AND

STEVEN MALER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PRESENT

A Midsummer Night’s Dream

August 26, 2015
7 pm
at the DCR’s Hatch Shell
From the Artistic Directors

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this collaborative production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. It is a rare privilege to bring together so many of the region’s preeminent professional actors with their musician colleagues.

An evening of theater in this format is a thrilling enterprise. Actors may discover fresh approaches to the play by hearing it through Mendelssohn’s ears, while musicians realize the dramatic aims of this music often for the first time. The added presence of dancers and singers shows how the project serves as a focal point for the whole performing arts community.

There was a time when orchestras accompanied theatrical productions on a regular basis. Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn all composed orchestral incidental music for plays. Alas, collaborations of this kind are largely extinct these days. In today’s world of recorded sound and economic efficiency, such productions are as incongruous as “hot ice and wondrous strange snow.”

Yet it has remained an explicit goal of both the Landmarks Orchestra and Commonwealth Shakespeare Company to continue this partnership. Four years ago we combined forces for the first time, and since then the relationship has blossomed. Our collaborative productions have been substantive and joyous, and they have proven deeply rewarding artistically.

This is our third co-production, but the first time we have produced a full evening of Shakespeare. In many respects, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* is the perfect choice for this moment and this setting. It is among Shakespeare’s most musical plays. It was the first play produced by Commonwealth Shakespeare twenty years ago. Much of it—including almost all of the magic and romance—takes place out of doors. And there is no Shakespeare work more suitable for children: it has royals, fairies, magicians, goofballs, a singing ass, and two ‘merry and tragical’ death scenes.

Few communities attempt productions of this kind. Not many have the artistic resources or performing talent that we have in Greater Boston. We are also blessed by the expertise of our staff members and volunteers, who are just as stretched by productions of this kind as the performers are.

Because of the devotion of the whole team—which includes your presence and support—we are able to gather tonight outdoors on the banks of the Charles River to realize this *Dream*, giving to “airy nothing a local habitation and a name.”

Christopher Wilkins  
Music Director  
Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Steven Maler  
Founding Artistic Director  
Commonwealth Shakespeare Company
Boston Landmarks Orchestra
and
Commonwealth Shakespeare Company
present

*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

music by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
play by William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Overture: Allegro di molto

Act One
scene i. Athens. The palace of Theseus.
scene ii. Athens. Quince’s house.

Entr’acte: Scherzo

Act Two
scene i. A wood near Athens.
  Melodrama: “Over hill, over dale”
  *The Fairies’ March*
scene ii. Another part of the wood.
  Song with Chorus: “You spotted snakes”
  Melodrama: The Spells

Entr’acte: Intermezzo

Act Three
scenes i & ii. The wood.
  Melodrama: “What hempen home-spuns”

Entr’acte: Nocturne

INTERMISSION

Nocturne Reprise

Act Four
scene i. The wood.
  Melodrama: Removal of the Spells
scene ii. Athens. Quince’s house

Entr’acte: Wedding March

Act Five  Athens. The palace of Theseus.
  Fanfare
  Funeral March
  A Dance of Clowns
  Wedding March Reprise
  Finale: “Through the house give glimmering light”
Boston Landmarks Orchestra

VIOLIN I
Gregory Vitale, concertmaster
Christine Vitale
Pattison Story
Gerald Mordis
Tera Gorsett
Heidi Braun-Hill
Melissa Howe
Stacey Alden

VIOLIN II
Paula Oakes, principal
Robert Curtis
Maynard Goldman
Lisa Brooke
Alexandra Labinska
Lilit Hartunian

VIOLA
Kenneth Stalberg, principal
Donna Jerome
Don Krishnaswami
Noriko Herndon
Willine Thoe

CELLO
Aron Zelkowicz, principal
Mark Simcox
Jolene Kessler
Melanie Dyball
Patrick Owen
Steven Laven

BASS
Robert LYNAM, principal
Barry Boettger
Kevin Green
Irving Steinberg

FLUTE
Lisa Hennessy, principal
Theresa Patton

OBOE
Andrew Price, principal
Lynda Jacquin

CLARINET
Ian Greitzer, principal
Margo McGowan

BASSOON
Donald Bravo, principal
Gregory Newton

HORN
Kevin Owen, principal
Whitacre Hill

TRUMPET
Dana Oakes, principal
Jesse Levine
Greg Whitaker

TROMBONE
Robert Couture, principal
Hans Bohn
Donald Robinson

TUBA
Donald Rankin, principal

HARP
Ina Zdorovetchi, principal

TIMPANI
Jeffrey Fischer, principal

PERCUSSION
Robert Schulz, principal
Craig McNutt

Maynard Goldman,
Personnel Manager

American Sign Language
(ASL) Team
Alivia Cotton
Elbert Joseph
Chris Pratt
Christopher S. Robinson
Sabrina Dennison,
ASL Coach

Commonwealth Shakespeare Company

Steven Maler, Director
Adam Sanders, Co-Director
Yo-el Cassell, Choreographer
Jeremiah Mullane*, Stage Manager
Leslie Sears*, Assistant Stage Manager

Cast:
Hermia - Amanda Ruggiero
Helena - Kate Paulsen
Lysander - Matt Giampietro
Demetrius - Billy Finn*
Bottom - Robert Pemberton*
Quince - Brandon Whitehead*
Snug/Egeus - Johnny Lee Davenport*
Flute - Paul Melendy*
Snout - Arisael Rivera
Puck - Juan C. Rodríguez
Titania/Hippolyta - Georgia Lyman*
Oberon/Theseus - Lewis D. Wheeler*
Fairy - Sophia Blum

Fairies:
Sopranos
Margot Rood, First Fairy
Annie Simon
Erika Vogel
Altos
Thea Lobo, Second Fairy
Julie Cavallaro
Carrie Cheron
Mary Gerbi

Dancing Fairy
Company:
Isabella Casparriello
Amanda McCluskey
Madison McCluskey
Sydney Scott
Sarah Vachon
Iris Ventimiglia

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association
The **BOSTON LANDMARKS ORCHESTRA** was founded in 2001 by conductor and community advocate Charles Ansbacher to perform free summer concerts in historic and scenic Boston-area locations. The orchestra—made up of some of Boston’s most accomplished professional musicians—uses great symphonic music as a means of gathering together people of all backgrounds and ages in joyful collaboration. Since 2007, it has presented its main concert series at the DCR’s Hatch Shell every Wednesday from mid-July to late August. It also offers free concerts and educational programs throughout neighborhoods of Greater Boston. The orchestra regularly collaborates with a range of cultural and social service organizations to ensure participation across ethnic, economic, and cultural divides. www.landmarksorchestra.org

**CHRISTOPHER WILKINS** was appointed Music Director of the Boston Landmarks Orchestra in 2011. Since then he has reaffirmed Charles Ansbacher’s vision of making great music accessible to the whole community, emphasizing inclusive programming and collaborative work. Mr. Wilkins also serves as Music Director of the Akron Symphony. As a guest conductor, he has appeared with many of the leading orchestras of the United States and abroad. Previously he served as Music Director of the San Antonio Symphony and the Colorado Springs Symphony. He also served as Resident Conductor of the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, assisting in the formation of the orchestra in its inaugural season, and leading it on tours throughout the Americas.

**COMMONWEALTH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** is dedicated to bringing the works of William Shakespeare in vital and contemporary productions to the people of Boston and to exploring Shakespeare’s plays with local youth in innovative and creative ways. Best known for its annual free performances on Boston Common, CSC also presents several free play reading events during the year, including Theatre in the Rough and Shakespeare & Leadership. The Company fulfills its educational mission with training programs for pre-professional actors through its Summer Academy and CSC2. Throughout the year, CSC partners with area schools and Boys & Girls Clubs to provide in and after-school theater activities to inner-city youth. Recent productions include *King Lear*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Coriolanus*, and *All’s Well That Ends Well* (2012 Elliot Norton Award-winner for Best Production, Large Theater). CSC is the Theatre in Residence at Babson College.

**STEVEN MALER** is the Founding Artistic Director of the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company. His 2011 production of *All’s Well That Ends Well* won the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Production - Large Theatre. His CSC production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* won the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Director – Small Resident Theatre Company. His production of Suburbia for the SpeakEasy Stage Company won Best Production – Fringe Theatre Company. Other productions include *Coriolanus*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Hamlet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Macbeth*, *Henry V*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *Julius Caesar*, and *The Tempest* for CSC; *Without You*, written by and starring Anthony
Rapp, which has played New York, Boston, Toronto, Edinburg, London and Seoul; and The L.A. Plays by Han Ong for the American Repertory Theatre, where he was the Artistic Associate for New Plays. He directed the American premiere of Peter Eötvös’ operatic treatment of Tony Kushner’s Angels in America, and the New England premiere of Thomas Ades’ Powder Her Face, both for Opera Boston. Maler is a graduate of the American Repertory Theatre Institute for Advanced Theatre Training at Harvard University, where he was the Associate Director of Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2 and Henry V. He was also Associate Director for Titus Andronicus and Hamlet in Tokyo. His feature film, The Autumn Heart, starring Tyne Daly and Ally Sheedy, was in the Dramatic Competition at the Sundance Film Festival and won the Audience Choice Award at the Nantucket Film Festival. He is a graduate of the American Repertory Theatre Institute for Advanced Theatre Training at Harvard University and of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he was a John Motley Morehead Scholar.

ADAM SANDERS (Co-Director) is the Associate Artistic Director for Commonwealth Shakespeare Company and the Associate Director of the Sorenson Center for the Arts at Babson College, where CSC is in residence. Adam is the Director of CSC Summer Academy, including the undergraduate Apprentice Program and CSC2, a program for emerging actors. With CSC, Adam has directed “Symphonic Shakespeare” and co-directed Kiss Me Kate, both in collaboration with Boston Landmarks Orchestra, and co-directed several iterations of “Shakespeare and Leadership” and “Shakespeare and the Law.” Adam has supported CSC’s Shakespeare on the Common with educational creations like “The Lecture in the Grove,” “Henry” and “The Greenshow.”

YO-EL CASSELL (Choreographer) a graduate of the Boston Conservatory (Magna Cum Laude), is a prolific and versatile performer, choreographer, and educator. He was also the resident guest artist at Skidmore College and his original production of Moonlight Interior premiered in NYC to critical acclaim. For the Boston area, he has choreographed and taught for The American Repertory Theater, New England Conservatory, Walnut Hill School of the Arts, The Boston Conservatory, The Lyric Theater of Boston, The Boston Opera Collaborative, and Commonwealth Shakespeare Company for which he currently serves as Resident Choreographer. For CSC, he has choreographed and staged movement for Comedy of Errors, Othello, All’s Well that Ends Well, Coriolanus, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Kiss Me Kate, Twelfth Night, and their most recent production of King Lear. Mr. Cassell is currently the program manager for Boston Ballet’s Citydance Program, lead teacher for its Boys in Motion and is on the faculty of their ECI Department. He also teaches movement for actors at CSC’s Apprentice Academy and contemporary movement at Harvard University. He is the recipient of the Kennedy Center Thought Leadership fellowship and the Lotte Kaliski Award for Gifted Artists.

JEREMIAH MULLANE* (Stage Manager) was recently Assistant Stage Manager for CSC’s production of King Lear. Other recent stage management credits include The Second Girl, Awake and Sing!, Guess
Who’s Coming to Dinner, The Seagull, The Cocktail Hour, The Jungle Book, and Invisible Man (Huntington Theatre Company). He recently relocated to the Boston area from Washington, D.C., where he worked as a stage manager on productions at The Kennedy Center, Signature Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, and The Studio Theatre. He is a graduate of the theatre program at Ithaca College.

LESLIE SEARS* (Assistant Stage Manager) has worked for companies such as the Shakespeare Theatre Company, Roundabout Theater Company, the Huntington Theatre Company, Old Globe Theatres, New Repertory Theatre, Gloucester Stage Company, Childsplay, Boston Lyric Opera, Tanglewood Music Center, Boston Early Music Festival, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Connecticut Opera Association, Opera Boston and Musica Acadamy International. Other favorite past projects include All My Sons, directed by David Esbjornson for HTC; Ruined, directed by Lisel Tommy, a co-production with La Jolla Playhouse, Huntington and Berkley Rep; Invisible Man, directed by Christopher McElroen and adapted by Oren Jacoby, a co-production between the Huntington and Studio Theatre; and Private Lives, directed by Maria Aitkin, produced at the Huntington and remounted at the Shakespeare Theatre.

SOPHIA BLUM (Fairy) was recently seen as Lady Capulet in CSC’s Romeo & Juliet and Goneril’s Attendant in King Ling. Other recent credits include Titania and Hippolyta in A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and Calpurnia in Julius Caesar with The Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey’s Touring Company. She also recently played Queen Margaret in Henry VI Parts I, II, & III in an Off-Off Broadway production. Originally from Rhode Island, she is now based out of New York, but is happy to be back in New England for a few months!

JOHNNY LEE DAVENPORT* (Snug/Egeus) Commonwealth Shakespeare: As You Like It, A Midsummer Night’s Dream; Lyric Stage: A Spoonful of Water, Broke-ology (Elliot Norton Award, Best Actor); Gloucester Stage: Driving Miss Daisy, “Master Harold” . . . and the boys; Studio Theatre, Washington, D.C., and Huntington Theatre: Invisible Man (Helen Hayes Award, Best Ensemble); Best Actor, Boston Magazine 2011; Film: Ted, The Fugitive, U.S. Marshals. Mr. Davenport has played more than 50 roles in 24 of Shakespeare’s plays. Visit www.johnnyleedavenport.com for upcoming performances.

BILLY FINN* (Demetrius) is thrilled to be making his CSC debut. Other regional credits include A Lie of the Mind (Trinity Repertory Company); Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, The Dog in the Manger, King Lear (Shakespeare Theatre Company); Hamlet, Much Ado About Nothing (Folger Theatre); The Talented Mr. Ripley (Round House Theatre); Wilder Sins (Washington Stage Guild); By the Water (Premiere Stages); The Scarecrow and His Servant, Teddy Roosevelt and the Ghostly Mistletoe (The Kennedy Center); Journey to the Door of No Return (Arena Stage); Othello, Taming of the Shrew, Romeo and Juliet, Love’s Labour’s Lost (Virginia Shakespeare Festival). Billy recently graduated from the Brown/Trinity Rep MFA program in Acting.
MATT GIAMPIETRO (Demetrius) Recently Matt was seen in King Lear on the Common with CSC as the Duke of Burgundy. He is elated to be back on stage after pursuing film and television in Los Angeles and has had a wonderful summer with Commonwealth Shakespeare first appearing in Romeo & Juliet. Matt earned his MFA in 2012 from The University of Washington PATP. Matt will be heading to The Palace Theatre in September to appear in Buddy. Matt would like to thank CSC for this opportunity as well as his family and Jenni for their constant support.

GEORGIA LYMAN* (Titania/Hippolyta) was most recently seen as Mia/Abigail in John Kuntz’s Necessary Monsters for Speakeasy Stage. Also for Speakeasy she played Liz in The Whale and Crystal Allen in The Women. Other roles include Kerr in Chesapeake (Winner: Best solo performance), Maggie in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Clea in The Scene (Lyric Stage) and Actor #3 in Hotel Nepenthe (Actors Shakespeare Project). She was a founding member of the award winning theater company Orfeo Group for 5 years. She is currently the Artistic Director of Outside the Box, Boston’s largest free performing arts festival.

PAUL MELENDY* (Flute) Recent CSC collaborations include a staged reading of Art and last year’s Shakespeare at Fenway. Past CSC productions include The Taming of the Shrew, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and As You Like It. Area credits: Huntington Theatre Company, Underground Railway Theatre, Speakeasy Stage, New Repertory Theatre, Actors’ Shakespeare Project, Centastage, and Wheelock Family Theater. Upcoming: Patrolman Mancuso in the Huntington Theatre Company’s world premiere of A Confederacy of Dunces starring Nick Offerman.

KATE PAULSEN (Helena) is thrilled to be making her CSC debut. Recent Boston theatre credits include Portia in Julius Caesar (Bridge Rep), Henry in Henry V(Arts After Hours), The Nina Variations, Midsummer and Romeo and Juliet (Brown Box), and Uncle Vanya (Apollinaire). Film credits include Black Mass (with Adam Scott) and Parallel (with Juan C. Rodriguez). You can also catch her on TV or the web advertising for Cumberland Farms, The Honest Company, Amazon.com, Keurig, Amica, and Dragon Speech Recognition Software. She resides in Medford with the love of her life, Juan, and their adorable cats, Vera & Paul. "Love, Prize, Honor."

ROBERT PEMBERTON* (Bottom) has appeared in Commonwealth Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night (Sir Toby), Frankie & Johnny in the Claire de Lune (Julian) at New Repertory Theatre, Speed the Plow also at New Rep, The Goat (Marc) at Gloucester Stage Company, and Patriot Act at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. He has also recently played Drazen in Ponies at the Gloucester Stage Company, as well as Bottom in A Midsummer Night’s Dream at Boston Theatre Works. Robert’s most recent film work includes By the Sea (nominated for a Latin Oscar), Treading Water, Boondock Saints, The Exchange, Gentleman from Boston, Temps, The Still Point, The New England Connection and Anathema. On the smaller screen he can be seen in a recurring role on Showtime’s Brotherhood, as well as Another World, Guiding Light, Unsolved Mysteries and in many local and national commercial spots.
ARISAEL RIVERA (Snout) is excited to be part of the CSC family this year! He recently received his MFA in Acting from the New School for Drama in NYC. Recent acting credits include: Friar Lawrence in Romeo & Juliet, Butch in Educational, Career Relevant Summer Jobs are Important for Young Women!, and Javier in HOLY CRAB!. He'd like to thank CSC for the opportunity to play with them and to his family for all their love and endless support. Follow him on twitter: @ari_sael_riv.

JUAN C. RODRÍGUEZ (Puck) - With CSC: Twelfth Night (Fabian - 2014), All’s Well That Ends Well (Ensemble - 2011), Apprentice Program Alum (2011), Teaching Artist (2011-13). Additional Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet (Romeo), A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Puck), Julius Caesar (Various). Other Boston-area credits: The Lover (Bridge Rep of Boston), The Nina Variations (Brown Box Theatre Project), Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (Apollinaire Theatre Company). Juan is delighted to be sparking mischief on stage with CSC once again. A graduate of CSC’s Apprentice Program, Juan has worked in Boston as a performer, administrator, and educator. He’d like to thank his wife Kate (our Helena!) for all her steadfast love and encouragement. Thank you’s also to his family, colleagues, Reality Boston and Landmarks Orchestra. And lastly, thank you, beloved audience member, for playing with us. God bless.

AMANDA RUGGIERO (Hermia) Recent credits include: Lamballe in Marie Antoinette at The Gamm Theatre, and Mrs. Van Buren in Intimate Apparel at The Lyric Stage. Other credits include: AstroBoy and The God of Comics with Company One; Ragtime with Fiddlehead Theatre; Hair and Gypsy at The New Bedford Festival Theatre, Woman #3 (Young Woman) in The Big Meal, Lauren in Circle Mirror Transformation, Nancy/Patricia in A Child’s Christmas in Wales, Jackie in Mauritius, Esme (younger)/Alice/Pupil in Rock ‘n’ Roll, Hero in Much Ado About Nothing, Juliet in Romeo and Juliet, Princess Eboli in Don Carlos, Carrie in Radio Free Emerson at The Gamm Theatre. Amanda would like to thank her family, especially Thomas, for their unwavering support.

LEWIS D. WHEELER* (Oberon/Theseus) previously worked with CSC on Boston Common in Macbeth and Taming of the Shrew and in staged readings of Henry V, Richard III, and Fool for Love. Regional credits: No Man’s Land – IRNE Nomination (American Repertory Theatre); Long Day’s Journey Into Night, Pattern of Life, Muckrakers (New Rep); Chosen Child – IRNE Nomination (Boston Playwrights’ Theatre); Importance of Being Earnest, A Number, Glass Menagerie (Lyric Stage). A founding member of Harbor Stage. Lewis earned his BA in Theatre and Film Studies at Cornell University and MFA from American Film Institute.

BRANDON WHITEHEAD* (Quince) was recently seen as The Fool in CSC’s King Lear. Other recent credits include Gordon in Neville’s Island at Stoneham Theatre, Inspector Hubbard in Dial M for Murder at Ocean State Theater, Val in Laughter on the 23rd Floor at New Century Theater, and Vic in Windowmen at Boston Playwrights Theater. Whitehead has also worked regionally with the The Village Theater, Seattle Repertory Theater, Intiman, ACT, and many others. Some of his recent film and television credits include
BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS  Boston Landmarks Orchestra is committed to removing barriers to access for people with disabilities by offering braille and large-print programs, assisted listening devices, and ambassadors to assist people at a handicap drop-off point. The orchestra also works with American Sign Language interpreters as performers at select concerts. Rather than providing direct translation of the spoken word, interpreters communicate the feeling of the music and remarks. In recognition of its efforts to embrace inclusiveness, the orchestra was named an “UP organization” by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, one of only 11 organizations to earn this distinction.

ALIVIA COTTON, born and raised in NH, learned ASL as her first language. She was fortunate enough to grow up within the Deaf community, via her mother, and is now an educationally certified interpreter, with the hope of receiving her national certification this fall. She is ecstatic to work with not only her fellow Interpreters, but also the LO and CSC!

ELBERT JOSEPH, known as EJ, is a professional actor in local theatres and beyond. Upcoming: The Trumpet of the Swan at Wheelock Family Theatre and Arabian Nights at Central Square Theatre. He has served as ASL coach and interpreted for many shows at Boston Across America (Interpreted: Hair, Wicked, Mary Poppins, Billy Elliot, Coaching: West Side Story and Flashdance), American Repertory Theatre (Interpreted: Porgy and Bess) and Huntington theatre (Interpreted: Fences).

CHRIS DAZEY PRATT  A graduate of Ohlone College's Interpreter Preparation Program and nationally certified interpreter, Chris has interpreted various children's, young adult and community productions in the greater Boston area. Chris is thrilled at this first opportunity to work with LO.

CHRISTOPHER S. ROBINSON, Disability Services Coordinator of Outreach and Training at Boston University and a Certified Facilitator in the LEGO® Serious Play™ methodology, organizes sessions to adjust programming practices and mitigate barriers that obstruct the participation of persons with disabilities in campus life, spreading knowledge of best practices that include persons with disabilities in the arts and academics.

SABRINA DENNISON traveled throughout the U.S. with the National Theater of the Deaf as Greta in Ophelia and has completed ASL translation for Yale University's Twelfth Night. She took on the role of ASL consultant in a variety of theatre settings, including, Broadway Across America, Boston University School of Theatre, CSC, SpeakEasy Stage, and the Boston Opera House.

The FREE FOR ALL CONCERT FUND ensures that everyone from the Boston region-children, adults, families-has regular and permanent access to the rich world of classical and orchestral music, and related cultural events. With 20 grantees presenting free concerts throughout Boston’s neighborhoods, the Fund guarantees that classical music remains free for all, forever. www.freeforallconcertfund.org.
**A Midsummer Night’s Dream Synopsis**

Theseus, duke of Athens, after conquering the warrior Amazons in battle, has in turn been conquered by the charms of their queen, Hippolyta. They now plan to marry. To speed the time until their wedding night, the duke orders entertainments.

Their discussions are interrupted by Egeus, who brings his daughter, Hermia, and her two suitors before Theseus, entreating him to command Hermia to wed Demetrius. Hermia pleads to be allowed to marry the other suitor—the one she loves—Lysander. The duke orders her to obey her father under penalty of death or confinement in a convent. Hermia and Lysander bewail the harsh decree and secretly agree to meet in a wood nearby and flee to another country. They divulge their plans to Helena, a jilted sweetheart of Demetrius, and she—to win back his love—goes straightway to inform him of the plan.

In the Athens home of Peter Quince, Bottom the Weaver and other tradesmen agree to prepare a play for the nuptial celebrations. They plan to submit for the duke’s consideration a play by Quince called, “The Most Lamentable Comedy and Most Cruel Death of Pyramus and Thisbe.”

Meanwhile, in the forest, the fairy king and queen, Oberon and Titania, are at odds over the custody of a changeling boy. Out of spite, Oberon bids Puck procure a love-juice to pour onto Titania’s eyelids when she is asleep, in order that she may fall in love with the first thing her waking eyes behold.

Just then, Oberon sees Demetrius, who has sought out the trysting-place of Lysander and Hermia only to meet Helena, much to his distaste. The lady’s distress at her lover’s coldness softens the heart of Oberon, who bids Puck also to touch the eyes of Demetrius with the love-juice, for Helena’s sake. Lysander and Hermia arrive. Puck erroneously anoints Lysander’s eyes instead of Demetrius’s, so that Lysander—awakening just as the neglected Helena wanders by—falls in love with her, abandoning Hermia.

Bottom and company have selected this same spot in the forest for the final rehearsal of their play. The roguish Puck passes by while they are rehearsing, and mischievously crowns Bottom with an ass’s head, whereupon the other players disperse terror-stricken. Then he brings Bottom to Titania. When she awakens, she gazes first upon the human-turned-ass, and falls in love.

Meantime, the four lovers are greatly bewildered by their shifting attachments. Oberon, having learned that Puck has spread the love-juice on the eyes of Lysander instead of Demetrius, anoints Demetrius’s eyes with a different potion, breaking the previous spell. When Demetrius awakens, he observes his neglected Helena being wooed by Lysander. His love for her now returned, he stands ready to fight Lysander. Helena assumes she is being mocked by both men, while Hermia is dazed by the turn of affairs. The fairies interpose to prevent conflict by causing the four lovers to wander
about in the dark until they are tired and fall asleep. Puck repairs his former blunder by anointing Lysander’s eyes. Thus, when the four awaken, all will be in order: Lysander will love Hermia, and Demetrius will love Helena.

**INTERMISSION**

Titania woos Bottom until Oberon, whose anger has abated, removes the spell from her eyes. Bottom is restored to his natural form, and rejoins his comrades in Athens. Titania cannot understand what came over her to cause her peculiar infatuation. Theseus and Hippolyta, on an early morning hunting trip in the forest, discover the four lovers. Explanations follow; the duke reverses his previous order, granting Helena to marry Demetrius and Hermia Lysander.

A wedding-feast for three couples is prepared in Duke Theseus’s palace. Bottom’s players arrive to offer their play, which is accepted. They perform *Pyramus and Thisbe* to the bemused delight of the court. After the company retires for the night, the fairies dance through the house, blessing the three nuptial pairs.

Puck steps before the audience:

```
If we shadows have offended,
Think but this, and all is mended,
That you have but slumber'd here
While these visions did appear.
And this weak and idle theme,
No more yielding but a dream.
```
Commonwealth Shakespeare Company presents

Anthony Rapp

in

WITHOUT YOU

Adapted from his memoir — Featuring songs from RENT
Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson
Additional songs by Anthony Rapp, John Keaney,
David Metos, and Joe Pisapia

September 9-13

Carling-Sorenson Theater at Babson College

For tickets and information, go to www.commshakes.org
ARTS BOSTON
SUMMER ARTS GUIDE

Free Festivals + Summer Deals
Museums + Concerts + Tours
and Attractions

ArtsBoston.org/Summer
HUNDREDS OF EVENTS ALL SUMMER LONG

@artsboston | #BOSSummer
Boston Landmarks Orchestra

TRUSTEES
Jeff D. Makholm, Chair
Alfred D. Chandler III
Laura Connors
B. J. Krintzman
Katharine M. Pell
J. Brian Potts
Michael Rotenberg
Stephen Spinetto
Stephen Symchych
David Szabo
Edwin Tiffany
Milton L. Wright Jr.

OVERSEERS
Stephen Spinetto, Chair
Smoki Bacon
Kathryn Beaumont
Richard M. Burns
Marian “Hannah” Carlson
Richard Concannon
Conrad Crawford
Julie Crockford
Gene D. Dahmen
Katherine DeMarco
Priscilla H. Douglas
Newell Flather
Howard Gardner
David Gergen
Ernest Haddad
Sean Hennessey
Mary J. Kakas
Paul Kowal
Robert M. Krim
Fernando Leon
Steven Levitsky
Vivien Li
Anne Linn
Bill Nigreen
Jeryl Oristaglio
Susan Putnam
Diana Rowan Rockefeller
Anthony Rudel
Maureen Ruettgers
Allison Ryder
Penelope McGee Savitz
Andrea Schein
Eileen Shapiro
John Shields
Epp Sonin
Donna Storer
William Walczak
Arthur Winn
Charles Ansbacher, Founder

STAFF
Jo Frances Meyer, Executive Director
Arthur Rishi, Artistic Administrator
Michelle Major, Chief Financial Officer
Jim Murray, Manager of Development
Breanna Ellison, Volunteer Coordinator
Joanne Barrett/JBPR, Public Relations

PRODUCTION
Emerson Kington, Technical Director
Audrey Dunne, Production Manager
Eriel Huang, Production Assistant
Steve Colby, Sound Design & Audio Mix
MJ Audio, Audio Production
Mackenzie Skeens and Nassim Zamor, Stage Crew
Sade Brooks, Cheyenne Isaac-Dorsainvil,
Francisco Perdomo, Zachary Taylor-Kelley,
MLK Summer Scholars
Michael Dwyer, Photography
Jesse Ciarmataro, Graphic Design

VERY SPECIAL THANKS
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Boston Cares
Boston University Office of Disability Services
JCDecaux
John Hancock MLK Summer Scholars
One Brick Boston

This program is supported in part by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, administrated by the Mayor’s Office of Arts, Tourism, and Special Events.
The Boston Landmarks Orchestra is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization funded through the generosity of foundations, corporations, and individuals. Free concerts at the Hatch Shell have been a staple of Boston summers since they were begun by Arthur Fiedler in 1929. The Landmarks Orchestra believes that Boston—like every great city—deserves a summer series of free orchestral performances. Though the concerts are free to the public, they are not free to produce.

YOUR GIFT WILL HELP SUPPORT FREE CONCERTS AT THE HATCH SHELL AND THROUGHOUT BOSTON THIS SUMMER, AND EVERY SUMMER!

Here’s how you can help:
donate online at www.landmarksorchestra.org, or mail your contribution to 10 Guest Street, Suite 280 Boston, MA 02135.

THANK YOU!

Join the Landmarks Orchestra experience using our new hashtag! #landmarksorch2015

Download the Boston Landmarks Orchestra’s free mobile app for iOS or Android to access enhanced content! Receive discounts at the Landmarks tent by displaying the app’s special offers screen.

For weather alerts, text LANDMARKS to 51555 or download our app. If you already have the app, please be sure to update it so you can continue to receive weather alerts and other notifications.