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BALLETJÖRGEN



# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM



**September 25, 2026**  
**Algonquin Theatre - Huntsville**



This performance is made possible through the generous support of  
Blake Hutcheson & Susan Farrow Hutcheson & Family.

With additional support from Lynne Golding & The Honourable Tony  
Clement, P.C. and Kevin Goldthorp.



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# Message from the Artistic Director

Thank you for joining us for A Midsummer Night's Dream!

As a company dedicated to telling Canadian stories, we are immensely proud to share a truly Canadian interpretation of this great Shakespearean comedy. Anchored in a real historical moment—the 1951 Royal Tour of Canada—we have set our production in the small fictional northern hamlet of Athens, Alberta.



Creating this ballet has been on my wish list for many years. Felix Mendelssohn's music makes our feet move, and the story has enough twists and turns to spin our heads. People fall in and out of love, and when you throw in a moose, a lion, a hobgoblin, and a handful of fairies, well... then we're truly set to go!

The creation of A Midsummer Night's Dream was made possible by the generous support of Mary and Graham Hallward and BMO Financial Group. Significant gifts have also been made by Kathleen & Buck Henderson, Heather J. Baker, Robert & Teresa Brouwer, Judith Gelber, Dawn Frail & Tim Margolian, Kevin R. Goldthorp and David Aylward & Robyn Simpson.

RBC sponsors our National Education and Skills Program, supporting Local Participants, Apprentices, and Mentorship Students whose contributions enrich both the creative process and performances. Presentations across Ontario are generously supported by BMO Financial Group, the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation, the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts. Tonight's performance has been made possible by Blake Hutcheson & Susan Farrow Hutcheson & Family, with additional support from Lynne Golding & The Honourable Tony Clement, P.C, and Kevin Goldthorp.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the many other individuals, foundations, and corporations whose generosity has made it possible for us to share this ballet with you tonight.

I also want to acknowledge the vital contributions of my co-creative team, without whom this production would not have been possible. Stage Director Heinar Piller and Set & Costume Designer Sue LePage have been instrumental in shaping the ballet.

Of course, the dancers have been my closest collaborators. I am indebted to our Dancers who have helped create every role in the production. Their energy, enthusiasm, ideas, and steadfast support are vividly present in the performance you will see today.

I hope Puck and his friends bring delight and a little magic rubs off along the way.

Enjoy the performance

Warmest regards,



Bengt Jörgen C.M.

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# Synopsis

## ACT I

### **Prologue**

#### **Early Morning - Midsummer Night's Eve 1951, Northern Alberta**

Our friend Puck, a traveller and sprite hobgoblin, chances on the sleeping village of Athens – a northern town watched over by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

#### **Far away at Westminster Abbey, London, England**

The wedding of Princess Elizabeth & the Duke of Edinburgh has taken place.

#### **Village Square, Athens, Alberta**

The news spreads that the Royals are coming to Canada and they will make a brief stop right here in Athens, Alberta!

Excitement builds – people stream into the square many, themselves, in love - Helena with Demetrius, Demetrius with Hermia, Hermia with Lysander, and Lysander with Hermia.

The postmistress, Quince, decides to put on a play in the Royal's honour with her motley band of amateur actors, led by the swaggering woodsman Bottom.

The festive mood is abruptly punctured by a fight between Demetrius and Lysander over Hermia. She has been promised in marriage to Demetrius by her father, Egeus. Hermia, being in love with Lysander, refuses to accept.

Lysander and Hermia decide to elope through the nearby forest to the next village. Demetrius is in hot pursuit of his promised partner, and Helena is in turn on his heels with the aim to turn his heart towards her.

### **Behind the Post Office**

Quince reveals to her motley crew that the Play they will perform is The Most Lamentable Tale of Pyramus and Thisbe and assigns roles. To avoid curious onlookers, they retreat into the forest to find a secluded place to rehearse.

## **In the Forest**

Puck is frolicking with fairies from far and near.

Queen of the Fairies, Titania, and King of the Fairies, Oberon, meet up but are interrupted by a wonderful silver lynx that they both desire to keep as their own. Titania wins the struggle and departs with the Lynx. Oberon, enraged, plots his revenge.

Oberon sends Puck around the world to find a magical flower that will cause a person to fall instantly in love with the first being they see.

While waiting for Puck to return, Oberon chances on Helena desperately pleading with cold-hearted Demetrius for his love. Taking pity on Helena, he picks up Demetrius's discarded jacket and instructs Puck to find the young man to whom it belongs and enchant him to fall in love with Helena.

Oberon then hears Titania's retinue approach as they scope out a perfect place for their mistress to sleep. Oberon, back to his mission of revenge, waits until Titania is asleep and applies the love potion to her eyes.

In the meantime, the exhausted Hermia and Lysander decide to rest for the night in the clearing. Hermia insists, for propriety's sake, that Lysander must sleep away from her until they are married. Puck, still searching for Demetrius, sees the sleeping teenagers, and mistaking Lysander for Demetrius, he applies the love potion and thinks – mission accomplished!

Demetrius, still fleeing Helena, stumbles on Lysander who immediately wakes. Lysander eyes fall on the pursuing Helena and he instantly falls in love, professing his passion for her. Helena flees in horror, pursued by the now madly in love Lysander. This leaves Hermia alone as she wakes up from a nightmare. Discovering Lysander gone but recognizing Demetrius's jacket, she is convinced her dear love Lysander is in danger or worse. She sets out to find him.

Quince, Bottom and Friends have found the perfect place to rehearse! But discord soon follows and playful Puck adds mayhem by turning Bottom into a moose! The commotion awakes Titania who then spies the Moose and.... falls head over heels in love with the beast – all to Oberon's delight. What embarrassment! Sweet revenge!

## ACT II

### **In the Forest**

Hermia finds and confronts Demetrius, accusing him of harming Lysander. Demetrius, completely confused and exhausted, falls asleep.

Oberon, realizing that Puck has enchanted the wrong man, applies the love potion to Demetrius and sends Puck to bring Helena back so things can be set right. As Helena arrives, she falls onto Demetrius, who wakes and instantly loves her. But Lysander still under the spell continues in hot pursuit of Helena. Both men now chase Helena who struggles to escape. Hermia arrives, and full chaos ensues.

Oberon, blaming Puck for the mayhem, orders Puck to arrange things properly: have the correct man fall asleep beside the correct partner. Oberon uses the antidote to release Lysander and then does the same for Titania. Titania wakes and is horrified to find herself beside a Moose and retreats to Oberon. Oberon realizes he went too far, and both he and Titania remorsefully embrace each other.

Lastly, before leaving the clearing Oberon wakes the two couples - now contently in love with the correct partner.

The watchful Mountie, who was left searching for the missing teenagers, finds the four reconciled lovers who only remember their discord as if in a dream. All rush back to Athens to greet the Royals with a proper wedding celebration. Puck releases Bottom who reunites with his friends and rushes back to put on their play.

### **Village Square, Athens, Alberta**

The Royals arrive – the young lovers get married – Quince, Bottom and Friends put on their play – all is well. As the Royals depart, Puck puts the everyone to sleep.

*If we shadows have offended,  
Think but this, and all is mended:  
That you have but slumber'd here  
While these visions did appear.  
So good night unto you all.  
Give me your hands, if we be friends,  
And Robin shall restore amends.*

# The Cast

In order of appearance, program & cast subject to change.

## *\*Local Youth Participant Roles*

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PUCK                | Ryusei Nagafuchi                                                                                                                                                    |
| MOUNTIE             | Bengt Jörgen                                                                                                                                                        |
| SPRITES             | Chabi Arauz, Mandi Bryce, Matt Bryce, Natalie Dixon, Anna Turkington                                                                                                |
| NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER   | Eugene Pang                                                                                                                                                         |
| PRINCESS ELIZABETH  | Akari Fujiwara                                                                                                                                                      |
| DUKE OF EDINBURGH   | Adrián Ramirez Juárez                                                                                                                                               |
| *TRAIN BEARER       | Keira Mosley, Maya Scott                                                                                                                                            |
| VILLAGERS           | Company & Local Participants: Blair Griffiths, Adessa MacDonald, Linnaea Robertson, Danna Scott, and Gabriella Sinclair                                             |
| QUINCE-POSTMISTRESS | Esther Zignaigo                                                                                                                                                     |
| SNOUT-A PLASTERER   | Matt Bryce                                                                                                                                                          |
| FLUTE-A MECHANIC    | Ilia Dogudovskii                                                                                                                                                    |
| SNUG-A FARM HAND    | Eugene Pang                                                                                                                                                         |
| HELENA              | Taisiya Zamula                                                                                                                                                      |
| DEMETRIUS           | Omar Hernández                                                                                                                                                      |
| HERMIA              | Lydia-Laure Germain                                                                                                                                                 |
| EGEUS               | Marco Alessandro Corcella                                                                                                                                           |
| LYSANDER            | Matthew Jordan                                                                                                                                                      |
| BOTTOM-A WOODSMAN   | Adam Davidson                                                                                                                                                       |
| FAIRIES             | Chabi Arauz, Mandi Bryce, Natalie Dixon, Esther Zignaigo, Risa Takeshima, Anna Turkington, Matt Bryce, Adam Davidson, Ilia Dogudovskii, Matthew Jordan, Eugene Pang |
| *LITTLE FAIRIES     | Susannah Pratt, Maya Scott                                                                                                                                          |
| *BUNNY              | Collins Evenden                                                                                                                                                     |
| *MOUSE              | Blake Lobsinger                                                                                                                                                     |
| TITANIA             | Akari Fujiwara                                                                                                                                                      |
| OBERON              | Adrián Ramirez Juárez                                                                                                                                               |
| LYNX                | Gabriella Sinclair                                                                                                                                                  |
| PASTOR              | Marco Alessandro Corcella                                                                                                                                           |

Play- The Most Lamentable Tale of Pyramus and Thisbe

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| MASTER OF CEREMONY | Esther Zignaigo  |
| PYRAMUS            | Adam Davidson    |
| WALL               | Matt Bryce       |
| THISBE             | Ilia Dogudovskii |
| LION               | Eugene Pang      |

# JÖRGEN COMMUNITY DANCE Credits

## Local Youth Participants:

Collins Evenden, Blair Griffiths, Blake Lobsinger, Adessa MacDonald, Keira Mosley, Susannah Pratt, Linnaea Robertson, Danna Scott, Maya Scott, and Gabriella Sinclair

## Local Youth Participants Courtesy of:

JJ Dance Performing Arts Studio, Muskoka Dance Academy, Studio 12 by RDC, and The Danceroom

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All of our volunteers that made this production possible.

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Chabi Arauz  
Panama, Panama  
Company Member  
since 2024



Mandi Bryce  
Maple Ridge, British Columbia  
Company Member since 2025



Marco Alessandro Corcella  
Cerignola, Italy  
Company Dancer 2026



Matthew Bryce  
Maple Ridge, British Columbia  
Company Member  
since 2026



Adam Davidson  
Zephyr, Ontario  
Company Member  
since 2019



Natalie Dixon  
Calgary, Alberta  
Company Dancer  
since 2025



Ilia Dogudovskii  
Moscow, Russia  
Company Member  
since 2025



Akari Fujiwara  
Aichi, Japan  
Company Member  
since 2017  
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Lydia-Laure Germain  
Montréal, Québec  
Company Member  
since 2021



Omar Hernández  
Pinar del Río, Cuba  
Company Member  
since 2022



Matthew Jordan  
Adelaide, Australia  
Company Member  
since 2024



Adrián Ramírez Juárez  
México City, Mexico  
Company Member since  
2014



Rose Juliette  
Montréal, Québec  
Company Dancer  
since 2026



Rinka Matsuura  
Kumamoto, Japan  
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since 2026



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Aichi, Japan  
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Hong Kong, China  
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Anna Turkington  
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since 2025



Taisiya Zamula  
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Esther Zignaigo  
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since 2021



Courtney Yun  
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RBC Apprentice



Garreth Chapple  
Toronto, Ontario  
Ballet Jörgen Mentee



Natalie Kempton  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
Ballet Jörgen Mentee

**Learn More About  
Our Dancers**



# Production Credits

**Choreography** Bengt Jörgen, C.M.

**Music** Felix Mendelssohn

**Costume & Set Design** Sue LePage

**Lighting Design** Madhu/ மது

**Stage Direction** Heinar Piller

**Synopsis** Heinar Piller with assistance from Sue LePage

**Scenic Carpentry** Hamilton Scenic Specialty

**Props** Nina Hartt, Young People's Theatre  
David Hoekstra

**Set Coordinator** Cindy Smith

**Costumers & Cutters** Brenda Clark, Kim Crossley

**Assistants** Kaz Maxine, Karen Merriam, Shona  
Humphrey, Nancy Turner

**Millinery and Moose Headdress** Monica Viani

Thank you to the following young dancers for  
being a part of the creation of the ballet:

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Eiza Groff, Natalie Kempton, Bohdi McBurney,  
Sofia Polti

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Parikh, Carolina Rehues, Anna Turkington, Lily  
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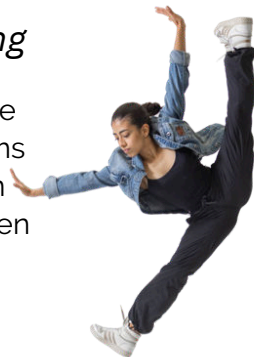
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**Artistic Director & CEO** Bengt Jörgen C.M.

**Artistic Working Group** Lydia-Laure Germain~, Matthew Jordan~, Esther Zignaigo

**Company Dancers** Chabi Arauz~, Mandi Bryce, Matt Bryce, Marco Corcella, Adam Davidson~, Natalie Dixon, Ilia Dogudovskii, Akari Fujiwara~, Lydia-Laure Germain~, Omar Hernández, Matthew Jordan~, Adrián Ramírez Juárez~, Rinka Matsuura, Rose Juliette, Ryusei Nagafuchi~, Eugene Pang, Risa Takeshima, Anna Turkington~, Taisiya Zamula'~, Esther Zignaigo

**RBC Apprentice** Courtney Yun

**Mentorship Students** Garreth Chapple, Natalie Kempton

**Principal Character Artist** Clea Iveson

**Resident Choreographer** Hanna Kiel

**Resident Stage Direction** Heinar Pillar

**Production & Stage Manager** Amanda Caliollo

**Production Coordinator** Leah Totten

**Technical Coordinator** Jeff Bornstein

**Lighting Coordinators** Erwin Lau & Kit Norman

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