jenner, Mr Steve O'Hern

**Percussion:** Caitlin Watson, Mr Paul Hunt

**Keys:** Mr Harrison Jenner





# Production Team

## TECHNICAL CREW

**Director:** Mr Austin Deppeler

**Music Director:** Ms Deborah Ross

**Producer:** Ms Nicole Cilauro

**Head of Arts:** Mrs Kris Fellows

### **Hair and Makeup:**

Miss Ellie Gregory, Ariela Sea, Elaena Sea, Mikaela Monzon, Tara Frawley

**Costume Hire:** Anita Scott

**Costume Coordinators:** Miss Jessica Akl, Mrs Kris Fellows and Miss Nicole Cilauro

**Stage Manager:** Finn Cunningham

**Backstage Crew:** Celeste Davies, Indianna Houghton, Brodie Webster, Emily Bullock

**Lighting Design:** Mr Ian Scott

**Lighting Operation:** Oliver Sexton

**Audio Hire:** Mr Ian Scott

**Audio Operation:** Mr Francis Greaves

**Set Hire:** Bendigo Theatre Company

**Marketing and Promotions:** Ms Felicity Johnson

**Photography:** Mr Daniel Soncin

## Special Thanks

Catherine McAuley College Bendigo Staff in the Production Team

**Cover Designers:** Chloe Maher (front) and Emilie Kinsella (back)

Parents/Carers of Cast, Crew and Orchestra

To the many supporters of Drama and Performing Arts at Catherine McAuley College Bendigo



