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Such fish can be bought, we think you should
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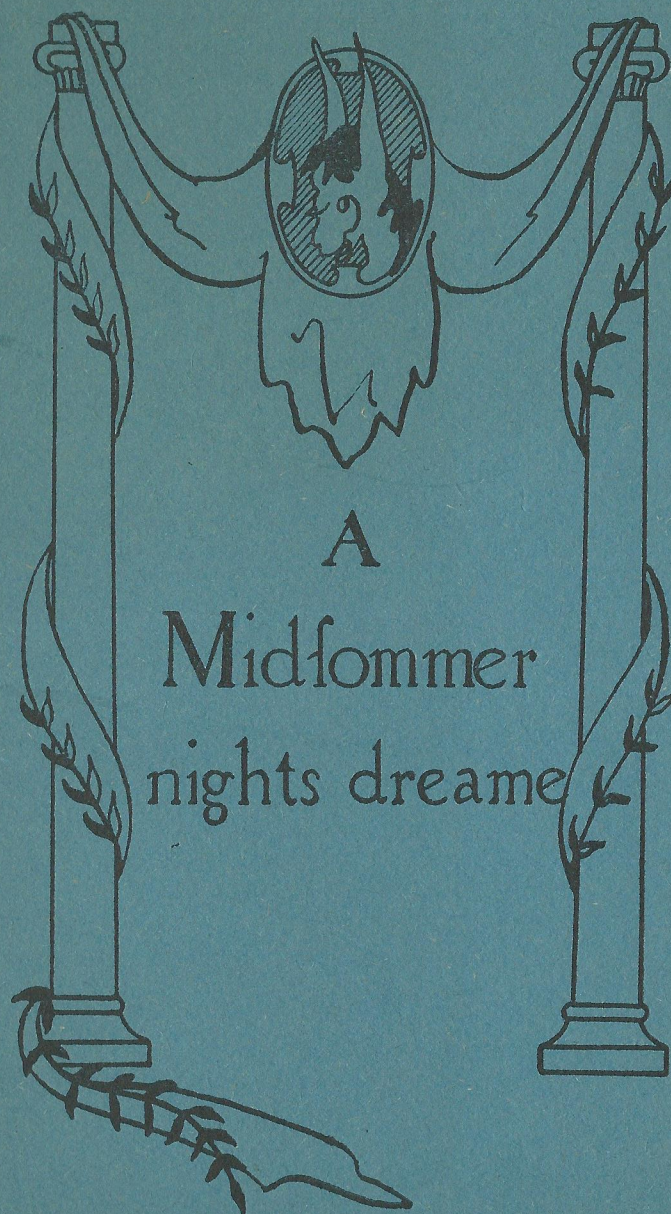
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HARLOW ARTS DIARY

- June 26-28 Prentice Players present
"An Enemy of the People"
 by Ibsen in Potter Street Community Hall
- July 18 Harlow Co-operative Choral Society
Concert in St. Andrew's Hall
- Sept. 10 Harlow Music Association
 Harlow Recital Group **Concert**
 in Stone Cross Hall
- Sept. 28 Harlow Film Society
- Oct 10-11 Harlow Eisteddfod
Drama Festival in St. Andrew's Hall
- Nov. 13-15 Moot House Players

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THE PLAY

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM was probably first performed in 1592, revised in 1594 and put into its final shape in 1598. It was first published in quarto form in 1600, which was followed by a further quarto edition in 1619 and finally it appeared in Shakespeare's "collected works"—the famous Folio of 1623. The three texts differ only very slightly and hence there is no difficulty in preparing a script for acting. The present version follows the Folio very closely and is virtually uncut. THE DREAM is one of Shakespeare's most finely constructed plays, the three strands of the plot—the lovers, the mechanicals and the fairies—are interwoven with great skill and are completely interdependent, while the comedy elements are beautifully balanced by the poetry.

THE PRODUCTION

As with the Moot House Players' production of TWELFTH NIGHT in 1957, the play is being presented on a stage which resembles in its main features that in common use in the public playhouses of Elizabeth the First's day, i.e. a large platform jutting out into the audience, with a formal architectural background providing three main entrances to the acting area. This year, however, it has been possible to develop the decoration of the architectural background so that it spreads into the hall itself, including a form of painted ceiling which was a feature of many Jacobean houses and also, almost certainly, formed the basis for the decorative scheme of the 'heavens' of the public playhouse. Bearing in mind that THE DREAM is thought to have been given private performances at certain lavish wedding celebrations, certain features of Jacobean court masque staging have been incorporated into the production, so that the net effect is probably akin to a production in the indoor theatre at Blackfriars towards the end of James the First's reign.

—J.A.M.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Characters in order of appearance :

PHILOSTRATE, <i>Master of the Revels to Theseus</i>	David Long
An Attendant on Theseus	George Tarry
THESEUS, <i>Duke of Athens</i>	Maurice Bartell
HIPPOLYTA, <i>Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus</i>	Jean Clark
EGEUS, <i>father to Hermia</i>	Bill Ring
HERMIA	Goolmohr Dhalla
DEMETRIUS } <i>in love with</i>	Malcolm Barton
LYSANDER } <i>Hermia</i>	Brian Clark
HELENA, <i>in love with Demetrius</i>	Yvonne Mitchley
ROBIN STARVELING, <i>a tailor</i>	Auberon Pitt
Starveling's DOG	Tamzin
FRANCIS FLUTE, <i>a bellowsmender</i>	Paul Hopkins
TOM SNOT, <i>a tinker</i>	Gordon Hewlett
SNUG, <i>a joiner</i>	Kenneth Grayer
PETER QUINCE, <i>a carpenter</i>	Albert Griffiths
NICK BOTTOM, <i>a weaver</i>	Lawrence Surridge
MUSTARDSEED, <i>a fairy</i>	Jean Walls
PUCK, <i>called Robin Goodfellow</i>	Jack Mitchley
TITANIA, <i>Queen of the Fairies</i>	Madge Brown
An Indian Boy	Brian Griffiths
COWEB } <i>fairies</i>	Miriam Pitt
MOTH } <i>attendant</i>	Jean Clark
PEASEBLOSSOM } <i>on Titania</i>	Christine Hewlett
OBERON, <i>King of the Fairies</i>	John Mayall
Fairies attendant on Oberon	Leonard Dorée
	Andrew Burgess
	David Last
	Keith Townsend

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