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ROYAL NEW ZEALAND BALLET

THE VODAFONE
SEASON OF

**A
MIDSUMMER
NIGHT'S
DREAM**

St James Theatre | Wellington | Dress Rehearsal 19 August 2015 | Dress Rehearsal

Act I

In a forest clearing, under a moonlit night sky, Titania and Oberon quarrel over a Changeling Boy found sleeping in the wood. Titania eventually takes possession of the infant. In his rage Oberon summons his apprentice Puck, and sends him to search for a magical flower. When sprinkled into the eyelids of a person sleeping, this magic flower causes the sleeper to fall in love with the first creature he or she sees upon awakening. Oberon plans to use this on Titania in revenge.

Meanwhile, four explorers have entered the forest in search of the exotic specimens to be found there, and a complicated love triangle ensues. Helena pines for Demetrius, who is in turn infatuated with Hermia, who is happily coupled with Lysander. Upon seeing this, Oberon orders Puck to resolve this situation by using the magic flower to make Demetrius return Helena's affections. However, Puck confuses the two men and administers the potion to the wrong one, causing even more trouble.

Titania awakens under the flower's spell to fall in love with the rustic Bottom, whom Puck has transformed into a donkey. Oberon spies on the couple, taking great pleasure in Titania's humiliation, to which she is entirely oblivious.

Act II

Upon realising Puck's mistake with Demetrius and Lysander, Oberon is furious and sets about punishing Puck and resolving the mess, so that Lysander return to loving Hermia and Demetrius finds love with Helena.

Bottom is restored to human form and, as the night draws to a close, Titania and Oberon resolve their differences and gently return the sleeping Changeling Boy to where they found him, and to his own midsummer night's dreams.

TITANIA

Queen of the Fairies
Tonia Looker

OBERON

King of the Fairies
MacLean Hopper

PUCK

Apprentice to Oberon
Kohei Iwamoto

HERMIA

In love with Lysander
Lori Gilchrist

LYSANDER

In love with Hermia
Joseph Skelton

HELENA

In love with Demetrius
Abigail Boyle

DEMETRIUS

In love with Hermia
Paul Mathews

BOTTOM

A young rustic
Harry Skinner

CHANGELING

A young boy
Joseph Barry

FAIRIES

MOTH
Mayu Tanigaito

COBWEB
Bronte Kelly

MUSTARD SEED
Lucy Green

PEASEBLOSSOM
Katherine Minor

Hayley Donnison
Kirby Selchow

Yang Liu
Leonora Voigtlander

Alayna Ng
Elisabeth Zorino

RUSTICS

Nathanael Skelton
Fabio Lo Giudice

Shaun Kelly
John Hull

Peng Fei Jiang
Loughlan Prior

William Fitzgerald

Choreography Liam Scarlett

Music Felix Mendelssohn

Design Tracy Grant Lord

Lighting Design Kendall Smith

Conductor, Arranger & Additional Orchestration Nigel Gaynor

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, live performance recording from Wellington's St James Theatre in
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Video Mike Ritchie

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