



Young Actors Company take on Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Halifax, NS – February 26, 2018 – Neptune's Young Actors Company take on a new production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this week on the Scotiabank Stage.

Conceived and created by Ken Schwartz, this new reimagining of the familiar play with overlapping plots about young love, magic spells and a troupe of over-the-top actors featuring a cast of 19 young actors that runs for five performances March 2 – 4.

"These talented young actors have been hard at work rehearsing for this show since January," said **Laura Caswell**, interim Director of Education at Neptune. "This is a great play for them to perform because it allows them to use what they've learned through various classes and programs here at the theatre school in a professional setting in front of a receptive audience."

Working with Caswell are the creative team of **Ken Schwartz** (of *Two Planks and a Passion*), **Jeff Schwager**, and **Ami McKay**, a design team including **Garrett Barker** (Set Designer), **Vicki Williams** (Lighting Designer) and **Helena Marriott** (Costume Designer), and Stage Manager **Gina Thornhill** with **Sophie Nadeau** and **Noah Fennell** as Assistant Stage Managers.

The cast includes **Danielle Baribeau, Klara Black, Ella Buckler, Liah Christie, Hannah Conrod, Hermione Davis, Emma Goulden, Sarah Kittilsen, Ryan MacDougall, Brooke Mitchell, Ethan Palliser-Nicholas, Phoebe Rex, Zachary Russell, Anisa Sobhani, Ethan Smith, Phineas Stewart, Locke Williams, Monica Wu,** and **Connie Young**.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is on the Scotiabank Stage **March 2 – 4**. Official opening is Friday, March 2. Tickets start at \$18 (plus HST and service charges) and are available online at neptunetheatre.com, by phone through the Neptune Theatre Box Office at 902-429-7070/1-800-565-7345 or by visiting the Box Office in person at 1593 Argyle St. Performances begin at 7:30p.m., with weekend matinee performances on Saturday and Sunday at 2pm.

The production is sponsored by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Scotiabank, and Telus.

Interviews available by request. Please contact Michael Browne, mbrowne@neptunetheatre.com or 902-494-8465.

YPCo is an elite training program for students ages 13-18 who show exceptional talent in the areas of acting, singing and dancing and who wish to advance their Triple Threat skills. Students audition to be accepted to intensive training sessions for physical and vocal training, character development, professional stage etiquette and ensemble-building. The culmination of training is this public performance. YPCo training sessions are taught by professional actors, singers and dancers who provide the highest level of training for aspiring young musical theatre performers. Audition dates for upcoming YPCo training sessions will be announced in the New Year.

Now in its 55th Season, Neptune Theatre inspires audiences with great stories. Located at 1593 Argyle Street, Neptune boasts two stages: the newly renovated Scotiabank Stage and Fountain Hall, reopening next week, plus a year-round Theatre School and a province-wide Young Neptune Company Tour.

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