

## MERCER THEATRE 2008-09 SEASON

UP NEXT!

### **Time Flies**

A hilarious collection of short works

by David Ives

Directed by Marian Zielinski

November 7-8 and 11-16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

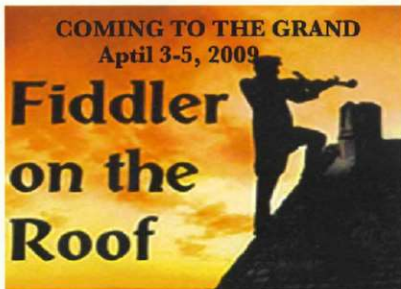
November 9, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

at the Back Door Theatre

#### AUDITIONS

Monday & Tuesday, October 6 & 7, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

In the Back Door Theatre; please plan to attend both evenings.



A Joint Production by Mercer Theatre and Mercer University Opera

April 23-26, 2008

### **Graduation Story**

Original theatre by Mercer's own Alice Wiley

At the Back Door Theatre

MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE

presents

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Directed by Scot Mann

at the

Back Door Theatre

September 30-October 4, 2008 at 7:00pm

October 4 and 5, 2008 at 2:00pm

Tickets: \$5.00

For reservations, call 478.301.5470

(Box Office transaction fee may apply)

Tickets also available at the door 30 minutes prior to curtain

William Shakespeare's  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Directed by Scot J. Mann

Scenic Design..... Marian Zielinski  
Costume Design..... Shelley Kuhen  
Lighting Design..... Zach Broome  
Sound Design..... Scot J. Mann\*  
Fight Choreography..... Scot J. Mann\*  
Assistant Choreography..... Meredith Ellis  
Dance Choreography..... Kelly Martin\*

\*Member, Actors Equity Association

CAST

Theseus..... Samuel Bazemore  
Hippolyta..... Alice Wiley  
Philostrate..... Christina Thorington  
Egeus/Snug..... Ian Van Sice  
Hermia..... Shannon Johnson  
Lysander..... Stephen Wilshire  
Demetrius..... Matt Roche  
Helena..... Billie Pritchard  
Quince..... Corbin Parker  
Bottom..... Phillip Banze  
Flute..... Alex Moreschi  
Snout..... Kyle Shook  
Starveling..... Dustin Franklin

Puck.....Han Htet  
 Mustardseed/1<sup>st</sup> Fairy.....Whitney Bembry  
 Oberon.....Ross Hardy  
 Titania.....Kelly Flemister  
 Peasblossom.....Lauren Lunsford  
 Cobweb.....Evelyn Funderburk  
 Moth.....Ellie Butler

**MERCER THEATRE PRODUCTION STAFF**

Technical Director..... Zach Broome  
 Student Technical Director.....Phillip Banze  
 Stage Manager..... Ashley Eckersley  
 Scenic Artist..... Marian Zielinski  
 Set Crew.....Phillip Banze, Matt Bird, Brandon Hughes,  
 Shannon Johnson, Lauren Lunsford, Marcella Murray, Laura Nelms,  
 Corbin Parker, Chad Sliger, Ian Van Sice, Stephen Wilshire  
 Lighting Crew.....Phil Banze, Matt Bird, Shannon Johnson, Marcella Murray,  
 Laura Nelms, Corbin Parker, Christina Thorington  
 Props.....Scot Mann, Phillip Banze, Laura Nelms,  
 Costume Crew.....Shelley Kuhen, Evelyn Funderburk, Anna Mae Kersey  
 Jayne McGaughey, Marian McHugh, Lauren Parris,  
 Colin Pandorf, Kelly Flemister  
 Makeup Design..... Evelyn Funderburk  
 Sound Operator.....Katie Jackson  
 House Manager.....Cari Hipp, Laura Nelms  
 Graphic Design ..... Darlene Murphy

One of Shakespeare's most popular works, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* follows young love into the enchanted forest. While Oberon tries to help love along, his not so able assistant Puck manages to confound the whole affair. Lovers profess affections for the wrong person, and the fairy queen herself falls in love with, well, a *donkey!*

**WHO'S WHO**

**Phillip Banze (Bottom)** is a senior Sociology major, Theatre minor, and Student Technical Director from Chattanooga, TN. This is his eighth production at Mercer, with some of his favorite roles including Rick from *The Disciples*, Clyde from *Hot N' Throbbing*, and Dromio of Syracuse from *A Comedy of Errors*. Phil would like to thank the cast and crew for making this production yet another amazing experience, and Scot for allowing him to make an ass of himself...literally. Fish swim, birds fly.

**Samuel Bazemore (Theseus)** is a senior here at Mercer, majoring in Theatre. He has been in over seven productions at the Back Door Theatre, including *A Lesson Before Dying*, *Stop Kiss*, and *A Comedy of Errors*. After graduation, Samuel aspires to be a professional actor and a respected force in the comedy world. Sam would like to thank his family, friends, fraternity brothers and brothers of 922 for all of their continued support and motivation.

**Whitney Bembry (Mustardseed)** is a senior Biology major on the Pre-Med track. This is her fifth production at the Back Door Theatre. Her performances include a Reveler in *Celebration: The Musical*, Pinch in Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*, vocal soloist in *A Player's Cabaret*, and character actor in *An Evening of One Acts*. Whitney thoroughly enjoys the performing arts and has been active since childhood. After graduation, she plans to pursue a medical degree and work in underserved areas. She would like to thank her friends and family for all of their support.

**Zachary Broome (Technical Director)**, like Director Scot Mann, has returned to his alma mater to work as part of the theatre department. He is thrilled to be a part of a program that is moving and growing in new, exciting directions. Some of Zach's previous work includes scenic design for the Mercer Player's production of *Stop Kiss* and puppetry design and construction for *Jabberwocky!*

**Ellie Butler (Moth)** is a freshman and Biomedical Engineering major. She appeared in numerous plays throughout high school, but this is her first production with Mercer. Ellie is very excited about her role in this production and hopes that everyone enjoys the show.

**Ashley Eckersley (Stage Manager)** is a junior Theatre major on the pre-med track. This is her second production in the Back Door Theatre (she played the mother in *Rashomon*), and is pleased to work in another essential part of every show- backstage. She would like to thank everyone for their patience and hard work and hopes that everyone enjoys the show! Also, as a reminder to the cast, "Find the fairy within the royal we as it is we to moo, I'll be in you straight as you taint with fondering in the wood! Han!"

**Kelly Flemister (Titania)** is a Mercer freshman, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is her first production at the Back Door Theatre

**Dustin Franklin (Robin Starveling)** is a junior TCO/Spanish major. He leads the Lord's Prayers Drama Ministry at Mercer; however, this is his first Mercer Theatre performance. He would like to thank his amazing girlfriend Jessica for all her love and support and the cast and crew for all of their hard work and commitment. "Dios les bendiga a ustedes!"

**Evelyn Funderburk (Cobweb)** is a senior Chemistry major. This is her first time on stage at the Back Door Theatre, although she did several plays in high school, including *Godspell* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. For the past three years, she has been helping Shelley Kuhlen in the costume shop for Mercer and Theatre Macon, but has been anxious to get back on the stage. Evelyn would like to thank her parents for finally letting her be in a show (even though she does have a lot of homework). Scot for casting her in one of her favorite works by Shakespeare, and her boyfriend Dustin for all of his support.

**Ross Hardy (Oberon)** is a freshman at Mercer, and couldn't be more excited that he's playing Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for his first show! His hobbies include watching presidential debates, playing the air guitar, professional wrestling, and Firefly. He intends to get a double major in Philosophy and Creative Writing, but that won't stop him from participating in more Mercer Theatre productions (as long as the rest of the cast will let him come back).

**Han Htet (Puck)** is a junior here at Mercer, and this is his second role at the Back Door Theatre (he was The Wigmaker in *Rashomon*). He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology while on the pre-medicine track. Han would like to thank his family, friends, cast, and crew for all of the encouragement and support.

**Shannon Johnson (Hermia)** is a senior Theatre major at Mercer. She has been in several productions here including one other by Shakespeare, *A Comedy of Errors*, in which she played the Courtesan. Shannon also played Nicole in *Not Waving*, Audrey in *The Disciples*, Natalya in *The Three Sisters*, and Voice-Over in *Hot n' Throbbing*. She was Assistant Director in last year's *Stop Kiss*, and has been actively involved in other technical aspects of Back Door Theatre productions. She has greatly enjoyed her run at Mercer, and is super excited for the entire season...sadly, her last one here.

**Shelley Kuhlen (Costume Designer)** This is Shelley's twelfth year as Mercer's Costume Director. Her costumes have been seen most recently in our productions of *Rashomon*, *Stop Kiss*, and *A Comedy of Errors*. Her creations were also seen last year in Mercer Opera's production of *Egisto*. She also designs for Theatre Macon, and her costumes were seen this summer in *City of Angels* and *Pajama Game*. Shelley wants to thank her wonderful family for their love and support. She also wants to thank her amazing costume crew who donate countless hours helping to maintain her sanity and reminding her that laughter is truly the best medicine!

**Lauren Lunsford (Peasblossom)** is a transfer sophomore, double-majoring in Voice and Theatre, and is thrilled to be in her first Mercer Theatre production! *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is her first encounter with a Shakespearean play – and it has been everything and nothing that she thought it would be. She would like to thank her loving family for always making the trek to Macon for every show, her fellow thespians for helping her get accustomed to Mercer (haha), Anastasia Barnes for dealing with a slightly theatrical roommate (who needs far too much sleep!), and God for giving her a sense of humor!

**Scot J. Mann (Director, Sound Design, Fight Director)** is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Mercer. *Midsummer* marks Scot's eighth directing effort at Mercer in three years. As a director, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award for his direction of *Scapin*, by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in 2005. Scot is also an internationally recognized and award winning Fight Director, certified through the Society of American Fight Directors and the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat. He has choreographed, performed and coached theatrical violence with such companies as The Steppenwolf Theatre, The Alliance Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, The Asolo Conservatory, and The North Carolina School of the Arts. He has also served as an instructor for the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat in London, and Stage Combat Deutschland in Freiberg, Germany.

As an actor, Scot has appeared with the Georgia Shakespeare Festival, New American Theater, New American Shakespeare Theatre, Atlanta Opera, motion capture talent for digital media, and various voice-over recordings for radio, T.V. and the Internet. Most recently, Scot appeared as a stunt-player and served as tactical choreographer and gun wrangler for the upcoming Sci-Fi movie, *Eyeborgs*, as well as on-set Swordmaster and stunt double for the "Bollywood" epic, *Drona*, set for release in October. Scot is an alumnus of the MFA/PAT program at The Alabama Shakespeare Festival and holds a BA in Communications and Theatre from Mercer University. He thanks Kelly, for her understanding and support, and his magical daughter, Madelyn!

**Kelly Martin (Dance Choreography)** works primarily as a freelance actor and stunt person, and this is her second production here at Mercer. She previously choreographed the jazz dance for *The Disciples*, and other credits include *How to Eat Like a Child*, *Music Man*, and various competitive ballroom routines. Regional theatre credits include New Stage Theatre, Mill Mountain Theatre, Southern Arena Theatre, and the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. Many thanks to Scot for the encouragement, and for always having faith in me. Love you!

**Alex Moreschi (Flute/Thisbe)** is a Sophomore Pre-Med Philosophy and Biology double major. This dual role is his first production here at Mercer.

**Corbin Parker (Quince)** is an English/Theatre double major on the Secondary Education track, and this is his first Mercer production. He was born in a small logging town in southern Alaska, where his parents raised him to enjoy fresh fish, broccoli, and warm socks (not to eat...). He dreams of one day making a movie and going on tour with a band (one can dream, right?).

**Billie Pritchard (Helena)** is a senior English and Political Science double major with plans to pursue her Master's degree in English overseas before completing law school in the United States. This is her first production with the Mercer Players after working her way through the community theatre circuit. After studying drama at Oxford University, Billie knew she wanted to perform in a Shakespearean production; The Back Door Theatre provided her with the perfect opportunity. She would like to reassure her friends and professors that she is, in fact, a feminist.

**Matt Roche (Demetrius)** is a junior Psychology here at Mercer. While he has performed in numerous productions on stage and film in the past, this is his first performance at the Back Door Theatre, and he is as impressed as he is excited to be involved in this production. He'd like to thank his friends and family for all the varieties of support they offer him daily.

**Kyle Shook (Snout)** is a freshman, and this is his first production at Mercer. He is very excited, both to be playing Tom Snout and to be working with such a talented group of people. Thanks to the cast and crew for their support.

**Christina Thorington (Philosrate)** is a junior from Columbus, GA. During her collegiate career as a Communications and Theatre Arts major and Vocal minor, she has portrayed the Medium (*Rashomon*), Mrs. Winsley (*Stop Kiss*), and Angelo (*Comedy of Errors*) on the Back Door Theatre stage. She has also been part of many musical theatre productions at Macon Little Theatre and Columbus High School, citing her role of Mimi/Hot Box Dancer in MLT's *Guys and Dolls* as her favorite. She sends many appreciations to Scot, Marian, Zach, cast and crew.

**Ian Van Sice (Egeus/Snug)** is a senior Theatre major previously seen in *Stop Kiss*, *The Disciples*, *Rashomon*, and a showcase of one act plays. This is his fifth consecutive show in the Back Door Theatre, and he extends a special thanks to all of the cast and crew for making this a fantastic experience, as always.

**Alice Wiley (Hippolyta)** is a senior Theatre major from Hamilton, GA. She performed last year as Callie in *Stop Kiss* and *The Wife in Rashomon*. This is her seventh production at Mercer, and her original work will be presented at the Back Door Theatre in April of 2009.

**Stephen Wilshire (Lysander)** is a junior at Mercer and has been involved with various university productions over the past two years. Stephen would like to thank the director, cast, and crew for all of their hard work and tremendous commitment to this production over these past few weeks and beyond.

**Marian Zielinski (Set)** has begun her twenty-seventh season designing for Mercer University Theatre. Some of the highlights of her tenure include set designs for *The Night of the Iguana*, *Beyond Therapy*, and *Under Milk Wood*. In recent years, she has also directed for Mercer Theatre including *Waiting for Godot*, *The Illusion*, *How I learned to Drive*, *The Good Doctor* (which toured to Japan), and most recently, *The Three Sisters*. She has designed professionally off-off Broadway, and for Music Theatre Louisville, The Shawnee Theatre, and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Marian is a avid fiber artist and painter, and she will be directing the Back Door Theatre's next production, *Time Flies*, which runs in November. Marian also enjoys traveling with her husband, Frank Macke, swimming, and photography.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When we first discussed producing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* last year, we began a series of artistic discussions leading us to thoughts on the layered nature of dreams in Shakespeare's text. What do our dreams reveal about ourselves? When a waking dream is patently real, is the reality we wake up to actually the dream and the "dream" a continued reality? Our discussions lasted until the beginning of the semester when Professor Marian Zielinski offered an incredible design presentation that enlivened the entire artistic staff with its layers of possibility and brilliant use of the challenging Back Door Theatre space.

The artistic team set Athens in a late Neoclassical era for the period's love of order, symmetry, and reason. Hermia is at the mercy of a patriarchal, rigid system of laws that has managed to subdue even the Queen of the Amazons by way of force. Escape from her situation requires escape from order, and Lysander's idea to travel through the woods outside the bounds of Athenian law provides the only alternative. Like the Romantics, they rebel against the rigid order of the day.

The forest is one of the Romantics, a place of mystery, adventure, and passion. A mortal feels small and powerless in comparison to their ordered life in Athens. The fairy kingdom converges with the escaping lovers to create a waking, multilayered dream. Disorder abounds with mortal and fairy alike, and the use of magic as a solution further confounds even the power of true love. It is the journey through these layers of knotted dreams, however, that eventually brings new order to worlds of the Fairy Kingdom and Athens.

A production requires many hours of rehearsal, physical labor, knowledge of engineering and drafting, and artistry in the scene shop, costume shop, and on the lighting crew. The students and professionals who labored so steadfastly on this project have my eternal gratitude. And to our tireless artistic staff, which does the work of a department twice its size elsewhere, thank you for being the most consummately talented group of artists with whom I have ever had the privilege to collaborate.

Scot J. Mann  
Assistant Professor/Theatre Director, Mercer University  
Fight Director, Society of American Fight Directors  
Certified Teacher, British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat.

— SEASON —  
A Midsummer Night's Dream  
by  
William Shakespeare  
November 15 - 17  
A Shayna Maidel  
by  
Barbara Lebow  
February 11 - 16  
One-Act Festival  
February 20 - 24  
Company  
by  
Stephen Sondheim  
May 16 - 18

— SPECIAL THANKS —  
Linda Stapleton  
Robert Neal  
Mercer University Physical Plant



MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE  
presents

# A Midsummer Night's Dream

November 15, 16, 17  
Willingham Auditorium  
8:00 pm

The poster features a decorative border with illustrations of a unicorn, a woman in a crown, a man in a suit, and a woman in a long dress. The text is centered and includes the title, dates, location, and time.

# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

BY  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DIRECTOR ..... PAUL OPPY\*  
SET, COSTUME, AND LIGHTING DESIGNER ..... MARIAN ZIELINSKI\*  
CHOREOGRAPHER AND MOVEMENT COACH ..... ROBIN ERVIN\*  
SOUND DESIGNER ..... CHRIS KIRBY\*  
MAKEUP DESIGNER ..... CHRISTOPHER SHEETS\*

## CAST (In Order Of Appearance)

Theseus .....	Tom McKlin	Puck .....	Jason Cardwell
Hippolyta .....	Sharon Colley	Oberon .....	Scot Mann
Egeus .....	Kendall Countryman	Titania .....	Suzanne Glennon
Lysander .....	Christopher Kirby*	Firefly .....	Siobhan Glennon
Hermia .....	Kimbrough Dunwoody*	Stardust .....	Marty Bray
Demetrius .....	Roland Ochoa*	Mustardseed .....	C.C. Minor
Helena .....	Christina Ray	Moonbeam .....	Lora Schwenk
Quince .....	Emory Whitaker	Peasblossom .....	Shannon Prince
Snug .....	Christopher Sheets*	Acorn .....	Moira Glennon
Bottom .....	Dan Byrd, Jr.	Moss .....	Carson Garoni
Flute .....	Tom Glennon	Moth .....	Kelly Finley*
Snout .....	Mats Malqvist	Toadstool .....	Elliott Dunwoody
Starvling .....	Chris Rader		

The play is set in and around Athens.  
There will be one ten minute intermission.

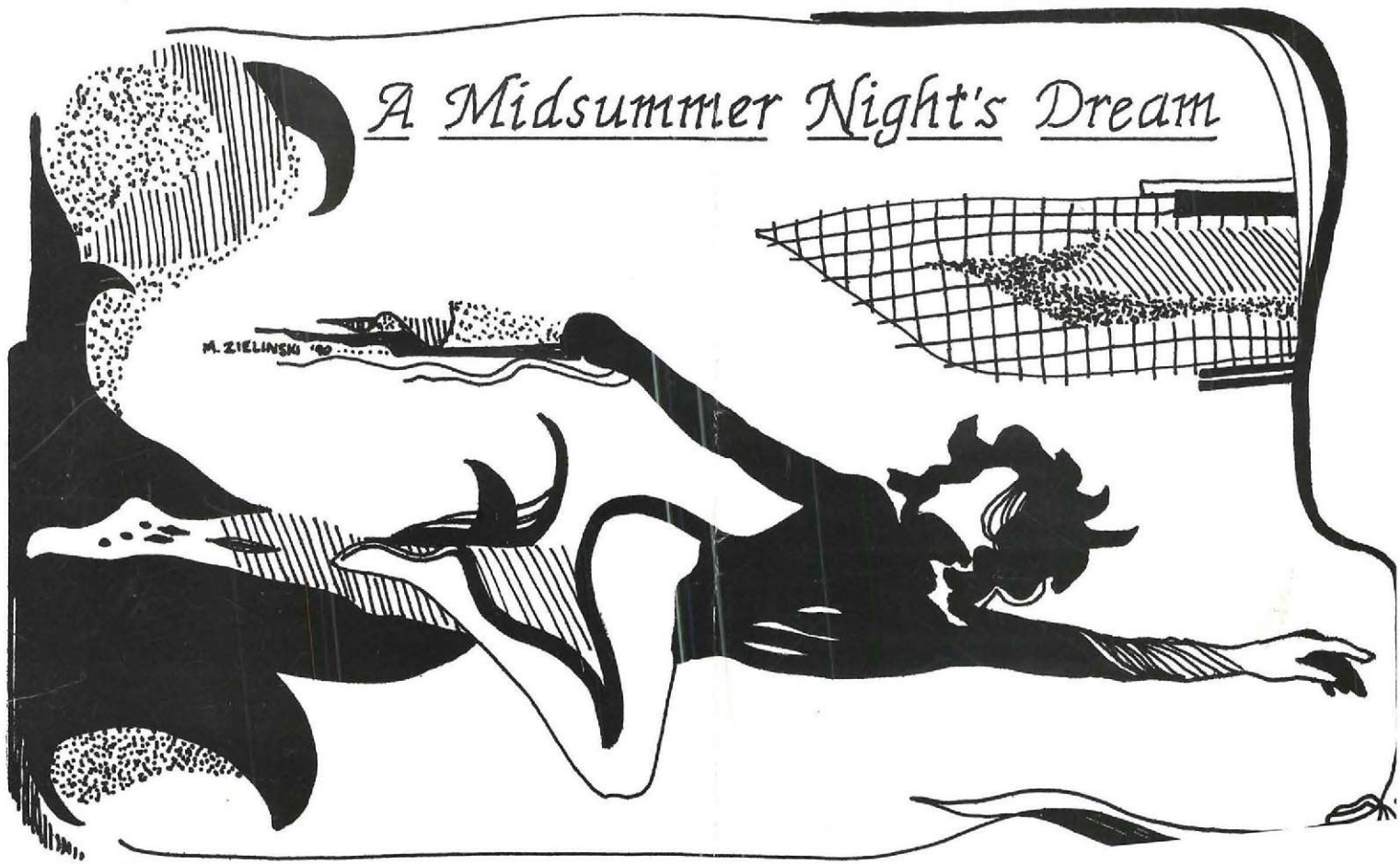
## PRODUCTION CREW

Technical Director .....	Marian Zielinski*	Costume Construction Crew .....	Dan Byrd, Jr. Sara Ewell, Kelly Finley*
Stage Manager .....	Susan Hatcher		Ruth Gregory, Siobhan Glennon
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Mary Kay McPherson		Suzanne Glennon, Leslie Hamilton
Assistant Choreographer & Dance Captain .....	Marty Bray		Nandini Makrandi, Lora Schwenk
Master Carpenter .....	Roland Ochoa*		Christopher Sheets*, Jamie Vandiver
Set Construction Crew .....	Susan Bragdon, Shawn Bransky Marty Bray, Jason Cardwell Sharon Colley, Elliot Dunwoody Sara Ewell, Kelly Finley* Carson Garoni, Tom Glennon Nandini Makrandi, Mats Malquist Scot Mann, Tom McKlin Mary Kay McPherson, C. C. Minor Michelle Moyer, Maxwell Penn Chris Rader, Lora Schwenk Jamie Vandiver, Stephanie Walker Tate Wilson	Lighting Crew .....	Jerry Bridges Kelly Finley*, Christina Goranson Tom Huber, Michael Lake Scot Mann, Mary Kay McPherson Tate Wilson
		Light Board Operator .....	Michael Lake
		Poster Design .....	Marian Zielinski*
		Publicity .....	Lynn Whitfield
		Box Office .....	Linda Stapleton, Lynn Whitfield
		House Manager .....	Rhett Thomas
		Ushers .....	Alpha Delta Pi, Kevin Courington

\*Members of Alpha Psi Omega, National Dramatics Honorary



A Midsummer Night's Dream



M. ZIELINSKI '90

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*Marian Zielinski*

*Costume Design Exhibition:  
'Renderings for  
A Midsummer Night's Dream"*

*November 15 through December 12*

*Opening Reception:  
Thursday, November 15, 1990  
6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.*

*Gallery Talk:  
December 5th 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.*

*Hardman Fine Arts Building  
Mercer University  
1400 Coleman Avenue  
Macon, Georgia 31207*

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