



Easy Read

A Visual Story

To support your visit to Shakespeare's Globe.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

SHAKESPEARE'S
GLOBE



Contents



Visual Story

This document will give you a detailed description of what to expect from A Midsummer Night's Dream at Shakespeare's Globe.

Included is:

- Pictures of the cast in and out of costume
- Show notes and helpful information
- Synopsis
- Sonic Story
- Contact Details

The Cast



Sam Crerar



Lysander



Sarah Finigan



Egeus / Snug



Mariah Gale



Bottom



Vinnie Heaven



Demetrius



Jack Laskey



Oberon / Theseus



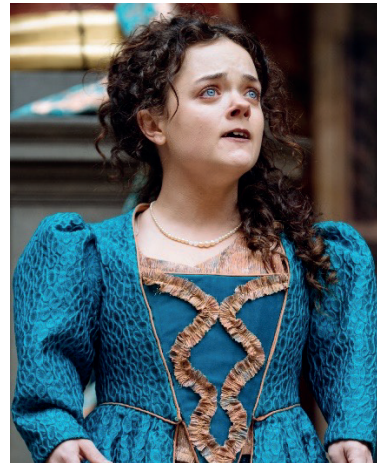
Molly Logan



Flute/Fairy



Francesca Mills



Hermia



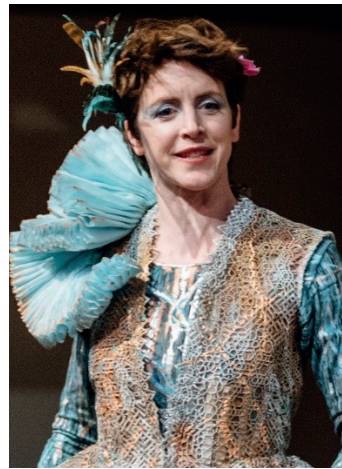
Anne Odeke



Hippolyta / Fairy



Marianne Oldham



Titania / Starveling



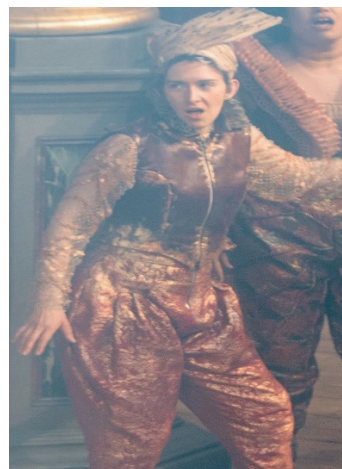
Rebecca Root



Quince



Lizzie Schenk



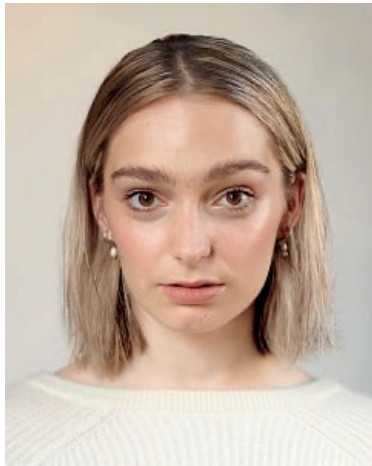
Fairy



Michelle Terry



Puck



Isobel Thom



Helena



Tanika Yearwood



Snout / Mustardseed

Show Notes



Relaxed Performance

A relaxed performance will take place on
Saturday June 10th at 2:00pm
Tuesday July 11th at 2:00pm

This will mean:



- There will be an open-door policy so that you can come and go as much as you want or need to.
- Quiet Space in the 'Bull Ring', down the stairs just past the Welcome Desk.
- A culture of acceptance and respect for however you want to experience the show.
- Movement and noise are welcome should you need or want to.
- Pre-show information packs are available online and at the welcome desk



Content and Trigger Warnings

The production includes:

- Themes of Ableism, Misogyny, Racism and scenes of a sexual nature
- Crying baby noise
- Masked Performers
- Haze

Show Notes



Times

The running time is 2 hours and 40 minutes.

Act 1 1hr 5mins

Act 2 1hr 10mins

There is a 20-minute interval.



Music and sound

Check out our sonic story for full information.



Lighting

The lighting is the same throughout.

In the matinee the show is lit by daylight.

Show Notes



Set

This is what the set looks like.



There is one structural addition of a "Bower" for the Fairy Queen to sleep in.

A Midsummer Night's Dream - The Story

Act 1

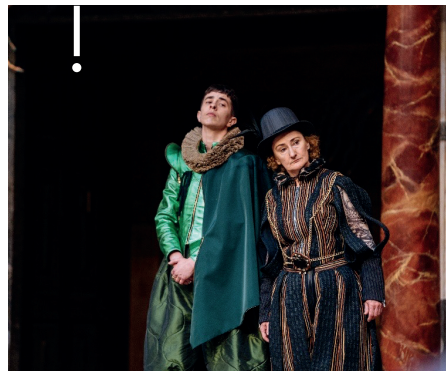


The play begins with a fake baby on stage wrapped in cloth. The Fairies come on stage from the back of the stage and the trap door in the centre of the stage floor. There is haze* coming from the centre of the stage and live music playing.

The company moves to the music.



Demetrius, Lysander and Theseus, the Duke of Athens, enter from the back of the stage. The fairy court dress Hippolyta on stage. The fairy company continue to move to the music. The music ends with Hippolyta and Theseus in centre stage with the fairy company surrounding the pillars. Theseus and Hippolyta discuss their upcoming wedding and love.



There is a burst of music. Egeus, and his daughter Hermia enter, with two young men: Lysander and Demetrius. Egeus asks Theseus to intervene in a dispute. Hermia will not agree to marry Demetrius (whom Egeus has chosen for her) because she loves Lysander. Theseus offers Hermia two options if she chooses to disobey her father: she must either die or accept a celibate life as a nun in Diana's Temple.



Hippolyta, Theseus, Egeus and Demetrius exit. Hermia and Lysander are left on stage. They talk of their situation and decide to elope. They kiss.

Act 1



Helena enters from downstage left. She is upset because Demetrius does not love her. She wishes she were more like Hermia to gain the love of Demetrius. The couple share with Helena their secret plans to elope. They say their goodbyes to Helena and exit.

Helena speaks to the audience. She decides she will tell Demetrius of Hermia and Lysander's plan to elope to win his favour. She exits.



A group of mechanicals enter from downstage left and right. They are preparing a play of the tragic love-story of Pyramus and Thisbe to present before the Duke Theseus on his wedding day. Peter Quince gives out the parts in the play. Nicola Bottom the weaver, is to play the hero Pyramus, and Flute, the bellows-mender, is to play his love, Thisbe. Bottom offers to play every single part in the play. Peter Quince politely declines this offer.



The players take their scripts and agree to meet at a location in the forest to rehearse the play. They exit upstage.

There is music. We hear a baby crying. Puck enters from the centre stage trap door making the noise of a baby crying. There is haze. Puck is the servant of Oberon, the Fairy King.

Act 1



Cowslip, the servant of the Fairy Queen enters from upstage left. She meets Puck. The servants quarrel over who is allowed in this area. Puck explains the Fairy King and Queen are fighting over a baby boy that Queen Titania will not give to King Oberon. Puck performs magic on Cowslip. Titania enters with her band of fairies from upstage centre. Oberon enters through the audience. The Fairy King and Queen quarrel over the magical child. Titania and the fairies exit upstage as she declares she will not give Oberon the child. Oberon remains on stage with Puck and begins to plot his revenge. He sends Puck to fetch a purple flower with juice that makes people fall in love with the next creature they see. Puck exits.

Demetrius and Helena enter from upstage right. Although Demetrius shuns Helena, she is persistent in her quest for his love. He throws her to the floor. Demetrius threatens Helena and leaves. Helena, upset with Demetrius declares she will follow him, and exits.

Puck returns. Oberon instructs her to go to the "Athenian youth" and put the flower juice on his eyes while he sleeps. Oberon exits. The Fairies enter from the audience, down stage left. They sing Titania to sleep. The fairies change the set and create a bed in a bower for Titania and the child. The Fairies exit leaving one fairy to guard Titania. From the above balcony Oberon curses Titania and puts flower juice on her eyes.

Act 1



Hermia and Lysander enter. They are lost, and tired so they try to find somewhere to sleep. They agree to sleep in separate spaces and lie down to sleep. Puck enters crying and upset. She notices Lysander and puts the flowers juice in his eyes. Puck exits to go back to Oberon.

Demetrius and Helena enter. Helena is still chasing Demetrius. He exits and Helena speaks to the audience. She notices Lysander and fears he is dead. She wakes him. Due to the power of the flower juice Lysander instantly falls in love with Helena. Helena is confused and upset by this revelation and leaves. Hermia is still sleeping on the ground. Lysander exits. Hermia wakes up. Confused by Lysander's absence she exits to look for him.

There is music. The mechanicals enter to begin the rehearsal for their play. There are many concerns about presenting it to the Duke, which they work through. Puck enters through the audience and notices the group of actors. She decides to play a trick on the players when Bottom goes offstage. Bottom comes back – now turned into a donkey. The other players run away from her terrified.

Act 1



They exit and leave Puck and Bottom on stage. Bottom believes her fellow players are playing a practical joke on her. Titania wakes up and instantly falls in love with Bottom as a donkey because of the power of the flower juice. Bottom tries to leave but Titania uses her magic to keep her in the wood with her. The Fairies enter to take care of Bottom. There is music. The Fairies take Bottom to Titania's home. They all exit.

Interval

A Midsummer Night's Dream - The Story

Act 2



Music plays to begin Act 2. Oberon and Puck enter from upstage centre. Puck informs him Titania is in love with a donkey and she placed the love potion in the eyes of the Athenian. Hermia enters with Demetrius pursuing her. Hermia is still looking for Lysander, and Demetrius proclaims his love for her. Puck and Oberon are invisible to mortal eyes. Hermia exits. Demetrius chooses not to follow her and lies down to rest. Puck has enchanted the wrong man. Oberon sends Puck to find Helena and correct this wrong. Puck exits and returns with Helena and Lysander.

Lysander proclaims his love for Helena. Demetrius and Lysander fight over Helena. She believes they are both mocking her. Hermia enters from the audience still looking for Lysander. She notices Lysander. The four lovers argue with each other. Hermia tries to attack Helena, Demetrius and Lysander stop her. Demetrius and Lysander exit to fight for the love of Helena. Helena runs away. Hermia exits.

Oberon reprimands Puck for her mistakes. Puck controls Demetrius and Lysander by magic to rectify the situation. There is music playing and the characters speak in unison. Puck puts all four of the lovers to sleep in the woods.

Act 2



The Fairies enter loudly from upstage centre. Titania is still in love with Bottom. The Fairies care for Bottom. Music plays. The Fairies and Bottom dance and have fun. The Fairies exit as Titania and Bottom go to sleep. Oberon and Puck watch from afar. Oberon decides to free Titania from the enchantment because he has now taken the child and instructs Puck to return Bottom to her human form. Titania awakens and realises she was in love with a donkey. She tries to take the child from Oberon and demands music. Oberon and Titania dance. He explains the four lovers will be married at the same time as Hippolyta and Theseus. Oberon and Titania exit.

Bottom awakens and is no longer a donkey. She recalls what she thought was a dream, decides she will write a play about it and exits.

Music plays.

Theseus and Hippolyta enter with Egeus and musicians. The lovers remain sleeping on the ground. Theseus and Egeus notice the lovers. Theseus instructs the musicians forward. There is a very loud saxophone noise. This wakes the lovers.

Lysander and Demetrius explain what has happened. Demetrius declares his love for Helena. Theseus proclaims the lovers will all be married at the same time as himself and Hippolyta. Theseus, Hippolyta and Egeus exit.

Act 2



The lovers remain on stage and discuss what has happened. They agree that what happened must have been a strange dream. They exit.

The workers enter. Bottom is still missing. They are distraught not to have Bottom to perform their play.

Bottom enters. Everyone rejoices. They prepare to perform the play of Pyramus and Thisbe. They exit.

Hippolyta and Theseus enter. They are married. Theseus sits on the front edge of the stage. Hippolyta joins him. They are drunk. The four lovers (also now married) enter. Egeus enters and informs Theseus there is a play to watch. They exit to take their places in the gallery above to watch the play.



There is a drum roll. Peter Quince enters to begin the prologue of Pyramus and Thisbe. There is another drum roll. The workers perform the play. They finish and take a bow.

Theseus sends the lovers to bed. The workers dance - there is music. They exit.

Puck enters from centre stage. She speaks and exits. Oberon and Titania enter from stage right and left. Oberon sings. Titania joins in. The rest of the cast enter and begin singing. There is music. Puck enters and speaks to finish the play.

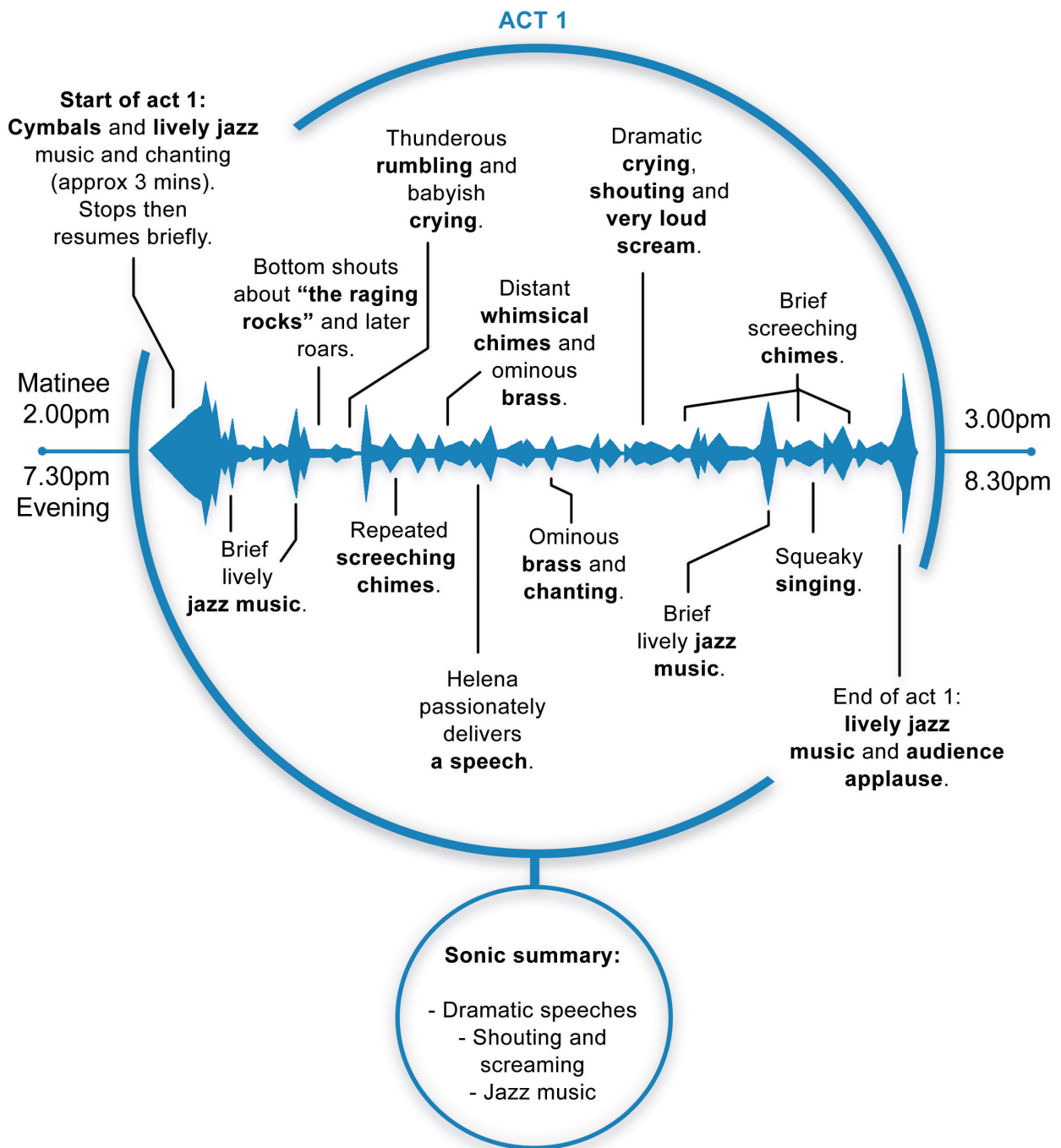
The entire cast dance "the jig". The music is upbeat and loud.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

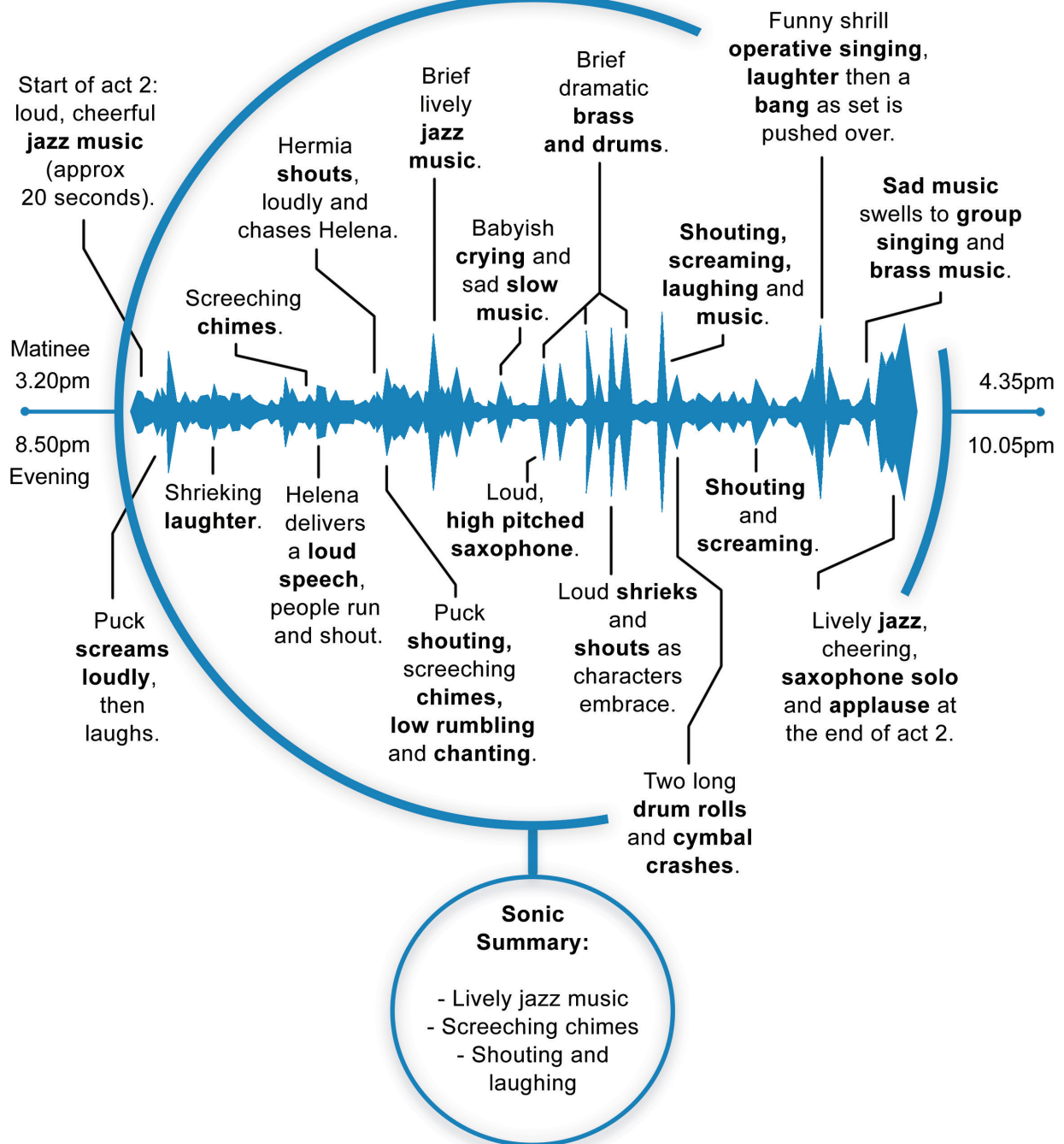
Sonic Story

This 'Sonic Story' provides information about what to expect from the music and sounds of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

It shows the volume changes throughout the performance and highlights loud and quiet moments and moments when the sound changes suddenly.



ACT 2



Sonic story provided by Touretteshero

Further information



Contact Details

Should you require more information or wish to discuss your access requirements please contact Deputy Access Manager Zoe Halliday on 02074011548 or zoe.h@shakespearesglobe.com



We welcome feedback about your Relaxed Performance experience at Shakespeare's Globe. Please contact Zoe on the above details or the access team accessteam@shakespearesglobe.com