

A Midsummer Night's Dream Roles

Below are the roles for our production and how I will likely cast them. That said, you never know when I'll have a weird moment and go off the rails with casting. Be prepared for anything.

For your initial audition, have a 1 minute monologue from a Shakespeare comedy (NOT *Midsummer*). For callbacks, we will do scenes. I have provided the sides for those scenes. Look them over. Study them. They do not need to be memorized, but you should be prepared to play **ANY** part in **ANY** of those scenes.

The things I will be looking for most in the first round of auditions: Understanding of the text, Expressive delivery, Interpretation into performance

The things I will be looking for at callbacks: Understanding of the text, Expressive delivery, Interpretation into performance, Use of space, Distinct characters.

You will NOT be auditioning for a specific character. That's my job to figure out where your gifts can serve the show best. So, show me the very best you have to offer!

PRODUCTION NOTES

We are setting this in and around New Orleans in the 1930's. The set will be a mish-mash of New Orleans architectural and cultural references. The faeries and rude mechanicals will move pieces on and off to help the audience follow the changes in locations.

The Athenians will be the upper crust of the New Orleans and Mardi Gras society. Southern accents are acceptable.

The Rude Mechanicals will be swamp people. The original characters were craftsmen of low economic status. For reference, take a look at the three swamp guys in *The Princess and the Frog*. The RMs are not ever mean, but they're not the smartest or most skilled bunch. At least one of them will have a Cajun accent so thick, he cannot be understood by almost anyone.

The Faeries will be a play on the magic/mystic culture that surrounds that area. Oberon will be a Baron Samedi type character. Titania might have some Marie Laveau influences.

For the initial audition, don't worry about accents. We will play with those at callbacks.

CHARACTER/CASTING BREAKDOWN

Male

Lysander- Athenian in love with Hermia

Demetrius- Athenian betrothed to Hermia

Bottom- One of the Rude Mechanicals (RM), turned into a donkey-man by Puck

Theseus- King of Athens

Egeus- Father of Hermia. Wants Demetrius to marry her. Hates Lysander because he's not as rich as Demetrius.

Oberon- King of the Faeries. In love with Titania, but jealous and kind of petty.

Either

Philostrate- Chief servant and Master of Revels to Theseus

Puck- Also called Robin Goodfellow. A sprite. Mischievous but not mean. Oberon's tool for trickery.

Peter Quince- Head of the Rude Mechanicals (RM). Director of their play *Pyramus and Thisbe*

Snug- RM.

Flute- RM.

Snout- RM

Starveling- RM.

Peasblossom- Faerie attendant to Titania

Cobweb- Faerie attendant to Titania

Mote- Faerie attendant to Titania

Mustardseed- Faerie attendant to Titania

Female

Helena- Friend of Hermia but jealous of the attention she gets. Dramatic.

Hermia- Friend of Helena. Daughter of Egeus. Strong willed. Stubborn.

Hippolyta- Queen of the Amazons. Marrying Theseus. Wise. Calm.

Titania- Queen of the Faeries. Strong willed. Stubborn. Loves Oberon, but needs something different from him.

CHARACTER GROUPS

- **Athenians**
 - Hermia
 - Helena
 - Lysander
 - Demetrius
 - Theseus
 - Hippolyta
 - Egeus
 - Philostrate
- **Rude Mechanicals**
 - Peter Quince
 - Nick Bottom
 - Flute
 - Snout
 - Snug
 - Starveling
- **Faeries**
 - Oberon
 - Titania
 - Puck
 - Peaseblossom
 - Cobweb
 - Mote
 - Mustardseed