

Our Midsummer Night's Dream

Pillow forts, fairy lights, potions and magic.

We have chosen to create a show with an all female cast. The theme for Refugee Week this year is 'community as a superpower'. So much comfort can be drawn from community, and we wanted to draw inspiration from the community we know best. We have had the opportunity to work with many fantastic female artists and know the power and influence women can hold. Moreover, of the 100 million people that have been forced into displacement, the majority are women and girls.

Women are often the first responders when a crisis hits, yet their voices are left out of policies that are supposed to protect them. In addition to poverty and other issues that all refugees may face, female refugees face an added layer of oppression from gender discrimination. And yet, despite everything that makes being a woman, or underrepresented gender, difficult, there is something beautifully unique and magical about "girlhood" - even when this is something that is discovered as an adult. We want to capture that magic in our production and place that joy on stage.

The production has an LGBTQ+ focus as we also want to bring attention to the specific challenges faced by LGBTQ+ refugees from persecution in their countries of origin to ongoing discrimination and lack of adequate support in the UK. Many experience verbal and physical abuse, relocation due to safety concerns, and fall through gaps in policy due to insufficient data.

"This play has always been about chaos and enchantment - we want to lean into that from a perspective of queer joy, feminist mischief, and chosen family. This is also a love letter to the women we create with. They are our community, and our superpower." - Robyn Faye, Director of A Midsummer Night's Dream at The Bush Theatre

Compass Collective

Compass Collective assists young refugees and asylum seekers to build resilience and integrate into the UK. They offer a crucial source of support and community for vulnerable young people at risk of extreme isolation. They deliver a variety of programmes to help these young people to improve their communication and transferable life skills, build confidence, and move towards future opportunities in further education/training/employment. They support approximately 350 young people aged 18-26 from over 28 locations in the UK each year. The majority of young people that Compass Collective supports are in the early stages of immigration processing, and 70% are unaccompanied minors. Compass Collective was founded in 2018 and became a registered charity in 2021. They are youth led, with a thriving, dynamic Youth Board, Youth Leader opportunities, and paid Youth Ambassadors embedded into every programme.

For Refugee Week last year, they ran a 24-hour Shakespeare marathon that raised more than £20,000, of which Robyn and her producer Charly Faye had the privilege to be a part of. This year, they want to beat that target!

If you would like to make a donation, our GoFundMe page can also be found via your QR code! Every little helps, and we appreciate all donations no matter how small.

All proceeds from today's performance will be going to Compass Collective. Our cast and creative team are kindly working for free in the name of a good cause. Thank you so much for your support!

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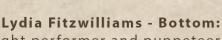
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The Players



Annie Haworth - Demetrius:

Annie is a London-based actor and screenwriter. Recent Credits: 'Anatomy of a Scandal' (TV, Netflix); Both seasons of Daisy May Cooper's 'Am I Being Unreasonable? (TV, BBC). They are currently writing and developing a 6-part TV series with Insight Management and Production.

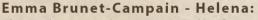


Lydia is an actress, fight performer and puppeteer who enjoys using physicality to tell a story. Recent Credits: Puppeteer with 'The Herds'; 'Bait' (Short Film, EMRJ Entertainment); 'Just A Girl' (Short Film, Bastet Productions).



Goda Liutkute - Lysander:

Goda is an actor and theatre maker, originally hailing from Lithuania. Recent Credits: 'Lightstreams' (Theatre, The Bush Theatre); 'Drumming' (Short Film, Anouk W Hiffler); 'Roots' (Short Film, Ugne Jurgaityte).

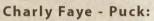


Emma is an actress based in London. Originally from France; she now resides in London where all of her creative endeavours flourish. Recent Credits: 'Flying Duo' (Short Film, Fracassantes); 'Immodest' (Short Film, Straight 8/Cannes 2025); 'Scrub Me, Daddy' (Short film, Straight 8).



Ausette Anderies - Hermia:

Ausette is an Arizonian actor and filmmaker based in London; interested in collaborative, joyful storytelling. Recent Credits; 'How Not to Fund a Honeymoon' (Theatre, Edinburgh Festival Fringe); 'It's Not Me It's You' (Releasing 2026).



Charly is an actor, writer and creative producer with an interest in female led and queer centered stories.

Recent Credits: 'Immodest' (Short Film, Straight 8/Cannes 2025), 'CopyCat' (Short Film, Channel 4) and '24 Hour Shakespeare Marathon' (Theatre, Compass Collective)





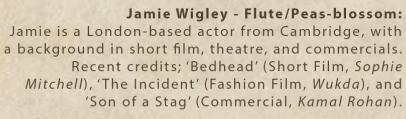


The Players



Maddy Biggs - Eqeus/Quince:

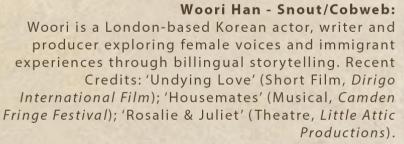
Maddy is a London and Kent based actor who loves to explore physical and character-led practices in theatre/film. Recent Credits: 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' (Stage, Troubadour Stageworks); Salty Pelican Theatre's Monthly Improv Night; 'After The Word' (Short Film, Woven Voices).





Rosie Frecker - Snua/Moth:

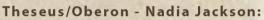
Rosie is an actor, director and podcaster from East London, specialising in Shakespeare and female-led storytelling. Recent Credits: 'A Christmas Carol' (Theatre, London Touring Players); 'Just One Moment' (Short Film, Kinemyr Films); 'Company' (Musical, Exeter Footlights).





Lizzie Lister - Titania/Hippolyta:

Lizzie is an actress and singer based in London, with a passion for contemporary adaptations of the classics. Recent Credits: 'Wuthering Heights - The Musical' (Workshop, Little Chick Productions); 'Housemates' (Musical, Camden Fringe Festival); 'Immodest' (Straight 8/Cannes Film Festival 2025).



Nadia is an actor, writer and producer with a passion for classical text, history and period dramas. Recent credits: 'The Ungodly' (Theatre, Southwark Playhouse + Brits Off Broadway), 'Maar, Dora' (Theatre, Camden Fringe Festival) and 'The Paddington Bear Experience' (Theatre, Immersive Octopus).







Creative Team

Robyn Fave

Robyn Faye Director

Robyn Faye is an actor, writer and director based in London. She studied at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, which had a heavy emphasis on Classical Text, and aims to use her training to approach directing through an actor's lense. She is particularly passionate about female and queer lead stories, especially those which involve an ensemble and encourage a collaborative space. Most recently she directed the short film "Immodest' which included a large female cast and premiered at Cannes Film Festival.

Charly Faye Producer

Charly trained at East 15 and through acting discovered a love for creating her own work - naturally leading her to producing. As a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community she has a keen interest in sharing queer stories and providing space for unheard voices. When she is not acting she vulenteers for charity 'Just Like Us', championing young LGBTQ people. Her most recent producing credits include 'Immodest' (Short Film, Straight 8/Cannes 2025) and The Prism (Theatre, Les Enfant Terribles).



Lizzie Lister Musical Director & Composer

Lizzie trained at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and is passionate about the literary classics - particularly when adapting iconic texts through a contemporary lens. Lizzie is the lyricist, book writer and co-composer of 'Wuthering Heights - The Musical', which is currently in the late stages of development. She was thrilled to make her professional Musical Director debut for 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', and it was an honour to compose original songs for this magical show.



Josette Britton Puppet Maker

Josette Britton is a textile and tattoo artist based in London and Donegal, Josette's heritage inspires her work, growing up with both Iraqi and Irish influences. They like crafting textiles that are heavily inspired by stories and Irish folktales. They aim to create narrative illustrations that invoke feelings of euphoria, whimsy and nostalgia.

Lydia Fitzwilliams

Fight Director

Lydia is a fight director and combat teacher working across stage and screen. She believes that good action is informed by character and story and that a fight should progress the narrative of both - a belief that is evident in all of her work. Alongside leading her own workshops and assisting multiple BADC teachers at drama schools and universities, she has also coordinated fights for projects such as 'The Interpreter' (Short Film, Bastet Productions). 'Scrub Me, Daddy' (Short Film, Robyn Faye), and 'Take The Fall' (Film, Black Print Productions).

Creative Team





AJ Prior

Photographer

Liam is a filmmaker and videographer working in music videos, short films and commercials. When he is not shooting on a stage at Reading Festival, touring with bands such as Swim School, Deary and Pale Waves, or bringing his own visions to the screen as a director he loves to work with the Fracassantes team as a DoP on various projects.

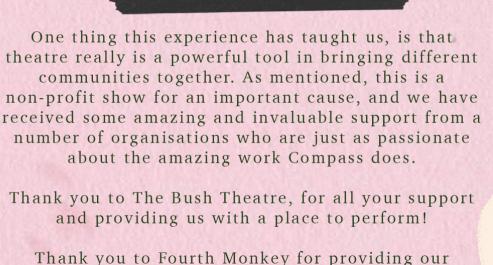
Liam

Beazley

Videographer



AJ Prior is a photographer based in Kingston. He has worked on multiple Fracassantes productions and never fails to capture the joy of the creative process. AJ works primarily as a headshot photographer as 'Under The Skin Portraits", providing compelling and authentic portraits that reflect the subject's true selves to the industry. Originally training as an actor, not only is he able to capture them beautifully but he is also able to see the world through their lense.



Thank you to Fourth Monkey for providing our rehearsal space, we are incredibly grateful that we were able to have the space to play and create thanks to you.

Thank you to The National Youth Theatre for helping us source our costumes and making our cast look fabulous.

Thank you to Josie for creating the most beautiful puppets, your dedication and talent is astounding.

Thank you to Megan Bakewell for your endless support and guidance

Thank you to our cast and crew for giving so much of your time to create something magical.

And thank you to you, our audience. For coming to see our work and for supporting Compass Collective, this wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for you.



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