

CHAPTERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY

Presents

Open-air garden theatre UK and Ireland 2010

At some of the most beautiful venues the UK and Ireland have to offer

Magical Theatre in Magical Surroundings

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Directed by Sid Wetherby, Music Composed by Richard Main

Much Ado About Nothing

Directed by Rebecca Gadsby, Music Composed by Richard Main

The Merchant of Venice

Directed by Sid Wetherby, Music Composed by Richard Main

Pride and Prejudice

Adapted by Laura Turner

Directed by Rebecca Gadsby, Music Composed by Richard Main

Beauty and the Beast

Script by Laura Turner



'Combining enthusiasm, impeccable voicing and devastating use of visual humour, Chapterhouse bring Shakespeare to life in an exhilarating and raucously entertaining fashion.'

Review Edinburgh Evening News -2002

'Open-air theatre at its best' Review Eastern Daily Press -2009

Chapterhouse Theatre Company is touring five wonderful new productions across the length and breadth of the UK and Ireland, from June to late August 2010. In a season of magical, mysterious and romantic characters, Chapterhouse is performing some of the best-loved stories of literature. We pride ourselves on producing accessible, traditional but innovative shows that have entertained thousands of theatregoers throughout Britain.

This press release contains information about each show and a brief synopsis about the Company.

If you would like any further information regarding tickets for competitions and press reviews, interviews with directors/actors or details for specific venues please contact Tara Hynan on 01522 569777 or leave a message with our office staff. We will always be glad to hear from you.

'Don't miss...the perfect evening' The Daily Express

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www.chapterhouse.org

CHAPTERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY

Open-air garden theatre UK and Ireland 2010

Foreword

Magical Theatre in Magical Surroundings

Chapterhouse Theatre Company enters its 11th season of touring open-air theatre at some of the most beautiful country houses, castles and heritage sites across the UK and Ireland.

From a first year of performances at some thirty venues with *Romeo and Juliet* in 2000, the company has established itself as one of the most successful and acclaimed touring companies in the country. In previous years the company has toured with a variety of shows including Shakespeare's, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night* and *The Taming of The Shrew* together with performances of classic works such as *The Mystery Plays* and *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. In 2004 the company produced the first West End show ever to tour open-air, *ART* directed by Nigel Havers.

In 2010 Chapterhouse is performing in over one hundred of Britain's most beautiful and idyllic garden settings, such as Woburn Abbey, Savill Gardens and Fountains Abbey, the perfect venues for garden and theatre lovers alike. Open-air theatre lends itself perfectly to pre-show picnics creating an enjoyable and memorable experience for the audience. A wonderful opportunity for friends and family to sit back and enjoy the pleasure of each other's company whilst indulging in a glass of chilled summer wine and watching a fantastic evening of entertainment.

Whether a play seen under the stars or during an afternoon of summer's bliss, Chapterhouse welcomes you to their 2010 season.

'Open-air theatre at it's best'

Richard Parr, Eastern Daily Press - 2009

'Chapterhouse Theatre Company showed enthusiasm and professionalism of a company three times it's size'

Victoria Powell, The Sentinel – 2009

'An enjoyable and relaxed evening's entertainment in picturesque surroundings'

Angela Cole, Kent Messenger – 2009

'Laura Turner's script was clever and inventive'

Richard Parr, Dereham and Fakenham Times – 2009

'The perfect setting and the perfect performance'

Dundee Courier– 2007

'bringing Shakespeare to life in an entertaining and exhilarating fashion'

Edinburgh Evening– 2006

'A Triumph'

The Stage –2005

'Theatre under the stars'

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CHAPTERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENT

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Allow the mischievous Robin Goodfellow to spirit you away into the Athenian forest as Shakespeare's verse weaves its magic over you. Alive with magnificent costumes, wonderful sets and a musical score composed especially for Shakespeare's beautiful language, Chapterhouse presents Shakespeare's renowned romantic comedy in some of the UK's most awe-inspiring venues. Enjoy a relaxed summer's evening as the lovers' tale of romance, woe, magic and excitement plays out before you, and the misadventures of Bottom's troop of mechanicals create all sorts of fun and frolics that are sure to delight all the family. Picnic in the magical surroundings of beautiful gardens and enjoy a wonderful evening of theatre under the stars.

Pride and Prejudice

By Jane Austen and Adapted by Laura Turner

Take a step back in time with Chapterhouse Theatre Company as we meet Elizabeth Bennet and her sisters. Whilst their interfering mother engineers various courtships, sisters Elizabeth and Jane must pursue their own quest for true love. Amongst misunderstandings, mistakes and miscommunications, the two girls must fight for the men they love until Elizabeth can finally surpass her prejudices to see past the proud exterior of the enigmatic Mr Darcy. After all, it is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife...

Picnic with family and friends in the magical surroundings of beautiful gardens and enjoy a wonderful evening of theatre under the stars.

The Merchant of Venice

Mystery, drama, romance and comedy all converge in this, one of Shakespeare's most exciting and beautiful plays. Meet the infamous Shylock as Chapterhouse brings Bassanio's quest to court the lovely Portia to life with music, dance, stunning costumes and picturesque scenery. Passions of money and love collide dramatically as Shakespeare's lovers are finally able to celebrate their love with audiences around the UK under starlit summer skies. Picnic with family and friends in some of the country's most beautiful open-air venues as Shakespeare sweeps you away on a magical journey to exquisite foreign lands.

Beauty and the Beast

By Laura Turner

Louisa and her trusty companion Milky-White the cow are back to perform 'Beauty and the Beast' especially for you this summer! Laura Turner's interpretation of this classic fairytale is sure to delight children of all ages as Louisa and her friends transform their ordinary 1940s' garden into a magical setting for this endlessly exciting fairytale. As they act out the story, be prepared for the fearsome beast and his terrifying castle, but never fear, as Beauty quickly finds some rather surprising friends whilst the beast's heart finally begins to melt. Come along to watch this heart-warming story of fun and friendship in fancy dress and join Louisa and her friends in a fairytale parade during the interval – a true Chapterhouse tradition!

Much Ado About Nothing

Raise a glass with family and friends this summer as you join Chapterhouse Theatre Company for an evening of true Shakespearian merriment under the stars. Much to the delight of the engaged Claudio and Hero, the inimitable Beatrice and her begrudging match Benedick are tricked into confessing their love for each other, with consequences both hilarious and heart-stoppingly romantic. Complete with the jealous machinations of the villainous Don John and a whole host of delightfully cheeky characters, this light-hearted love story is sure to entertain and enthrall. As you picnic with family and friends beneath midsummer skies, allow the magic of the masquerade to capture your imagination and whisk you far away.

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