



News

Contact:

Rick Miramontez / Jon Dimond / Amanda Dekker / Mary Katherine Vigness
rick@oandmco.com / jon@oandmco.com / amanda@oandmco.com / marykatherine@oandmco.com
(212) 695-7400

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SHAKESPEARE ON THE SOUND
CREATES UNPRECEDENTED SITE-SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENT
IN PINKNEY PARK FOR
THIS YEAR'S
"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"

Rowayton, CT – **Shakespeare on the Sound**, Connecticut's premier outdoor summer theatre company presenting free Shakespeare in the park, will feature an exciting environmental staging for Artistic Director **Joanna Settle's** inaugural production of ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***. In a departure from usual outdoor productions, the set as designed by Scenic Designer **Andrew Lieberman** will allow the action of the piece to take place in, among and around attendees, fostering an intimate experience between the audience and actors in Pinkney Park.

"In approaching the design for *Midsummer*, my main goal was to connect our audience with the park and the performance," explained **Lieberman**. "I've designed Shakespeare productions for numerous outdoor venues and find that it is most important to respond to a location rather than impose a vision that could live equally well indoors. Our main design element of twisting pathways allows a true give-and-take between our actors and the audience. *Midsummer* is, of course, the perfect play in which to take full advantage of the natural splendor of Pinkney Park - why create something "scenic" when you have the real thing surrounding you?"

"Andrew and I have been working together in various locations for 11 years," added **Settle**. "In this instance, our set allowed me to create a show where the players can literally search for love, struggle to reach each other over great distances and even afford them a rare opportunity to actually get lost in the woods! Wherever one chooses to sit, the true backdrop of the show will be this wonderful community coming together to watch Shakespeare's story presented as a real midsummer celebration."

A Midsummer Night's Dream will be presented June 16-28 in Pinkney Park in Rowayton. Audiences are invited to arrive early and picnic in the park before the performance. There is no admission fee, but a donation of \$20 (\$10 for students and seniors) is suggested. Parking is limited and early arrival is suggested.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is choreographed by **David Neumann** and features set and costume design by **Andrew Lieberman**, sound design by **Obadiah Eaves**, and lighting design by **Adam Silverman**.

A Midsummer Night's Dream will be performed Tuesdays – Sundays at 7:30 p.m. For rail and road directions, visit www.shakespeareonthesound.org. This production is being presented with the support of the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism.

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