

The Popular Mechanicals

A play by Robinson, Taylor and Shakespeare

Director	Iain Court
Scenic Designer	Maria Aki
Costume Designer	Nia Quan
Lighting Designers	Nathan Bala Xaalan Dolance
Sound Designer	Celeste Fenton
Stage Manager	Rain Young

Please note: This production contains the use of adult language.

7:30 p.m., Feb. 13-15, 2020

2 p.m., Feb. 15-16, 2020

Loft Theatre

University Theatre Building



Theatre & Dance

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

Cast

In alphabetical order.

ROLE	NAME
Robin Starveling	Harper Branch
Snug	Michelle Angeline Diller
Peter Quince	Kyle Lawrence
Francis Flute	Jeffrey Pincus
Tom Snout	Stephanie Saltis
Nick Bottom	Jason Toennis

Director's note

A very long time ago in a faraway moonlit country, six lowly workers—let's call them rude mechanicals—decided to put on a play. This is their story.

In this re-envisioning, they are not merely the rude or rough; they are the popular mechanicals. The mechanicals—craftsmen, artisans—are witty and feisty, a select group, the best in all of Athens, and they have chosen their play ... although they perhaps have not read it carefully. Pronouncing it “merry” and “a most lamentable comedy”—Ovid's tragic tale of *Pyramus and Thisbe*, one of the sources for *Romeo and Juliet*—is perhaps not the best choice to celebrate a wedding. But here, we see this dedicated group “backstage” planning and rehearsing with sometimes great focus and more often distraction, for the play's the thing and lord what fools these mortals be.

This play was born from an improvised *divertissement* and crafted into a *mélange* of Shakespeare and vaudeville and stand-up comedy, song and dance and witty commentary.

It has a firm foot in its Australian comic heritage (as well as its Shakespearean), and there might be terms you don't understand—words, words, words. Below is a short glossary of just a few. But in the meantime, let the rollercoaster antics of our wonderful cast carry you through this adventure.

Twistie: a snack food similar to the Cheeto

Mintie: brand name of a chewy mint

Pissed: drunk

Bot-em: borrow them

Garlic ponging: stinking of garlic

Brekkie: Breakfast

Dag: nerd

Chooks: chickens

Crikey: an exclamation of surprise

Production team

Assistant Stage Manager

Joe Kennedy

Stage Manager Apprentice

Mattie Kantor

Non-Equity Deputy

Jason Toennis

Props Master

Maddy Salvucci

Light Board Operator

Eddie Altman

Sound Board Operator

Jonathan Burgart

Deck Crew

Zoe Fischhoff

Lighting Programmer

Viktoria Padilla

Dressers

Aidan Heydt

Jenee LeBlanc

Costumes

Costume Shop production assistants:

Kaylyn Buehler, Celeste Fenton, Chloe Freibott, Katie Lennon, Victor Longman, Graham Longworth, Nia Quan, Emily Ray, Elise Rosado, Jack Van Gilder, Rain Young

Practicum students:

Mari Beazley, Grant Bowman, Rachel Capo, Emily Cranny, Leandra Fischman, Aidan Heydt, Greta Hooston, Tommy Lee, Marianne Pettis, Sarah Powers, Stephanie Saltis, Caleb Sharp, Katelyn Skeen

Scenery and electrics

Scene shop production assistants:

Maria Aki, Michael Batson, Stephanie Castro, Asher Farr, Kelsey Gallotte, Cali Greenbaum, Katy Keenan, Ari Kutzer, Calvin Logan, Graham Longworth, Hannah Male, Zach Mayer, Sam Morin, Vik Padilla, Connor Robertson, Maddy Salvucci, Saaren Thorn, Destin Woods

Practicum students and volunteers:

Brittney Cook, Nathan Dow, Celeste Fenton, Marlon Jacobi, Kate Johnson, Claire Jungk, Brittany Lewis, Isobel Makin, Stephanie Saltis, Sarah Sweet, Mei, Taylor, Jason Toennis, Madelyn Wible, Rain Young, Shelby Zumwalt

Dance production

Technical crew:

Maria Aki, Nathan Bala, Aleighya Dawkins, Xaalan Dolence, Attiyya Fortuné, Brealyn Hager, Hattie Houser, Sam Morin, Teresa Orosco, Viktoria Padilla, Olivia Sander, Samantha Scovel, James Solis-Gutierrez

Special thanks

- Jesse Manno
- Kevin Rich
- Tammy Meneghini

Upcoming performances

🎫 Ticketed events

February

The Language Archive

A play by Julia Cho
Acting Studio,
Feb. 27-March 1

Open Space

Curated by CU Dance
Connection
Charlotte York Irey Theatre,
Feb. 28-March 1

March

Spring Awakening

A musical by Steven Sater
and Duncan Sheik
Book and Lyrics by Steven Sater;
Music by Duncan Sheik; Based on the
play by Frank Wedekind
University Theatre,
March 6-15

April

A Perfect Likeness

A play by Daniel Rover
Singer
Acting Studio, April 2-5

As You Like It

A play by William
Shakespeare
Loft Theatre, April 9-12

The Current

Dance works by faculty
and guest artists
Charlotte York Irey Theatre,
April 10-19

2019-20 New Play Festival

Acting Studio, April 15-19

Theatre & Dance Department staff

**Department Chair and
Director of Dance**
Erika Randall

**Associate Chair and
Director of Theatre**
Markas Henry

Associate Chair of Dance
Helanius J. Wilkins

Production Coordinator
Connie Lane

**Director of Dance
Production**
Iain Court

**Costume Production
Director**
Ted Stark

Technical Director
Jordan Feeler

Associate Technical Director
Stephen Balgooyen

Master Electrician
Cooper Braun-Enos
Sound/AV Supervisor
Wes Halloran

**Asst. to the Director of
Dance Production**
Brittney Laleh Banaei

**Asst. to the Costume
Production Director**
Veronica Dewey

Business Manager
Stacy Witt

Program Coordinator
Stacy Norwood

Graduate Program Asst.
Patricia Paige

**Production Outreach &
Engagement Liaison**
Ondine Geary

Administrative Asst. III
Ciera Barrow

Academic Advisor
Jessica Baron

**Costume Rental/Stock
Manager**

Issy Leustig
Wardrobe Coordinator
Andrea Jewell

Costume Tech Lab Asst.
Ana Langmead

Costume Shop Bookkeeper
Zoe Fischhoff

Costume Shopper
Clara Hoppe

Dance Costume Coordinator
Attiyya Fortuné

Dance Events Coordinator
Christina Mitchell

**Dance Video Recording/
Archivist**
Nicky Shindler

Front of House Manager
Matara Hitchcock

House Managers
Donielle Carr, Evan Cerda,
Xaalan Dolance, Matara
Hitchcock, Madison Palffy,
Samantha Piel, Jason Toennis

The Department of Theatre & Dance is a community of students, scholars, artists and artisans who regard the collaborative and creative process as the core of education.

Learn more at colorado.edu/theatredance.

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