



MIDSUMMER:

A MOST RARE VISION



DIRECTOR'S NOTES



This past year has, to some, felt like the strains of Puck's intimation at the end of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*:

*That you have but slumber'd here
While these visions did appear.
And this weak and idle theme,
No more yielding but a dream...*

I don't know about you, but I can definitely say that as we come through the back side of this challenging situation we've been living through, I feel as if I've awakened from a deep slumber of sorts. There has been a huge void in the life of artists and audiences alike. The missing spark of connection. The energy of communing between performer and audience. For the final show in our Season of Surprises, I wanted to create a special experience where we could finally fill that void and celebrate each other. The themes of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: love, imagination, order and disorder are ones we all have struggled with, frolicked in and explored at one time or another. It's no wonder this is one of Shakespeare's most cherished comedies. It's characters and engaging text are a veritable playground of wonderfulness. This gem of a play is the inspiration for what you are about to see. I am so thrilled to have been able to connect with so many wonderfully local and regional artisans who lent their talents to create original music, song, text and art for our company of actors to breathe life into. Little did I dream when I charged my team of playwrights, poets, composers, lyricists and artisans to work their magic and let these inspirations take them wherever they wanted, that I would be given such a gold mine of material to work with. I am forever grateful. The pieces you are about to see today gave us the joyful opportunity to do what we so crave to do...and that is create...invent...and share. We have been so fortunate to partner with Julie and Sam here at Thorpewood to be able to bring you a visual feast for the senses. They have graciously offered their dazzlingly beautiful fields, forest and flora to use as our backdrop for what we hope is a truly unique and magical adventure. As the fairy queen Titania says at the end of the actual play:

*Hand in hand, with fairy grace,
Will we sing, and bless this place.*

We invite you to use this day to re-energize yourself and your connection to the air, the sounds and the beautiful landscapes you will wander through, and most importantly, those you will share this experience with. Your walk from performance to performance will be a spectacle of beauty all on its own, so look around, listen, take it all in...a most importantly enjoy.

Julie Herber
Director

MIDSUMMER

A MOST RARE Vision

Playwrights and Poets

Joy Campbell

Matthew Lee
Reiner Prochaska

Jessica McHugh

Composers

Meryl Cullom

Michael Perrie Jr.
Colin Shultzaberger

Noah Summer

Art Installations

Joann Foltz Milee McDonald

featuring

Karli Cole
Gené Fouché
Tad Janes
Ken Poisson
Tim Seltzer
Laura Stark

Surasree Das
Devin Gaither
Mikael Johnson
Reiner Prochaska
Wilson Seltzer
Tori Weaver

Ivan Diaz Moros
Ray Hatch
James McGarvey
Lia Seltzer
Rachel Smith
Delaney White

Lucy Campbell
Searlait Hoyt
Ysa Seltzer

Tallulah Hammel
Phoenix Mayonado
Opal Stout

Mairead Hoyt
Josie Ritchie
Izzy Wood

Director

Julie Herber

Stage Manager

Shayden Jamison

Designer

Tabetha White

Designer

Doug Grove

Production Crew

Sarah Agnello
Keri Hammel
Rona Mensah
Laura Ritchie

Brenda Campbell
Siobhan Hoyt
Jeremy Myers

Hayden Draycott
Lindsay Mayonado
Jen Pagano
LJ Teske

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SCENES

The Fairies

Original music by Colin Shultzaberger

Featuring: Lucy Campbell, Mairead Hoyt, Searlait Hoyt, Ysa Seltzer,
Tallulah Hammel, Josie Ritchie, Izzy Woods

The I-Team Mechanicals

Written by Reiner Prochaska

Featuring: Ivan Diaz Moros (Nicolás Fondo), Ken Poisson (Walter Snug),
Reiner Prochaska (Peter Quince), Wilson Seltzer (Francis Flute)
Rachel Smith (Tamzin Snout), Laura Stark (Robyn Starveling)

“Though She Be Little....”

Written and voiced by Joy Campbell

Featuring: Karli Cole

Advice From an Ass

Featuring: James McGarvey, Mikael Johnson (understudy 6/18)

The Conversation

Written by Matt Lee

Featuring: Lia Seltzer (Titania), Tim Seltzer (Oberon), Phoenix Mayonado
(The Changeling Child), Opal Stout (The Changeling Child)

Hermia

Written by Jessica McHugh

Featuring: Delaney White

Helena

Written by Jessica McHugh

Featuring: Surasree Das

The Lover’s Garden

Written by Micheal Perrie, Jr

Featuring: Gené Fouché and Tad Janes

Song in a Boat

“A Most Rare Vision” written by Meryl Cullom

Featuring: Tori Weaver

Art Installation

Joann Foltz and Milee McDonald

Puck’s Flight

Original Music by Noah Sommer

Featuring: Devin Gaither

The Wise Man

Written by Ray Hatch

Featuring: Ray Hatch and Company



Karli Cole



Surasree Das



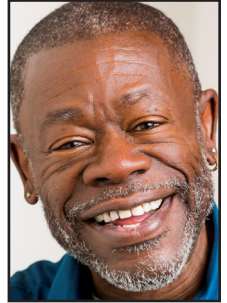
Ivan Diaz Moros



Gené Fouché



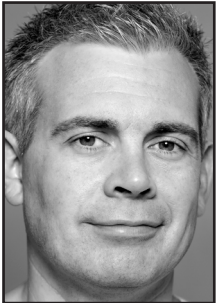
Devin Gaither



Ray Hatch



Tad Janes



James McGarvey



Ken Poisson



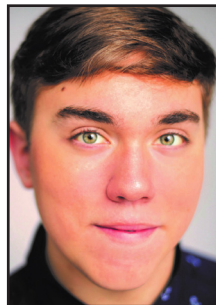
Reiner Prochaska



Lia Seltzer



Tim Seltzer



Wilson Seltzer



Rachel Smith



Laura Stark



Tori Weaver



Delaney White



Lucy Campbell



Tallulah Hammel



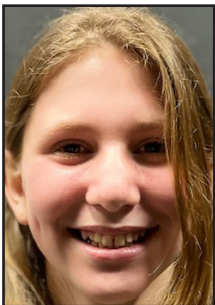
Phoenix Mayonado



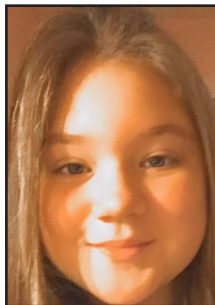
Mairead Hoyt



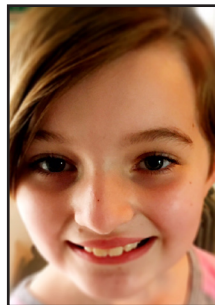
Searlait Hoyt



Losie Ritchie



Ysa Seltzer



Opal Stout



Izzy Wood

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Karli Cole is a proud MET teaching artist and company member. Previous MET credits include: *Curse of the Starving Class*, *Let the Right One In*, *A View from the Bridge*, *The Pillowman*, *Top Girls*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Super*, *Junie B. Jones*, *Goodnight Moon*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Biker Macbeth* and many more. In 2016 she graduated with a BFA in Physical Theatre from Coastal Carolina University.

Surasree Das Strand: *Little Women*, Smithsonian: *Seasons of Light*, Free Range Humans: *Jekyll/Hyde*, Imagination Stage: *Hungry Caterpillar*, *Aquarium*, *Princess and the Pauper*; BAPAC: *TornKid* EStP: *Midsummer*, MET: *Radium Girls*, *Top Girls*, *Click*, *Clack*, *Moo!*, *Cinderella*, *Little Mermaid*; Center Stage: *Animal Farm*; Single Carrot: *Lear*, Constellation: *Arabian Nights*, Toby's: *South Pacific*. BITRSister Awards: Best actor nomination(Jo), Best Ensemble (*Little Women*), Best Devised (*TornKid*)

Ivan Diaz Moros is a Venezuela born actor and journalist with experience in theater, film and television. He is a dynamic, multilingual professional with broad, international media arts experience in managing, producing, directing, writing, and teaching. He has done significant journalistic and educational work with all age groups. He is the founder of the Alapalestra theater company, with 12 theatrical shows.

Devin Gaither is the Aerial Program Director for Luna Aerial Dance & Performing Arts in Frederick MD where she manages the curriculum, staff, programming, and bookings for aerial silks, trapeze, and. lyra. She has performed with the MET many times over the past decade, including: *Stupid F*cking Bird*, *The Shape of Things*, *Finally Heard*, *Antigone*, *A Clockwork Orange*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Devin also loves stage managing the annual production and tour of *Christmas Carol*. She is so excited to be able to bring aerial performance to this unique and exciting production!

Gené Fouché is an Associate Artistic Director and a founder of MET where she also serves as Director of Education. Favorite MET appearances include: *Admissions*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, *Rapture Blister Burn*, *Betty the Yeti*, *Blue Window*, *Proof*, *The Underpants*, *Exuviae*, *Planet Claire*, *Wonder of the World*, *Biker Macbeth*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *A Christmas Carol*. She teaches theatre at McDaniel College.

Ray Hatch is a director/choreographer/actor/singer/dancer/instructor who has been in the theatre arts & dance for almost 50 years. He was Soapy Smith in *Gift of the Magi*, Brucie in *Sweat*, Franklin in *The Canterbury Tales* & directed *Circle Mirror Transformation*, all here at the Met. Other local performances include Hoke in *Driving Miss Daisy* & King Herod in *Jesus Christ Superstar* at Other Voices Theatre & also directed *Arsenic & Old Lace* for OVT. Ray is MET company member

Tad Janes is the Founding Producing Artistic Director of MET and Theatre Program Manager at Frederick Community College. BFA from West Virginia University and Masters from the University of Kent in Canterbury and Goucher College. MET mainstage: *Curse of the Starving Class*, *A View from the Bridge*, *Superior Donuts*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *The 39 Steps*, *Macbeth*, *American Buffalo*, *Killer Joe*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *True West*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *A Christmas Carol* and his original solo show *Truthpaste: A Blotto Biography*.

James McGarvey is a MET company member. Past MET performances include *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*, *MacBeth*, *Completely Hollywood (Abridged)*, *Elephant Man*, *Admissions* as well as many Fun Company productions, such as *A Christmas Carol* since 2006. He has been a member of the Comedy Pigs, performed with Baltimore Improv Group, a regular with MET

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Comedy Night, and appeared in several MET-X productions, including co-wrote and performed in *Balls Deep In Love*.

Ken Poisson, a proud MET company member, is thrilled to be working with such a talented cast and crew. MET roles include The Old Man in *The Wizard of Odd*, Polyphemus the Cyclops in *The Young Olympians and the Most Amazingly Awesome Adventure Ever*, The Dairy Queen/Ensemble in *The All New Grand Ole Hee Haw Hootenanny Hoe Down Jamboree* and Snug in the 2009 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Reiner Prochaska, a long-time MET-ensemble member, is excited to be involved in this production inspired by *A Midsummer Night's Dream*—having previously played the roles of Helena and Theseus. Favorite MET acting credits include *Red Herring*, *The Elephant Man*, and *Circle Mirror Transformation*—as well as *Canterbury Tales* and *A Revolutionary Christmas*, both of which he also wrote. Reiner teaches writing at Towson University and acting at McDaniel College.

Lia Seltzer is a proud company member at MET. Last seen on stage in *Admissions*, she has worked on many Mainstage and FUN Company productions including *Sweat*, *Good People*, *Hand to God* and *El Viaje de Beatriz*.

Tim Seltzer is a MET company member. Acting credits include, *Sweat*, *1984*, *A Christmas Story*, *Superior Donuts*, *The Arsonist*, *Doubt: A Parable* (NoDog), and *A Clockwork Orange*. Directing credits include *Twelfth Night*, *The Eight Reindeer Monologues*, *Eleemosynary*, *Amadeus* (FTP) and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* – *Abridged* (Thomaston Opera House).

Wilson Seltzer is a MET apprentice, Ambassador at the Academy of Fine Arts and senior at TJ High. Working on many MET

productions, Wilson was most recently seen on stage in *Admissions*, and *Good Night Moon*. Wilson will attend Towson University for Theater and Performing Arts in the fall.

Rachel Smith is usually behind the scenes instead of in them. She has been seen on-stage in a few roles with Frederick Classical Ensemble and in outdoor shows at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley. Rachel is a company member at the MET.

Laura Stark is a MET company member and a former member of The Comedy Pigs. A Shenandoah Conservatory graduate, her credits include *The Ultimate Christmas Show*; *Pride & Prejudice*; *Superior Donuts*; *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn*; *End Days*; *The 50th Anniversary of Oklahoma*; *Fiddler On The Roof*; *Once Upon A Mattress* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Laura currently teaches improvisation at the MET and to corporations throughout the country.

Tori Weaver is a company member at MET, where some of her favorite past roles include Tattletale May in *Junie B Jones* and Charlotte/Mr. Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. Other regional credits include Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nonsense*, The Lady of the Lake in *Spamalot*, and The Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*. Education: American Musical and Dramatic Academy NYC. Love and thanks to our MET family for this opportunity to perform live again!

Delaney White is a rising sophomore at The Hartt school of music, dance, and theatre in Connecticut where she is earning her BFA in Musical Theatre. MET credits: *Rocky Horror*, *A Christmas Carol*. Delaney has been involved in other community theatre productions in Frederick such as Fredericktowne Players' *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Loser-ville* where she originated the role of Holly Manson in the states.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Lucy Campbell is 13 years old and has been working with Maryland Ensemble Theatre since she was 7. She's been in productions of *A Christmas Carol*, *Madagascar*, *Shrek The Musical* and *Young Camelot*. She enjoys singing and her favorite musical is *Hedestown*.

Tallulah Hammel is excited to be part of the Midsummer cast. She recently starred as Tinkerbell in a MET production and has performed as different characters in several MET and Dance Unlimited camps. Tallulah is a rising 4th grader and enjoys basketball, playing with her dogs, and going to the beach

Mairead Hoyt is a 6th grader at Middletown Middle School, and she is excited to be working with the MET again. MET credits include *Shrek the Musical, Jr.* and *Oz*. She has also performed various roles in the Maryland Regional Ballet's annual production of *The Nutcracker*.

Searlait Hoyt is a 7th grader at Middletown Middle School and is very excited to be working with the MET again. MET credits include *Shrek the Musical, Jr.*; *Oz*; *A Christmas Story*; *Madagascar, Jr.*; and *Young Camelot*. She also enjoys writing, playing violin, and reading.

Phoenix Mayonado is excited to perform in his first MET production! You may have seen him on stage formerly as Winthrop in *The Music Man*, a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Roquefort in *The Aristocats*. Phoenix enjoys acting, creating art, and reading!

Josie Ritchie is a Walkersville Middle School student who has been active at the MET for 5 years and has participated in many summer programs. She has played a Cratchit child in *A Christmas Carol* for 4 years, starting as Tiny Tim. She also participates in interpretive speaking with 4H.

Ysa Seltzer has performed in many MET FUN Camp productions and has worked on *A Christmas Carol* for the past 6 years.

Opal Stout is delighted to be making her Maryland Ensemble Theatre debut performance in *Midsummer: A Most Rare Vision*. Opal is a rising fifth grader at the Banner School in Frederick, Maryland, where she has performed in several theater productions, including *The Cuckoo* (lead) and *Stone Soup* (Louise)

Izzy Wood is thrilled to be a part of the MET production of *Midsummer*. An avid dancer, she has performed in *The Nutcracker* annually since she was four. In addition to ballet, she is also honing her craft in Musical Theater and has danced in numerous recitals in this capacity. In 2019 she was also in the MET Fun Camp production of *Kid Frankenstein*.



WHO'S WHO ON THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Joy Campbell (Playwright) is so excited to be a part of *Midsummer: A Most Rare Vision*. She has performed in the MET's production of *Goodnight Moon* as a puppeteer and for Teen MET's production of *Planet Claire* as Annie/Eena. She will be pursuing Musical Theatre this fall at Roosevelt University. She hopes you enjoy the magic!

Jessica McHugh (Poet) is a novelist, poet, and the internationally-produced playwright of the award-winning *Fools Call it Fate*. She's had twenty-four books published in twelve years, including horror novels, a YA series, and her Bram Stoker Award-Nominated blackout poetry collection, *A Complex Accident of Life*. She is honored to have written two monologues for the MET's *Midsummer: A Most Rare Vision*

Matt Lee (Playwright) is a MET company member. Past performance credits include *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Superior Donuts*, *The Elephant Man*, and *1984*, among many others. He's written numerous works for the stage, including an adaptation of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

Meryl Cullom (Composer) is an Actor-Singer and Songwriter who has performed around the world in national tours, regional theatres, on cruise ships, and in Tokyo Disneyland. For MET's Fun Company, Meryl has written the songs for the World Premieres of *Lucy Rose and Here is the Thing About Me*; and *Ready, Set, ME!*. She also wrote original songs for Fun Company's *Cinderella* and their updated version of *The 3 Little Pigs* to raise funds and awareness about homelessness. Currently, Meryl is Director of Music for WHIN Music Community Charter School (the first school in the world founded on the principles of El Sistema) in Washington Heights, NYC.

Michael Perrie, Jr (Composer) is a NYC/NJ based Playwright/Screenwriter, Lyricist, and Composer originally from Baltimore, Maryland. As a writer it's always been his goal is to create fresh, challenging, and funny work: the likes of which have been seen all across the US. Most recently: *Pocketmon: A Musical Parody* (Hollywood Fringe), *An Evening With the World's Greatest Actor* (Colorado Fringe Festival), *Big Red Button* (Matrix Theatre Co), and more. Upcoming: his play *An Evening With The World's Greatest Actor* is set to be produced again in Colorado (Fall 2021), and he's currently in rehearsals for his musical *My Favorite Musical* with Virtual Venue Theatricals based on the incredibly popular podcast, *My Favorite Murder*. @myfavpodcastmusical @mikeperriejr

Colin Schultzaberger (Composer)

Noah Sommer (Composer) has been a music producer and sound engineer since 2014. Helping him get his feet on the ground, MET's Thom Huenger taught him all the fundamentals needed to be great through several classes taken at FCC. Since then, Noah has worked hard to establish a signature sound, and having been involved with the MET as an actor for over a decade, he is now thrilled to be part of *Midsummer* in his new role as a composer.

Joann Foltz (Art Installation)

Milee McDonald (Set Design/Art Installation)

Julie Herber (Director) is Associate artistic Director of the Maryland Ensemble Theatre and Artistic Director of The Fun Company. She has appeared in, directed and choreographed countless productions, throughout

WHO'S WHO ON THE PRODUCTION TEAM

the mid-atlantic region. Julie is an instructor for The Ensemble School and also teaches Theatre/Acting & Musical Theatre Dance Styles at Frederick Community College and McDaniel College. MET Directing credits include: *Let the Right One In, 1984, The Elephant Man, In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play), Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, A Clockwork Orange, Antigone, Red Herring, A Christmas Carol, Ruthless, Lysistrata, Coyote on a Fence.*

Doug Grove (Technical Consultant) is a proud Company Member of the Maryland Ensemble Theatre (MET). He has worked with many theatre companies across Maryland doing lights, set, props, sound, special effects, technical direction, production management, and stage management including the MET, MEG Theatre, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Hood College Theatre, and Landless Theatre Company. He is an install/service tech for Parlights providing architectural and theatrical lighting controls throughout the Mid-Atlantic. Website: dgtheatre.tech

Tabetha White (Designer) is a company member at the Maryland Ensemble Theatre and a member of the steering committee for the Women+ in Theatre Conference. She is a theatre artist and educator with a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from West Virginia University. MET credits include directing *Loving Frederick & METLab*, and Lighting Design for *The Arsonists, The Rocky Horror Show, Oedipus Rox, Bad Jews, Top Girls*, and *Fred's Diner*

Shayden Jamison is a Theatre Production & Design Student at Towson University and holds an A.A. in Arts & Humanities from Frederick Community College. He is a MET company member. Past produc-

tions include: Stage Management: *Victory is Within Our Grasp, End Days, Junie B. Jones, The Importance of Being Earnest.* Assistant Stage Management: *The Rocky Horror Show, Pride & Prejudice.* Stage Crew: *Balloonacy Radium Girls.*

Special Thanks to our Production Crew

**Sarah Agnello
Brenda Campbell
Stephen Craig
Hayden Draycott
Keri Hammel
Siobhan Hoyt
Mikael Johnson
Lindsay Mayonado
Rona Mensah
Jeremy Myers
Jen Pagano
Laura Ritchie
LJ Teske
Melynda Wintrol**

**Thanks to our hosts:
ThorpeWood
Sam Castleman
Julie Castleman**

STAFF

Tad Janes	Artistic Director
Kathryn Vicere	Managing Director
Gené Fouché	Associate Artistic Director/Director of Education
Julie Herber	Associate Artistic Director/Artistic Director Fun Company
Melynda B. Wintrol	Production and Audience Services Manager
Cody James	Master Carpenter and Electrician
Kevin Cole	Marketing Coordinator
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THE MET ENSEMBLE

This group of actors, directors, designers, stage managers, and theatre managers work daily to make MET a success!

Lisa Burl	Julie Herber	Molly Parchment	Bailey Sterling-Lee
Karli Cole	Shayden Jamison	Em Perper	Vanessa Strickland
Kevin Cole	Tad Janes	Ken Poisson	Matt Vance
Steve Custer	Lauren Johnson	Reiner Prochaska	Tori Weaver
Mikayla Domingo	Caitlyn Joy	Katie Rattigan	Tabetha White
Jack Evans	Matt Lee	Lia Seltzer	Emeritus:
Jeanine Evans	Tom Majorov	Tim Seltzer	Joann Foltz
Gené Fouché	James McGarvey	Sarah Shulman	Lorrie Lee
Doug Grove	Rona Mensah	JD Sivert	Milee McDonald
Matt Harris	Jeremy Myers	Rachel Smith	Mak Nichols
Ray Hatch	Jennifer Pagano	Laura Stark	

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Contact bbarry@marylandensemble.org Volunteer Coordinator

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