

## chicago park district

*Celebrating over 30 years of Chase Park Theatre at this location!*

### **ABOUT CHASE PARK THEATRE:**

Chase Park Theatre has been an active community-based theatre program for over thirty years, in two different field house buildings on this site. We are proud to serve as a launching pad for emerging professionals and newcomers to the world-famous Chicago theatrical community. In the past two years, our productions have helped to engender and spin off several new theatre companies and numerous individual actors, including Signal Theatre and Revolution Theatre. Companies in residence here have included Plasticene Theatre and Tri-Arts, and numerous companies use our park for rehearsal space on a daily basis. Chase Park Theatre needs your support! Please contact director Karen Fort about how you can help. Please take a moment to write to the Chicago Park District and tell them that you support this program. We love volunteers to assist with our productions, in a great variety of capacities. Thank you for coming to our show tonight and for your support!

Chase Park Theatre is a production of:

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# *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

*by William Shakespeare*

*Directed by Karen Fort*

### **Chase Park Theatre**

4701 North Ashland Avenue, Chicago  
8:00 pm, March 10, 12, 15, 17, 18.  
Matinee 2 pm, March 13, 21

# A Midsummer Night's Dream

By William Shakespeare

Setting: Athens

Theseus	Mark Sharp
Hippolyta	Brittani Ebert
Philostrate	Jerry Owen
Egeus	Tom McKay
Hermia	Carolyn Wright
Lysander	Robin Trevino
Demetrius	Matt Edwards
Helena	Kate Sommers-Dawes
Peter Quince	Sylvia Schluter
Nick Bottom	William McIntosh
Francis Flute	Cyndi Rhoads
Tom Snout	Rory Kane Jobst
Snug	Eileen Ferguson
Robin Starveling	Kirk Jackson
Oberon	Sushant Naidu
Titania	Jill Slattery
Puck	Jude Willis
First Fairy	Caitlin Tauer
Peaseblossom	Maggie Marion
Cobweb	Elise Newman
Moth	Emma Marion
Mustardseed	Elise Sonnenberg
Fairy	Pippin Mueller
Changling Prince	Marrio Brown
Boy Henchman	Steven Simms
Boy Henchman	Jake Marion
Director/Producer	Karen Fort
Co-Stage Manager	Ziggy Olson
Stage Manager/Lighting Designer	Leslie Ann Johnston
Hair Design	Cengiz Ozcan
Assistant Director	Duane Davy
Sound Design	Keith Fort
Choreographer	Pippin Mueller
Stitcher	Susan Saez
Costumer/Stitcher	Sara Tauer
Music Director	Fred Butzen
Set Designer	Jeff Grygny
Graphic Designer	Libby Taggart
Fight Choreographer	Dawn "Sam" Alden
Composer	Jeff Silva

This performance will have one ten-minute intermission.

## The Players and Staff



**Marrio Brown** *Changling Prince* Marrio is eleven years old and attends St. John's Barchmans School. In the *Twelfth Night* Young Actors class he played Fabian in the box tree scene and Sir Andrew Aguecheek in the scairdy-cats sword fight. He wants to be a film actor when he grows up.



**Brittani Ebert** *Hippolyta* Brittani is making her Shakespearean debut with Chase Park Theatre. Other Chicago stage credits include currently serving as an Artistic Associate for Teatro Urbano, a new, ethnically diverse theatre company, and ensemble for Chicago Improv Anarchy (CIA). She has also appeared in *The Yoga Show: Wealth and Hellness* (Fourth Annual Sketch Fest), *Wyrd Sisters* (St. Sebastian Players), *Suspicious Clowns 6.5*, and *Objection Sustained* (Second City: Skybox). A Theatre BA graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, she was a member of the Human Experience Theatre and performed a Christmas show for the Racine Youthful Correctional Facility inmates (14-17 ages). Look for her now on CBS 2 for the *Just Turn to 2* ad campaign using sign language.



**Matt Edwards** *Demetrius* Matt has performed for Boxer Rebellion, ARFTCo, the 2004 Bailiwick's Director's Festival, Speaking Ring, Camenae Ensemble Theater Company, New Millennium, Billy Goat Experimental Theater Company, Darknight Theatrical Productions, The North Lakeside Players, and others since moving to Chicago 2 years ago. He has also done local indie films and a public service announcement in Milwaukee. Thanks to all.



**Eileen Ferguson** *Snug* Eileen has played Vivian in *Love, Sex and the IRS* at Morton College, Claudine in *Shante's Reality Check* at Ivy Productions, Norma in *The Diviners*, Martha in *The Octet Bridge Club* and Penny in *You Can't Take it with You* for The Chicago Park District theaters. For Southwest Theater Art Resources: Cindy in *Hard Candy*, Mrs. Chumley in *Harvey*, and Effie in *Macbeth Did It*.



**Kirk Jackson** *Robin Starveling* Kirk is excited to be appearing in his first show with the Chase Park Theater. He graduated from Illinois State University and might have been seen as *The Messenger* in Theater of Entropy's production of *1984* or as JoJo the Space Monkey in *Animal of the Year* at The Bailiwick Theater. Special thanks go out to his wife Paige, his boss John (for being flexible), and to Karen Fort.



**Rory Kane Jobst** *Tom Snout/Wall* Rory is a graduate of the Chicago Academy for the Arts where he played the same role in the same play you will be seeing tonight. He recently graduated from Marymount Manhattan College where he appeared in *Six Degrees of Separation*, *The Seagull*, *Rhinoceros*, and *Rough for Theater 2*. His plays *Dislocation to the Left* was performed at Curious Theater Branch, and *A Babel Fish for Charlie Brown's Mom* at the 13th Annual Rhinoceros Festival.



**Emma Marion** *Moth* Emma is ten years old and in fifth grade. She is home-schooled with her three siblings by her mom and plays piano. She enjoys reading, singing, and playing video games. Emma has also acted in scene study groups.



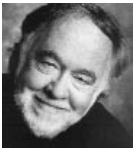
**Jake Marion** *Boy Henchman* Jake was born in February 1992 and has played the part of Demetrius, Bottom and Malvolio in a *Twelfth Night* scene study class.



**Maggie Marion** *Peaseblossom* Maggie is eleven years old. She is home-schooled and enjoys reading, playing with her two pet ferrets and acting. She has acted in other Karen Fort productions including Olivia and Toby in the *Twelfth Night* scene study and is going to be Helena in the scene study production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



**William McIntosh** *Bottom* William is very happy to be able to show his Bottom to everyone. He has been chasing the Bard across the country for some time now, having performed with Colorado Shakespeare, Washington Shakespeare, Pasadena Shakespeare, and our own Oak Park Theater Festival. He has played the title role of Macbeth, Stephano in *The Tempest*, Cassio in *Othello*. Also in *Timon of Athens*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Romeo and Juliet*. One could say he has been in all the Shakespeare cannon, but his role as Daniel in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged* doesn't hardly count. He would like to thank all the people that have chased him from here to there and back again for all the wonderful times.



**Tom McKay** *Egeus* Tom is in his second show with Karen Fort at Chase Park. He last appeared as the ghost and the gravedigger in *Hamlet*. He recently retired as an English teacher at Truman College.



**Pippin Mueller** *Fairy/Choreographer* Pippin has spent the last four years with the Thin Ice Theatre Company. Her credits there include: Rheba in *You Can't Take it with You*; Mercy Lewis in *The Crucible*, Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and recently, Feste in *Twelfth Night*. She studies ballet at Performing Arts Limited in Chicago. She is choreographer for The Grace Dance Team, at her church. Homeschooled, she takes voice and piano, with five younger siblings in tow.



**Sushant Naidu** *Oberon* Sushant is a graduate of American Conservatory Theatre and moved to Chicago last year. In Chicago he has worked with Darknight Theatrical Productions, Yama Works, Rasaka Theatre Company, and is thankful to Karen Fort for this awesome experience with Chase Park Theatre. Sushant was born in Kuwait, raised in India, Kuwait, England, France, and moved to the US about five years ago. Some of his other theater credits include: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Pelican*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Edith Stein*, *Saul & Sam*, *Wildwood Park*, and *The Mousetrap*. He'd like to thank Tony for all the encouragement and support "It means more than you know."



**Elise Newman** *Cobweb* Elise is an eleven years old and began her acting career in 2004. Elise goes to LaSalle Language Academy where she concentrates in Spanish. She has acted in excerpts of Shakespeare's, *Twelfth Night* and she has played the roles of Viola, Maria, and Fabian. Elise hopes to be in many other plays in the future.

**Jerry Owen** *Philostrate* Jerry returns to the stage after a six year absence. He is very happy to be back. Before his hiatus, he performed in several Shakespearean productions, including *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. He would like to thank his fiancée Angela for her continuing support.



**Cyndi Rhoads** *Flute* Cyndi recently appeared in two productions at The Mansion on the Lake with Collage Productions' *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and The North Lakeside Players' *Ancestral Voices*. This past year she was seen in Organic Theater's *Member of the Wedding*, Roadwork's production of *Season's Greetings* and *The Santaland Diaries*, and Pegasus Player's *The State of Mississippi* and *The Face of Emmett Till*. Other stage credits include: *Einstein's Dreams* (National Pastime), *Crimes of the Heart* (Thirsty Theater), *A Haymarket Fable* (Cold Chicago), *Billy* (Chicago Theatre Company) and *Without Subtitles* (Playwrights' Center). Independent film credits include *Sylvia's Baklava*, *Sunset Town*, *Flat Iron Blues*, *The Family Tie*, and *The Devolution of Ethan Chadwick*.



**Sylvia Schluter** *Mistress Quince* Sylvia is happy to accept the challenge presented to explore Shakespeare. She has appeared in other productions: *Raisin In the Sun*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Sorry, Wrong Number*, *Gifts of the Season* and others. As an active senior citizen, she plans to grow from here.



**Mark Sharp** *Theseus* Mark, a recent transplant from Denver is pleased to call this his first full-length performance in Chicago. Mark has been honored to play such roles as Marcus Brutus in *Julius Caesar*, Doc Porter in *Crimes of the Heart* and Brian in *The Shadow Box*. He was recently seen in Act One's production of *The Bear*. He thanks the cast and crew for a wonderful foray in Chicago Theater.



**Jill Slattery** *Titania* Jill is a recent graduate of Northwestern, where she studied Theater/English. She recently appeared in Unity's *If Children Remember* (Remular) and Trama Theatre's *Macbeth* (Banquo/Lady Macduff). Currently she is set to start shooting Dreaming Tree Film's *Rain of Blood*. Jill is also a founding member of Speech Impediment Theatre, which will launch its premiere show, *Reginald Quiver for Senator!* this May. Jill thanks her family/friends and the Midsummer cast/crew for their love and support!



**Kate Sommers-Dawes** *Helena* Kate is ecstatic to be involved in her first production after her 2004 graduation from Northwestern University. Helena is also her first Shakespeare role after spending a recent term studying the craft of Shakespeare performance in London, England. Notable roles include Claire Ganz in Neil Simon's *Rumors* and Marlene in Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls*. She is eternally grateful to her family, friends, and Kevin.



**Elise Sonnenberg** *Mustardseed* Elsie is a 7th grade honor roll student at Hawthorne Scholastic Academy. She is an active vegetarian and her many interests range from animal rights to Cubs baseball to playing electric guitar. Her acting background includes classes at The Old Town School and Second City, in addition to programs at Chase Park. She has performed in numerous plays both at school and summer camp, most recently starring as Gloria in the 7th grade production of *The Rocky Monster Show*. While no stranger to the Chase Park stage, this is her first appearance with a mostly "grown-up" cast.

**Steven Simms** *Elf Henchman* Steven is sixteen years old, between schools, and has hung around Chase Park for a couple of years. His interest in theater took him by surprise as he was repeatedly invited to join in the projects unfolding on the second floor. "So you guys basically devote your lives to this stuff. That's kind of amazing!"



**Caitlin Tauer** *First Fairy* Caitlin is excited to be in her first Chase Park Theater production with such a fantastic cast! She recently "graduated" from the University of Illinois at Chicago where she spent the great majority of her time in the basement playing as many roles as humanly possible. Some of her favorites include Bessie in *Awake and Sing*, Roxanne in *The Artificial Jungle*, and Viola in *Indulgences in a Louisville Harem*. Caitlin has also worked with Theatre on the Square, Edyvean Repertory Theatre, Indianapolis Civic Theatre, and the American Cabaret Theatre.



**Robin Trevino** *Lysander* Robin graduated from University of Illinois at Chicago last year with a degree in Theatre. He's very excited to transition into Shakespeare after a couple month run of *Puss in Boots...and Other Tails* at Raven Theatre. His favorite roles include Ken Talley in *Fifth of July*, Jeff in *SubUrbia*, and Linus in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, which he also directed. Much love to Jason. Fight the power!



**Jude Willis** *Puck* Jude was born and raised in San Francisco, CA. He recently moved to Chicago to focus on and pursue his dream of acting. He is quite excited to kick off his inaugural Chicago acting experience with Chase Park Theatre. His favorite roles include Kewpie from *Paradise Lost*, Ben from *The Dumbwaiter* and The Crocodile from *Peter Pan*. Jude would like to thank his family for their tireless support.



**Carolyn Wright** *Hermia* Thanks for coming to the show! Carolyn's Chicago Credits: Lady Anne in *Richard III* (Theo Ubique), Alice in *You Can't Take it With You* (Open Eye Productions), Martha Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Metropolis), Shy in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (Chicago Kids Company). Worked/Studied with: The Second City Training Center, Profiles Theatre, Women's Theatre Alliance, Serendipity Theatre, and Theatre Building Chicago. Also: BA in Theatre Studies from Yale.

**Dawn "Sam" Alden** *Fight Choreographer* Sam began her love affair with violence over 15 years ago in Pittsburgh, where she was one of the founding members of GREX, a combat/commedia/physical theatre company, with whom she fought and choreographed for 4 years. In Chicagoland, she has choreographed all manner of violence for Piven Theatre, Stockyards Theatre Project, Shattered Globe, National Pasttime, Circle Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, The Free Associates, Terrapin Theatre, Yugen Theatre, Walkabout Theatre, The Aardvark, Sword & Cloak Productions, and Shakespeare's Herd. She both fought and choreographed for 5 years with Footsteps Theatre Company, where she had the distinction of being the first female Resident Fight Choreographer in the Midwest. She is perhaps best known for being the Founder and Artistic Director of *Babes With Blades*, Chicago's all-female stage combat show ([www.babeswithblades.org](http://www.babeswithblades.org)), which has run on and off for 7 years in Chicago, as well as traveling to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. Sam is also a member of the International Order of the Sword and Pen, the Independent Fight Director's Guild and the author of many articles and panels on the neglected martial history of women.

**Fred Butzen** *Music Director* Fred has played renaissance music with many productions over the past 20 years, including Chase Park's productions of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. At his day job, he programs telephone-routing applications for Vail Systems, a Chicago-area software company. He is also co-author of several books on computer programming, including *The Linux Network* and *The Linux Database*, both published by IDG Books.

**Duane Davy** *Asst Director, Scenic Designer* After short careers as a student (business, architecture and urban design) and as a pilot in the Air Force, Duane retired from his position as cartographer for the City of Chicago last March. Thanks to Karen for a start in yet another "career."

**Karen Fort** *Director and Producer* Karen is a graduate of the Goodman School of Drama. Directing credits include *Hamlet*, *Summer Brave*, *The Tempest*, *The Madwoman of Chailiot*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Oddkins*, *Sally and Marsha*, *Pastoral*, *Castanets*, and *Motherlove*. She has acted for Victory Gardens, Organic, Pheasant Run, St. Nicholas, Open Eye, taught at The Actor's Center, founded the Young Actor's Program of the Organic, and wrote for The Reader. She was recently recognized by the League of Chicago Theatres as a founding member of *The Class of '79*.

**Keith Fort** *Roustabout, Sound Design* Keith plays guitar real loud, and loves gardening. Recent accession to empty nester has left him wondering what the heck. Board member at Running with Scissors & Defiant, Organic, Jellyeye, Illustrated. Independent producer.

**Jeff Grygny** *Set Designer* Jeff is pleased to be working at Chase Park again, after playing the role of Sir Andrew Aguecheek in *Twelfth Night*. He studied scenic arts at the University of Minnesota, and designed and painted sets for Renaissance Fairs, community theaters, and academic productions, as well as designing numerous original performance pieces. Some of his favorite designs were for *The Wiz*, *R.U.R.*, and *A Little Show of Alchemy*. He also wrote, directed, and designed the highly-acclaimed *Edwardian Mysteries* at the Performance Loft in Chicago in 1998, and *Love Transformer* at the Blue Rider Theater. He has contributed interior design to non-profit organizations and art exhibits.

**Leslie Ann Johnston** *Co-Stage Manager* Leslie recently moved from sunny California to the Windy City. She is delighted to be working on her first show in Chicago with the Park District. Thanks, Karen! Her stage management credits include: *Chess*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, *Stuart Little*, *Titanic: A New Musical*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. "Love as Though You've Never Been Hurt"

**Charlie "Ziggy" Olson** *Co-Stage Manager* Ziggy is an alter ego professional, working both on the stage and behind it. Since moving to Chicago this past year he has worked with The Factory Theater, New World Repertory, TinFish Theatre and Victory Gardens. That only leaves 175 theaters still to work with. It's gonna be one hell of a year.

**Cengiz Ozcan** *Hair Design*

**Libby Taggart** *Graphic Designer*

**Sara Tauer** *Costumer*

**Jeff Silva** *Composer/Guitarist* Jeff began his musical studies at the Merit School of Music. He has attended the Domaine Forget Summer Academy in Quebec, Canada and is currently in his third year at DePaul University studying classical guitar performance and composition. He has participated in master classes with Sergio Assad, Benjamin Verdery, and Larry Coryell. Additionally, he is the music director at Vida Nueva Presbyterian Church.

**Ron Walczyk** *Scenic Artist* Painter, graffiti artist, musician, and man-about town.