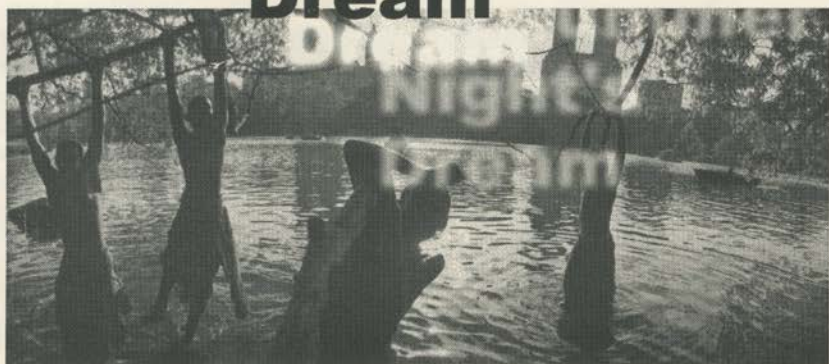


Ann Arbor Civic Theatre

presents

A Midsummer Night's Dream



by William Shakespeare

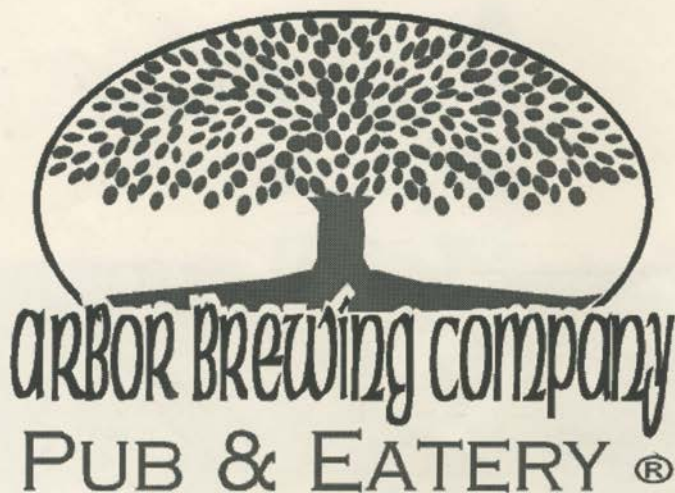
Concept and Direction by

Glenn Bugala

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Cast

Theseus, New York Mafia Don	Brian Harcourt
Hippolyta, Member of Mafia Family	Marihelen Hemingway
Philostrate, Theseus' Bodyguard	Tom Reischl
Egeus, Loyal Member of Theseus' Mob	Susie Berneis
Hermia, Spoiled Swing Kid	Emily Perryman
Lysander, Rich Swing Kid	Aaron Rabb
Demetrius, Nerdy Swing Kid	Mathias Maloff
Helena, Swing kid	Anna Kladzyk
Oberon, Sun Spirit	Ryan Shriver
Titania, Earth Spirit	Jennifer White
Puck, Eagle Spirit	Elle Marie Sowa
Peaseblossom, Squash Spirit	Adrienne Clark
Cobweb, Grandmother Spider Spirit	emilye bangham
Mote, Linu Spirit	Jennifer Kitchen
Mustardseed, Goosefoot Spirit	Lauren Harrison
Deer, Owayoo Spirit	Luke Lussender
Turtle, Animal Spirit	Ian Stines
Tree, Acornhead Spirit	Kent Klausner
Peter Quince, Builder	Jimmy Dee Arnold
Nick Bottom, Textile Worker	Jon Elliott
Francis Flute, Newspaper Boy	Michael J. Mahoney
Tom Snout, Plumber	Kevin Pierson
Snug, Furniture Maker	Andrew Jentzen
Robin Starveling, Tailor	Mark Bernstein
Huckleberry, Dog	Himself

Crew

Producer	Curt Waugh
Director	Glenn Bugala
Assistant Director & Stage Manager	Michele Leshan
Set Design	Glenn Bugala
Set Builders	Mike Sielaff, David Rowe
Lighting Design	Jen Jakary
Light Board Operator	Jen Jakary
Sound Design	Glenn Bugala
Sound Operators	Sara Rzeppa, Bob Skon
Costume Design	Joan Korastinsky
Make-up and Hair	Amy Palicia
Swing Dance Choreographer	Ian Stines
Assistant Swing Dance Choreographer	Melanie Ehler
Native American Choreographer	Jennifer White
Props	Linda Wark
House Manager	Catharine Zudak
Costume Builders: Emily Perryman, Lauren Harrison, Susie Berneis	

Show

Opening Number.....	New York: 1930's
Act I, Scene 1.....	Don Theseus' house
Act I, Scene 2.....	Shantytown
Act II, Scene 1.....	Central Park
Act II, Scene 2.....	Another part of the park
Act III, Scene 1.....	Later that night

There will be a 15 Minute Intermission

Act III, Scene 2.....	Deep in the park
Act IV, Scene 1.....	Titania's bower
Act IV, Scene 2.....	The edge of the park
Act V, Scene 1.....	Don Theseus' Great Hall

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Acknowledgements

Special thanks from the director to: Rebecca Groeb, Jim Rementer and Michael Pace of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, Evan Pritchard, Joseph Bruchac, Andrew Adams, the local Native American community, Ann Arbor Civic Theatre office staff, Deb Mahoney, Gabriel Richard Drama Club, Linda Lock, Bonnie Everitt of Blue Ribbon Embroidery.

Special thanks from the choreographer to: Keith McGee and Clair Sullivan who assisted with the dance rehearsals at various times during the production.

Special thanks from the producer to: Arbor Brewing Company for sponsoring our opening night celebration.

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From the Director

I'm really excited to share the world of this play with you at this performance. And I think that from the moment you see the opening number (yes, there's an opening number!), you'll realize that this is not a traditional approach. As Americans, I feel it is our duty to approach Shakespeare not by a 400 year old history to which we can't relate, but by our own uniquely American history.

By setting the play in New York in the 1930's, I have tried to examine the play's central theme of human refinement versus human nature. I've placed the play in and around Central Park, where nature and refinement are literally across the street from each other. The lovers in the play must go into nature to discover the true nature of their love. By setting the time period in the 1930's, I have utilized the Swing Era and the Great Depression, a period in our history which points up great discrepancies between the classes. When the out-of-work tradesmen become desperate for money, they are reduced to putting on a play for a Mafia don named Theseus. In the meantime, the young lovers express their rebelliousness in the "degenerate" moves of Swing. Also, this time period points up a stylistic discovery: Utilizing confused sexual roles, the rich hobnobbing with the poor, and extraordinary twists in the plot, *Midsummer* is really a screwball comedy, in the grand style of *My Man Godfrey*, *On the Twentieth Century*, and *Bringing Up Baby* – all of which burst on the scene in the 1930's.

On the other hand, the spirit/nature world must be completely different from this. What an incredible miracle Central Park is – a plot of open ground 843 acres large preserved for a hundred years within a city of concrete! In looking at the spirits as parts of nature (Shakespeare names Titania's train after elements of nature), I assumed that they could seep out of the earth of Central Park. And what a powerful image it is to picture spirits running around that park. I decided to express them through the nature magic of Native Americans from that region – the Lenapé, or Delaware tribe. All of the choices for the spirits are inspired by Lenape traditions that have been exhaustively researched and for which we have received permission from the present Oklahoma Delaware (Lenapé) Tribe. (For a complete research paper on all of these Native American choices, please stop at the Box Office or concession stand.) These are not human tribesmen but spirits, so a great deal of our own imagination as well as Lenape tradition had to go into the work. Lenapé-inspired masks are utilized for spells and dance and to hide from mortals. All of the dances and the songs sung during them are authentic Lenapé.

Welcome to our world: a world of swing dance, the Mafia, and a Central Park swarming with Native American spirits. I hope you enjoy and understand Shakespeare's words more in this uniquely American world. I want to thank the cast, crew and designers for going above and beyond the call of duty not only to illuminate Shakespeare's words but to embrace and expand the magic of this play.

— Glenn

Cast and Crew Bios

Jimmy Dee Arnold (Peter Quince)

Jimmy is happy to be working with Glenn and this wonderful ensemble! He was last seen on the A2CT stage as Pincus in *The Front Page*. Other recent roles include: Chase in WCC/Michigan Theatre's Production of *1776*, Bruce in *Beyond Therapy* for Orpheus Productions. At the Performance Network, Jimmy has played ensemble man #1 (or was it #2?) in *Inverted Pyramid*. He sends his love to his lovely bride Linda.

emilye bangham (Cobweb)

Trained at the illustrious Department of Drama by the legendary Tracy Komarmy, this is emilye's first theater ensemble experience. Enormous hugs of gratitude to my family and to the bearers of every smile I've ever received. It means everything.

Susie Berneis (Egeus)

This is Susie's ninth show for A2CT. Her last appearance was in *The Heidi Chronicles*. She almost didn't audition for *Midsummer Night's Dream* – Egeus was certainly not on her "must play" list – but she's delighted that friends talked her into it because she does enjoy playing the villain, especially when she can do it in a Noo Yawk accent.

Mark Bernstein (Robin Starveling)

Mark has appeared in a number of A2CT shows in recent years, including *The Crucible* (Reverend Parris), *City of Angels* (Buddy Fidler), and *A Little Night Music* (Quintet), as well as directing the A2CT production of Neil Simon's *Rumors*. Most recently, he appeared as Andrew McNair in the Washtenaw Community College production of *1776*.

Glenn Bugala (Director)

Glenn has been a regular with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre for several years now. Last season, he directed A2CT's first production in the new space – *The Front Page* – and appeared as Juan Peron in their *Evita*. In recent years, he directed *Harvey*, *South Pacific*, *Midsummer* and *Godspell* for Gabriel Richard High School and *Little by Little* for Adjective Arts. Prior to that, he directed the critically-acclaimed A2CT production of *A Little Night Music*. He has appeared in numerous roles in Ann Arbor, including Petruccio in *Taming of the Shrew*, Charles in *Blithe Spirit*, Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice*, and Zach in *A Chorus Line*. He has a Masters in Theatre Performance from Purdue University and enjoyed a six year professional acting career in Chicago during the early 90's. He is the music director of Life Teen Music at St. Francis Church. Glenn will be directing *Tommy* for A2CT next Spring. He wishes his wife Emily (Hermia) a great performance – "Break a leg!"

Adrienne Clark (Peaseblossom)

Her love for theatre (and recent lack thereof) has brought Adrienne all the way from "Cowtown", MI (a.k.a. Carleton) for her first production with A2CT. She would like to thank Glenn & Michele for making her feel so welcomed and the cast (especially "The Spirits") for working so hard on this production. Also a big "squish" to her best friend/inspiration, Kelly, and to her family.

Jon Elliott (Bottom)

Jon is a veteran of over twenty Ann Arbor area productions, in varying roles of actor and technician. Favorite assignments include Fagin in *Oliver!* and Director of three musicals. His eternal gratitude extends to his family and friends, and to the terrific ensemble in AMND. *Descamisados para siempre!*

Brian Harcourt (Theseus)

Brian is delighted to be in his second production with A2CT. Along with his role as Woodenshoes in A2CT's production of *The Front Page*, Brian's past roles include Hamm in *Endgame*, Arkady in *The Forest*, Angelo in *Measure for Measure* and Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Lauren Harrison (Mustardseed)

Lauren has been in a number of plays but this is her first one with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Her most memorable role is Annie Sullivan in *The Miracle Worker*. She was last seen in *An Evening with Shakespeare* as Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She would like to say thank you to her parents and friends for putting up with her busy schedule.

Marihelen Hemingway (Hippolyta)

Marihelen is an Ann Arbor resident making her A2CT debut. She is very excited to be performing in such a dynamic and exciting production. She looks forward to many more shows with A2CT.

Jen Jakary (Lighting Design)

Jen is thrilled to be a part of this enchanted production, and to work with such a fabulous director and talented cast. She most recently worked on A2CT's productions of *Evita* and *Little Shop of Horrors* and looks forward to staying crazy enough to use all of her day-job vacation time during production weeks for years to come. Jen would like to thank Pamela for diva mentoring, for feigning excitement about the "leaf breakup" gobos, and for writing most of this bio.

Andrew Jentzen (Snug)

Andrew is grateful to get Snug/the Lion as a role. All those months as the "Toyota Lion" payed off! "Love ya Ma and Pa." If you need a cab after the show, he is available. Note: Andy works in the afterschool drama program and as a researcher for the *Ugly One*, the movie.

Jennifer Kitchen (Mote)

Jennifer attends Michigan State University pre-medical school program. While in biology class one day, dissecting a pregnant rat, she realized that "Hey I want to be an actress." Since then, Jennifer has enrolled in a top agency for acting classes and has been auditioning for various movie and commercial roles. This is the 3rd theatre production she has been in.

Anna Klaczyk (Helena)

Anna performed in nine plays in Flagstaff, AZ before moving to Ypsi. Her favorite was *No Exit* as Inez. She would like to thank the cast for their creativity, professionalism and humor. Special thanks to the following for their extended support: Emily Perryman, Glenn Bugala, Aaron Rabb, Jennifer Kitchen, Jami Coopriider, James Lippons and her own extraordinary family.

Kent Klausner (Tree)

Kent's happy to be performing in his first show with A2CT. Now 17, and a senior at Community High School, he's been interested in theater since kindergarten. Previous roles include Banquo in *Macbeth*, Bill Sykes in *Oliver*, and Iago in *Goodnight Desdemona*. Kent would like to thank his parents, grandparents and girlfriend for all their patience and support.

Joan Korastinsky (Costume Design)

Joan thanks Glenn for this show, especially since it screamed for imagination and creativity, something not always required to costume!! Recent past credits: *The Front Page*, *Steel Pier*, *A Little Night Music* and *Big River*. She works part-time and has her three grandchildren every other weekend.

Michele Leshan (Assistant Director and Stage Manager)

Michele's second AD/SM stint represents her sixth A2CT production. She has also served on the play selection and awards night committees. Other local groups with which Michele played include Chelsea Area Players, COG, Redbud Productions, and UMGASS. Further afield and longer ago, Michele hid behind the scenes in Raleigh, NC and Madison, WI. She's thrilled that her husband recently emerged from behind the curtain of UMBS textbooks. Congratulations, Steve!

Luke Lussender (Deer)

18 year old male. Was born, has lived, is still living. His name is Luke.

Michael J. Mahoney (Francis Flute)

Midsummer is Michael's eighth show with A2CT. He is a Senior at CHS. Michael has attended the University of Michigan's All-State Musical Theatre Workshop at Interlochen under the direction of Brent Wagner for the last three summers. He thanks Glenn for giving him the opportunity to do Shakespeare and make people laugh (hopefully), and Michele!

Mathias Maloff (Demetrius)

SWM, 18 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, glasses. Funloving and available. See backstage after show for more info. Mathias has been acting for some time and this is his second show with A2CT. He intends to stay on the acting path for years to come.

Emily Perryman (Hermia)

Emily is thrilled to be playing the spoiled swing kid in *Midsummer* – finally a non-singing leading role with dancing! She lovingly thanks Glenn for the chance to get to know “this” side of him. Emily’s other A2CT credits include *Evita* (Choreographer) and *A Chorus Line* (Lori). A classically trained flutist, she works for Shar Products and free-lances and teaches in the Ann Arbor area.

Kevin Pierson (Tom Snout)

Kevin is currently earning his B.A. in Theatre at Michigan State University. Kevin sends thanks to his parents for their support, sister for her guidance, and brother for his knowledge of acting. (Good Luck with the Shenandoah Shakespeare Company). Thanks to Glenn and cast for accepting a Spartan amongst Wolverines.

Aaron Rabb (Lysander)

Aaron thinks this is a great show and is honored to be a part of it. He is grateful to have been surrounded by such excellent actors. “Thank you.”

Tom Reischl (Philostrate)

Tom moved to Ann Arbor last year and is appearing in his first Civic Theatre production. He recently played Lt. Shrank in *West Side Story* and Herbie in *Gypsy* with the Oyster River Players in Durham, NH. Tom is a research scientist at U of M’s School of Public Health.

Ryan Shriver (Oberon)

Ryan’s performance in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* marks his second collaboration with the Ann Arbor Civic Theater, having previously appeared in the 1999 production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Ryan has also appeared in a handful of short films and in over 20 stage productions, some of which include *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *As You Like It*, *The Fantasticks*, *Measure for Measure*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Cloud Nine*, and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. Ryan’s work in *Midsummer* is dedicated to his wife Heidi and his son Nathaniel.

Mike Sielaff (Set Builder)

Mike is no stranger to a screw gun. He has built and taken apart more sets than he cares to remember. Some of his greatest work has been re-creating hell for *Heaven or Hell* and the human-eating Audrey 2 for *Little Shop of Horrors*. His next feat is to improve his golf score before he is called upon to build or take apart his next set.

Bob Skon (Sound Operator)

Bob got hooked on A2CT after being cast in *Evita* earlier this year. "Whether on stage or behind the scenes, it's a thrill to work with such talented people."

Elle Marie Sowa (Puck)

Elle is a fifteen-year-old girl who was born in Seoul, Korea. She loves acting and writing. She also loves to watch movies, read books, follow the Atlanta Braves, and spend time with her friends.

Ian Stines (Choreographer, Turtle)

Ian has been a student, dancer and teacher of Swing and Lindy Hop for 11 years. He volunteered as Choreographer to make sure the dancing would look authentic for the period. His experience as an actor in several productions in the area put him onstage in this role. Ian is the current Chairperson of Swing Ann Arbor and a member of the Swing Ann Arbor Performance Troupe.

Linda Wark (Props)

Linda began volunteering with A2CT in the fall of 2000 with *Little Shop of Horrors*. Since that time she has taken tickets and ushered at all the shows we have put on. Now she has jumped in with both feet and is doing props for this production. She says, "This is my first experience and everyone has been great in helping me learn what needs to be done. I'm having so much fun."

Curt Waugh (Producer)

Curt is proud to be a part of such a great show and Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. He believes that no other theatre troupe in the area comes close to the positive spirit which inhabits this hardy band of thespians.

Jennifer White (Titania, Native American Choreographer)

Jennifer was most recently seen in A2CT's *Little Shop of Horrors* as The Plant, Audrey 2. She thanks Glenn, Michelle, and a great cast of Spirits (you too, Oberon) for their dedication to the show. She thanks her family (love you Mom and Dad – hang in there Anna) and friends (Girlfriends – you rock!) for their love and support through what has been a whirlwind season. She dedicates this performance to her wee pumpkin boy, Bryce.

Catherine Zudak (House Manager)

Catherine is glad to have this opportunity to volunteer with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. She's renewed her passion for the lively arts after nearly a decade hiatus. She has worked on community and "garage" theater in the Washington D.C. area.

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Lenape'hokink, Land of the Lenapé, the original homeland of my people, encompasses what is now southeastern New York, the New York City and Hudson River area, and the states of Delaware, New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania. This is the land of my people, as it was given to us long ago by the Creator. Though it has been occupied and claimed for 200 years by the United States, it is still our land, and we Lenapé are still here today. We never left....There is much that is wrong in the land, much that should not be here. And so it is, we eastern Lenapé are as strangers in our land, surrounded by a culture directly at odds with our philosophy, our spirituality and traditions. So, for now, we must live in two worlds, with one foot in and one foot out, and the trick is learning to balance the two without falling flat on our faces.

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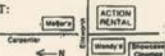
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