ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
THEATRE GUILD

# "A Midsummer Night's Dream" WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

## AT THE HUT

Thursday . . . April 25 Friday . . . April 26 Monday . . . April 29 1946

Other Performances for Schoolchildren only

For the commencement of last year's activities, the Guild presented Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night". That production, under the direction of Mr. Colin Ballantyne, proved a successful and much appreciated venture. The fact that extra performances gave the opportunity for almost a thousand school children to attend that delightful comedy made the effort well worthwhile.

The present play needs but little introduction. It satisfies a wide range of appeal. The following extracts are taken from The Penguin Shakespeare publication of the play, edited by G. B. Harrison.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" was probably written between the autumn of 1594 and the spring of 1595. There was no one source from which Shakespeare took the story. Some incidents he adapted from his own plays. In "Love's Labour Lost" he had made fun of amateur theatricals as presented by the worthies attached to a great house; in "Romeo and Juliet" Mercutio was given a long speech on the pranks by fairies; whilst the entanglement caused when the love affairs of two pairs of lovers go awry was the theme of "Two Gentlemen of Verona"; in that play, too, all the lovers run to the woods.

The play is so full of wedding rites that most critics agree that it was written for some particular wedding. The only court wedding recorded in 1594-5 was that of William, Earl of Derby, to the Lady Elizabeth Vere, grand-daughter of Lord Burghley, but no details of the festivities remain.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" was first published in 1600.

For this production, the play is presented so as to ensure, as far as possible, continuity of action.

There will be two intervals, during which the auditorium will be lit.

The action of the play takes place in Athens and a wood nearby.

Music arranged by Mr. John Horner from Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream" music

Prelude . . . . . . Overture

Entracte 1 . . . . . . Scherzo

Entracte 2 . . . Wedding Music

Ballet . . . . . . . Notturno

## The Cast

| Theseus, Duke of Athens JOHN WARD  |
|--|
| Egeus, Father to Hermia FRANK GARGRO   |
| In Love with Hermia—   |
| Lysander MILES PULSFORD  |
| Demetrius GEOFFREY LAYCOCK   |
| Philostrate, Master of the Revels to Theseus TONI TAVERNA                    |
| Quince, a Carpenter JOHN STONE   |
| Snug, a Joiner JACK MANUEL   |
| Bottom, a Weaver OWEN EVANS  |
| Flute, a Bellows Mender PETER THWAITES                                       |
| Snout, a Tinker FRED AMES  |
| Starveling, a Tailor LEON COCKER   |
| Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus - MARGARET WARD        |
| Hermia, Daughter to Egeus, in love with Lysander SYLVIA BLAKEWAY             |
| Helena, in love with Demetrius ENID BROWN                                    |
| Oberon, King of the Fairies BARRIE McEWIN                                    |
| Titania, Queen of the Fairies MAXINE SELLICK                                 |
| Puck, or Robin Goodfellow HUGH MURRAY  |
| Fairies—   |
| Peaseblossom DIANA BEGG  |
| Cobweb JILL BOWDEN Moth THERESE MUNN   |
| Mustardseed BARBARA KEMP   |
|  |
| BALLET Titania—Queen of Fairies Maxine Sellick                               |
| First Fairy Claire Mills   |
| Other Fairies - Laurel Hewitt, Francis McMahon, Pamela Storer, Elise Powell, |
| Rosemary Powell, Helen Murphy, Barbara King                                  |
| Elves Walter Desborough, Paul Deane  |
| Little Elf Michael Henstridge  |

Play under the Direction of THELMA BAULDERSTONE

Ballet under the direction of Walter Desborough

Settings—Allan Sierp and Michael James
Lighting—Bruce Walton
Scenery painted by Allan Sierp
Stage Manager—F. J. Watson
Costumes—Gwen Walsh and Paul Morisset

## UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

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#### Patrons:

Professors E. Harold Davies and J. G. Cornell Dr. Charles Fenner and Mr. Frank Johnston

#### Committee:

Miss Thelma Baulderstone Mr. Tom Brown Dr. T. D. Campbell Mr. Alan Dunstan Miss R. Fitch Miss Patricia Hackett Miss Barbara Howard Mr. John Horner Mr. Herbert Kollosche Dr. E. McLaughlin Miss B. A. Robertson Mr. Allan Sierp Miss Gwen Walsh Mr. Bruce Williams Mrs. Roma Williams

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#### Notices

Communications, enquiries, and subscriptions may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, care of The University

Subscriptions: Ordinary Members, 10/-; Student Members, 5/-.

Anyone interested in active theatre work should communicate with the Hon. Secretary, stating their particular interest.

The next production will be during the latter part of May, under the direction of Miss Patricia Hackett.

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