Dreaming Shakespeare

The production takes place November 18-21 in the Robsham Theater. Times and ticket information can be found at the theater with plenty to think about.

As with modern dance, spectators will be provoked to create new narratives from the experience. Shakespeare's works are a unique opportunity for the public to view a large number of works that are rarely exhibited and dreamed dreams. Viewers will be asked to bend their minds and "explore themselves" as if they can expect the unexpected and surely much ado about something!

So what can Robsham theater-goers expect on opening night? They will encounter scenes and exchanges from the theater with plenty to think about.


Set design will be key in this multi-sensory production. The director wants to let the words support the visual, reversing the pattern of everyday theater. "At Dreaming Shakespeare, she will help cast members with their vocal representation of the words," says Associate Professor John Houchin, Theater Department.

Helping to shape the performance is Karen Kopryansky. With an MFA in voice and speech from Harvard University and extensive experience acting and teaching, she will help cast members with their vocal representation of the words and speech from Shakespeare's works, says Houchin. The unconventional perspectives will have the opportunity to step into the mind of one of the world's greatest playwrights and directly experience this realm of emotion and chaos.

As Houchin says, "Audience members will have to make choices about what they want to watch." After their senses have been provoked by the words, the audience will be asked to make choices about what they want to watch in the visual experience of this production.

In a production that "helps the viewer to become an active participant in their theater experience as they travel through Shakespeare's world," Houchin says, "I hope to use it as a teaching device," to get students to play an active part in the creation of what they act, rather than acting someone else's words. "The audience members will have to make choices about what they want to watch," says Houchin.

"At Dreaming Shakespeare, I am trying to take the words out of the mouth of one world and put them into the mouth of another," says Houchin. "I hope to take the audience into a space where they are not into the words of the play, but into their own words, their own associations, their own feelings, their own dreams."
What if Hamlet crossed paths with Juliet? Or Romeo met Cleopatra? Just what would happen if Shakespeare's lovers and warriors were thrown into a snow globe which was then fiercely shaken? You might find out in the Boston College production of Dreaming Shakespeare at Robsham Theater in November.

Imagine for a moment that all these characters were loosely drawn and co-existed in Shakespeare's thoughts and dreams before reaching their destinies in their respective plays. Through Dreaming Shakespeare, audiences will have the opportunity to step into the mind of one of the world's greatest playwrights and directly experience this realm of emotion and chaos.

"War, love, tragedy and comedy collide in a dreamlike state in this extended textual choreography of Shakespeare's works," says Associate Professor John Houchin, Theater Department. The unconventional performance will take the audience members on a historic journey through Shakespeare's plays, engaging all of their senses. As with modern dance, spectators will be provoked to create new narratives from the experience.

Houchin expects that the presentation will entice the audience to take a more active role in their theater experience as they travel through Shakespeare's dreams. Viewers will be asked to bend their minds and "explore themselves" as they discover Shakespeare in a new way.

"I hope to use it as a teaching device," Houchin says, "to get students to play an active part in the creation of what they act, rather than acting someone else's vision." Although the script is not yet completed, Houchin has intensively studied various Shakespearean tools to provide the future cast with the necessary tools and conditions to create this unique experience.

Helping to shape the performance is Karen Koppynska. With an MFA in voice and speech from Harvard University and extensive experience acting and teaching Shakespeare, she will help cast members with their vocal representation of the text.

Set design will be key in this multi-sensory production. The director wants to "let the words support the visual," reversing the pattern of everyday theater. "At times," Houchin says, "audience members will have to make choices about what they want to watch." After exploring the fluid borders of love and war throughout Shakespeare's works, audience members will leave the theater with plenty to think about.

So what can Robsham theater-goers expect on opening night? They will encounter scenes and exchanges from The Tempest, Hamlet, Titus Andronicus and more. Beyond that, they can expect the unexpected and surely much ado about something!

The production takes place November 18-21 in the Robsham Theater. Times and ticket information can be found inside this issue.
Exhibitions

MC Mullen Museum of Art
Museum hours: M-F 1:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sat-Su: Noon–5:00 p.m. For information call 617-552-8310 or visit www.bc.edu/arts

FERNAND KHNOPIFF: INNER VISIONS AND LANDSCAPES
The 35th Anniversary of the M.C. Mullen Museum is marked by a major exhibition of the painting and sculpture of the Symbolist artist, Fernand Khnopff (1858-1921). September 29-December 5.

Bapst Art Library
Library hours: M-F: 8:30 a.m.–Midnight, Sat-Su: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3200.

AFTERNOON: BOSSIAUX LONG ROAD TO PEACE

Bapst Student Art Gallery
M-F: 10:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m., Sat-Su: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

September

14 Tuesday Closing of the summer show, “Tradition: Junior to Senior, Class of ’05.” Bapst Library Student Art Gallery. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3200.
19 Saturday Opening of Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes. M.C. Mullen Museum of Art. 12:00-5:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8310.
20 Monday Opening celebration of the exhibition Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes. Dessert reception, exhibition viewing, and music by BC Boj. M.C. Mullen Museum of Art. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8310.
21 Tuesday Music at St. Mary’s. Richard Stone performs Johann Sebastian Bach, excerpts from the St. Matthew Passion. St. Mary’s Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-4004.
26 Sunday Lunch Inner Visions. Novel, Piano Trio and Debut; Preludes. Concert offered in conjunction with M.C. Mullen Museum’s Khnopff exhibition. Sandra Hubert, piano; Kirsty Pettitt, violin; Jonkim Simons, cello; Carol Mastrodomenico, viola. Gasson 310. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-4004.
29 Wednesday Opening of the first show of the semester “Juried” Show. Bapst Student Art Gallery. 5:00-6:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-3200.

October

5 Tuesday Museum Lecture Series. Total Eclipse (1969) starring Leonardo DiCaprio. Introduced by film and fine arts faculty. Devlin 310. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8210.
6 Wednesday Music at St. Mary’s. Music of Russian Orthodoxy. The mixed children’s and youth choir of Sophia of Krasnoarmeyskaya. St. John’s Chapel. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-6014.
14 Thursday Lowell Humanities Series. Lecture Series. “Love for Love’s Sake: Dedication and Declamatory Style” Ellis Hanson, Professor of English, Cornell University. Devlin 310. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-8120.
14-17 Thursday - Sunday Department of Theatre/ Robsham Theater Arts Center presents Nesciatory. Target by Eve Ensler and Credible Witness by Timberlake Wertenbaker. Robsham Theater Arts Center. Thurs. Sat. Sun. 8:00 p.m., Sun. 2:00 p.m. Tickets $12, $10 for students and staff with BC ID and senior citizens. Information: 617-552-4012.
23 Friday Music in the Afternoon. Meier Chambers, tenor, performs Art Songs and Spirituals. GASON 310. 3:15 p.m. Information: 617-552-3200.
25 November Museum Film Series. From Hal (2001), starring Johnny Depp. Introduced by film and fine arts faculty. Devlin 206. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8210.
30-31 Saturday - Sunday Music at St. Mary’s. Stories of J. S. Bach: The Death of Saul and Jonathan, A Baroque Chamber Opera by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. St. Mary’s Chapel. Sat. Sun. 8:00, 10:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6014.

November

2 Tuesday Music at St. Mary’s. Music by All Souls. Works by Ravi Shankar, Steve Reich, and John Zorn. Devlin 310. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-4010.
3 Wednesday Be BC Boj. Lower level. Lower Campus Dining Facility. 5:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.
9 Tuesday Museum Film Series. La Promesse (1996). Introduced by film and fine arts faculty. Devlin 206. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8310.
12 BC Boj. Live at the Cafe. The Cafe at McDaid. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.
13 Saturday Boston College Symphony Orchestra. John Finney, conductor. Cécilia Farrella, piano, guest soloist. Program to include Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue. Devlin 206. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8310.
14 Sunday Pulse Choir. Judy Gurant, director. GASON 310. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.
16 Tuesday Readings in the M.C. Mullen Museum. Introduced by Kevin Newmark. GASON 310. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.
17 Wednesday Haeburn String Quartet. BC Artists-in-Residence with special guests: James Somerville and Jonathan Marks. French forms. Quartets by Beethoven and Haydn, and Mozart’s The Commander. GASON 310. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8310.
18-21 Thursday - Sunday Department of Theatre/Robsham Theater Arts Center presents Dreaming Shakespeare, the works of William Shakespeare will be brought to life by actors from the cast and director. Robsham Theater Arts Center. Thurs. Sat. Sun. 8:00, 10:00 p.m. Tickets $10 for students and BC ID, and senior citizens. Information: 617-552-4012.
19 Friday BC Boj. Live at the Perch. The Perch at M Deily. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.
30 Tuesday Museum Film Series. From Hal (2001), starring Johnny Depp. Introduced by film and fine arts faculty. Devlin 206. 7:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8210.

December

1 Wednesday Music at St. Mary’s. Renaissance Christmas Music Ensemble Zaccharone with Pamela Deblai, mezzo-soprano. St. Mary’s Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-6014.
3 Friday BC Boj. At the Breaking the Barriers Ball. GASON 310. 8:00 p.m. Ticket price TBA. Information: 617-552-3018.
5 Friday - Sunday University Choral of Boston College and Boston College Symphony Orchestra presents the Annual Christmas Concert. John Finney conductor. Trinity Chapel, Campus. Tickets $10, $5 with BC ID. Fri. Sat. Sun. 8:00 p.m. Sun. 2:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-8316.
5 Sunday Boston College Concert Band Christmas Concert. Program will include An Irving Berlin Christmas and Leroy Anderson’s Sleighbells. GASON 310. 3:00 p.m. Information: 617-552-3018.
8 Wednesday Music at St. Mary’s. A Camerata of Lassens and Carols. The Boston College Choir, Archdiocesan Choir School, John Dunn, director. St. Mary’s Chapel. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-6014.
9 Thursday Chamber Music Society. Sandra Hubert, director. GASON 310. 7:30 p.m. Information: 617-552-6014.
10-12 Friday - Sunday Department of Theatre/Robsham Theater Arts Center presents the 5th Annual Boston College Bach Festival. Friday – Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tickets $10, $5 for students and staff with BC ID, and senior citizens. Information: 617-552-4012.

January

20-21 Thursday - Saturday Department of Theatre/Robsham Theater Arts Center presents The Book of Day by Lanford Wilson. Robsham Theater Arts Center. Book Studio. 8:00 p.m. Tickets $10. Information: 617-552-4012.

For additional programs and schedule changes: www.bc.edu/arts

e-mail: arts@bc.edu

All events are free unless otherwise noted.