

Press Release

National Youth Theatre

presents

A Midsummer Night's Dream

By William Shakespeare

Produced by the **National Association for Youth Drama**

Peacock Theatre

Monday 25 August - Saturday 30 August, 2008

"The course of true love never did run smooth."

One of the most magical and uplifting of Shakespeare's plays, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a celebration of love and all its joys.

Showcasing the work of young people around Ireland, the National Association for Youth Drama is producing the National Youth Theatre's annual show. One of Shakespeare's most popular works **A Midsummer Night's Dream** will be performed at the **Peacock Theatre** by the National Youth Theatre in August 2008.

The National Youth Theatre last performed this play in 1985 at Project. Assistant Director on that production then was Jim Culleton, and the cast included the late Tom Murphy, Risteard Cooper, Aidan Gillen, Brenda Donoghue and film producer Noelette Buckley.

The 2008 cast of twenty young people from youth theatres all over Ireland - Cork, Dublin, Limerick, Longford, Louth, Sligo and Wicklow - could be the theatre stars of our future and they'll follow in some impressive footsteps as they perform this romantic comedy at the National Theatre.

Escaping the Athenian court to marry, Hermia and Lysander take refuge in a nearby wood. There too are Helena and Demetrius and the King and Queen of the fairies, Oberon and Titania. Oberon orchestrates a series of mischievous and magical tricks by which love is transformed, misplaced, deceived, revealed and finally, restored.

The National Youth Theatre provides an opportunity to celebrate the talent and commitment of the many young people involved in theatre in Ireland.

Cast

Lutz Biedinger, Kevin Corcoran, Alan Dalton, Brian Devaney, Barry Lenihan, Eoin Lennon, Mary-Louise McCarthy, Christina Matthews, Barry Morgan, Kiefer Moriarty-Short, Grainne Moriarty, Katherine Murphy, Luke Naessens, Roxanna Nic Liam, Jessica O'Driscoll-Breen, Mary-Rose Phipps, Paul Tansey, Roisin Watson, Barry Whelan, Darren Yorke

Creative Team**Director** Gyorgy Vidovszky**Assistant director** David Kelly**Set and costume design** Diego Pitarch**Lighting design** Eamon Fox**Sound design** Samuel Gryllus**Listings Information****Dates****25 - 30 August**

Preview Monday 25 August

Matinee Saturday 30 August

Nightly at 8.15pm, Saturday matinee 2.45pm

Tickets: €18 (€14 concession Mon-Sat)

Preview/Matinee: €14

Youth Theatre members: €10

Booking: 01 87 87 222 www.abbeytheatre.ie

The National Youth Theatre is an initiative of NAYD, the development organisation for youth drama and theatre in Ireland. www.nayd.ie.

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