



**NEWS RELEASE
CALENDAR LISTING**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 11, 2011**

CONTACT: STEPHANIE GUMPF
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713.861.7408

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HITS THEATRE PRESENTS A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

AUDIENCES WILL DELIGHT IN A FRESH NEW TAKE ON THE CLASSIC TALE

HOUSTON, TX – HITS Theatre presents William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which promises to entice audiences of all ages. Directed by HITS' Artistic Coordinator, Eva De La Cruz, the production will provide a modern and fresh outlook on this classic tale.

De La Cruz and the production team have created a whimsical world where the three storylines come to life in a contemporary setting. "We want our audience to step away from their daily troubles and allow themselves to dream," says De La Cruz. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is Shakespeare's most accessible play, making it a great opportunity to introduce Shakespeare to a high school cast while entertaining the young and old audiences in the community. "The play is a welcome departure from HITS' regular repertoire of musical theatre," comments Executive Artistic Director, Joanne Woodard. "It will invite the audience to question their own desires and ask themselves if what they love is real or just a fantasy."

The story opens with preparations for the wedding of Theseus, Duke of Athens, and Hippolyta, but everything comes to a quick halt as four lovers enter into the story. The beautiful Hermia loves Lysander, but is pursued by Demetrius, who has won the affections of Helena. Lysander and Hermia flee to the forest as Demetrius and Helena follow close behind and the lovers fall into the hands of the fairies and their King and Queen, Oberon and Titania. Chaos and hilarity ensue as Puck trifles with the young lovers throughout the night. The play closes as a troupe of actors perform the delightful tale of Pyramus and Thisby.

HITS Theatre's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will show Friday, July 22, Saturday, July 23 and Sunday, July 24 at 7:30 p.m. Performances will be held at HITS' home theatre in the Heights at 311 W 18th St. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.hitstheatre.org or call 713-861-7408. Adult admission, \$15; student admission, \$5.

HITS is a non-profit performing arts organization dedicated to teaching children acting, dancing, and singing through a performance-based curriculum in a nurturing and enriching environment. HITS' programs serve more than 800 students annually. HITS is funded in part by the City of Houston through the Miller Theatre Advisory Board; the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance; Texas Commission on the Arts; Houston Endowment, Inc.; The Brown Foundation, Inc.; The Wortham Foundation, Inc.; The Ray C. Fish Foundation; The George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation; The Cullen Trust for the Performing Arts; The Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation; The Friedman Foundation; The Samuels Foundation; Edwards H. Andrews Foundation; KBR; Amegy Bank of Texas; The Lionstone Group; ExxonMobil Corporation; and many generous contributions from individuals and families.

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311 West 18th Street Houston, TX 77008

Office: 713.861.7408

Fax: 713.861.5173

www.hitstheatre.org



HITS THEATRE FACT SHEET

PRODUCTION: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare

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Founding Director

JoAnne Woodard
Executive Artistic Director

René Zamore
Executive Director

DIRECTOR: Eva De La Cruz

CAST:

Theseus	David Freidrich
Hippolyta	Adelaide Lummis
Egeus	Paige Zobel
Lysander	Nikki Amann
Hermia	Claire Hamrick
Demetrius	David Gow
Helena	Staci Merritt
Peter Quince	Maddy Auchter
Snug	Becca Cook
Bottom	David Arnold
Flute	Paris Bezanis
Snout	Carrie Cook
Starveling	Lindy Hockaday
Oberon	Adam Rice
Titania	Emily Clark
Puck	Sonny Woodcock
Peaseblossom	Joy Spence
Cobweb	Caroline Cox
Mustardseed	Mia Heckler
Moth	Mary Caroline Johnson

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Costume Design	John Santillan
Scenic Design	Claire "Jac" Jones
Lighting Design	Rhemé Sloan
Original Music	Kyle Kindred

DATES: July 22-24, 2011
All performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

TICKETS: Adults \$15.00

DISCOUNTS: Students (18 and under) \$5.00

BOX OFFICE: Online at www.hitstheatre.org
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