



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 16, 2011

**CAPA AND THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE TO PRESENT “STARTER” VERSION OF
SHAKESPEARE’S
*A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM***

Presented as part of OSU’s partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company’s “Stand Up for Shakespeare” initiative which advocates “Doing Shakespeare on Your Feet; Seeing it Live; and Starting it Earlier,” this 60-minute, abridged version of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* is intended to introduce young audiences to the joys of Shakespeare and his language. Directed by Robin Post, Shakespeare’s story is a lighthearted comedy of love, magic, and mayhem that follows the adventures of two young couples, a band of mischievous fairies, and a bumbling troupe of actors.

CAPA and The Ohio State University Department of Theatre present *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* at the **Lincoln Theatre** (769 E. Long St.) on **March 6**. Show times are 1pm and 3pm, and all seats are general admission. The production is appropriate for all ages with a running time of approximately one hour. **Tickets** are \$12 at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. The Lincoln Theatre Ticket Office will open two hours prior to the performance.

OSU students can also purchase tickets through the OSU Theatre Box Office at 1849 Cannon Drive, (614) 292-2295, or Theatre-Tix@osu.edu.

Edited by Kate Ramsey and Robin Post, the production will make visible the theatrical conventions that are typically hidden—the actors will change characters, the set will change, and the costumes changes will happen in full view of the audience. The play will begin in a child’s bedroom and the transformations of characters and physical place will be revealed to the audience.

Transformation is one of the many themes in *Midsummer* that speaks directly to the child's imagination. Puck transforms from a young child into his own imagined version of the infamous trickster, and as the little boy transforms, so too does the world in which he lives. He changes from a seemingly invisible boy with little say about what goes on in the adult world, to the master and creator of his own imagined forest. Puck uses his "magic" or imagination to recreate his physical world, to literally transform people into creatures and to manipulate the actions of all those who enter.

About The Ohio State University/Royal Shakespeare Company Partnership

Spearheaded by the Arts Initiative, the international OSU/RSC partnership focuses on a three-year teacher education program (currently in year two) based on the RSC's renowned "Stand Up for Shakespeare" program, and promotes literacy, drama education, and leadership in Ohio public schools. The only partnership of its kind in the US, the endeavor has to date engaged ten OSU Department of Theatre MFA acting students and 38 Ohio public school teachers from multiple disciplines and grade levels in Ohio STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) schools. Participants have traveled to Stratford-upon-Avon, England, to work with RSC actors and educators and subsequently returned to teach more than 3,000 children.

About the Royal Shakespeare Company

The UK's Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) is one of the best-known theatre companies in the world, performing in the town of Shakespeare's birth and death, Stratford-upon-Avon, throughout the UK, and on tour across the world, as well as engaging in extensive education and outreach programs.

RSC is an ensemble company of more than 700 people—everyone from directors, actors, and writers to production, administrative, technical, and workshop staff—all collaborating in its distinctive and unmistakable approach to theatre. The company aims to keep audiences in touch with Shakespeare as a contemporary—understanding his work through today's artists, actors, and writers.

CALENDAR LISTING

CAPA and The Ohio State University Department of Theatre present *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*

Sunday, March 6, 1pm & 3pm

Lincoln Theatre (769 E. Long St.)

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The **Ohio Arts Council** helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. CAPA also appreciates the support of **the Robert Bartels, William C. and Naoma W. Denison, and Preston Davis Funds of The Columbus Foundation**, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the **Greater Columbus Arts Council**, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973.

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent, historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, Valentine Theatre (Toledo, OH), and Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a not-for-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment in operation for more than 40 years. For more information, visit www.capa.com.

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