

Welcome to Hanham Players production of Shakespeare's much-loved comedy, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The original is set in a 'fantasy' Athens with characters from Greek mythology, European folklore and the English Craft guilds. So it was not too much of a stretch to extend the fantasy further by setting it in 1960's 'swinging' London where, for a brief period, there was a unique coming together of the aristocracy (think Princess Margaret and Lord Lichfield) working class kids made good (The Beatles, David Bailey, Twiggy) and 'underworld' figures like the Krays – although not all in the same room! London was the centre of both the music and the fashion industries. It is said that if you can remember the '60's you weren't there but, in reality, it just means you are fast approaching state pension age! I was born in 1954 so the period for me was of growing up in the age of optimism when anything seemed possible. The skirts were short, the hair was long and the music was amazingly varied and original. We may have changed the setting but we have remained true to Shakespeare's language and the theme of the play which outlines the agony and ecstasy of young love – still the major theme of contemporary drama written over four hundred years after this great play.

The production has been a huge challenge for the talented cast, most of whom, for all their vast stage experience, have never tackled Shakespeare before. I am sure you will agree that they have more than met that challenge. Asking the stage team to recreate the Pop-Art images of Roy Lichtenstein and others was also a challenge brilliantly realised. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to every single person credited in this programme and have been inspired by their hard work and skill.

Steve Smith - Director

Scenes

Part 1

- 1 Office of Athena Nightclub
- 2 Store-room of the Athena Nightclub
- 3 The streets outside 'Athena'
- 4 Titania's boudoir & the street outside
- 5 Titania's boudoir & the street outside
- 6 Titania's boudoir & the street outside

Part 2

- 7 Titania's boudoir & the street outside
- 8 Titania's boudoir & the street outside
- 9 Store-room of the Athena Nightclub
- 10 Office of Athena Nightclub

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between parts 1 & 2

Please switch off your mobile phone

Unauthorised photography and filming is prohibited throughout this performance

The Cast

Theseus	John Blackwood
Hippolyta	Debbie Durnell
Philostrate	Claire Ryan
Egeus	Rod Lovell
Hermia	Charlotte Wright
Lysander	Jon Attwood
Demetrius	Martin Whittaker
Helena	Francesca Gibbens
Quince	Paul Taylor
Bottom	David Pascoe-Clark
Flute	Oscar Withers
Starveling	Steve Smith
Snout	Jack Bailey
Snug	Austin Ferrante
Puck	Claire Ryan
Cobweb	Denise Priest
Mustardseed	Laura O'Brien
Peaseblossom	Kirsty Johnstone
Moth	Louise Parfrey
Oberon	Brian Paterson
Titania	Teresa Hudd
Dog	Buffy

Production Team

Director	Steve Smith
Assistant Director	Margaret Skuse
Technical Director	Kevin Lawrence
Stage Manager	Andrew Stowe
Stage Crew	Julie Lloyd
Lighting	Kevin Lawrence
Sound	Charlotte Lawrence
Set Design	Kevin Lawrence
Set Construction	Charlotte, Julie, Andrew, Ian & Kevin
Prompt	Ralph Tilton
Props	Ralph Tilton
Costumes	Sally Cains, Margaret Skuse & Cast
Box Office	Community Centre Staff

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Directed by
Steve Smith

www.hanhamplayers.org

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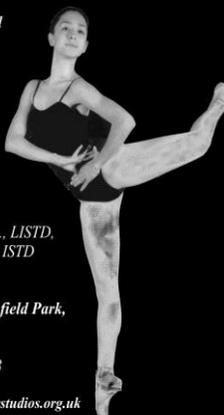
Principal:
D. Sims
ARAD, Adv. Teaching Dip., LISTD,
Dip RBS (TTC), RAD and ISTD
Registered

Postal address: 38 Bloomfield Park,
Bath Ba2 2BX

Telephone: 01225 310218

Email: info@classicaldancestudios.org.uk

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