

YOUR PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

"Lord what fools these mortals be!" - A lively *Midsummer Night's Dream*

A Midsummer Night's Dream Produced and Performed by Blacon High School

MANCHESTER CONTACT

10th November 2015

Appraised by **MARK FRANCE**



Congratulations to the cast and crew of Blacon High School on their wonderful production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Contact theatre.

This was an accomplished and original production, and I'd like to highlight a few key elements which really stood out for me.

- The opening sequence, set to 'All you need is love' was a wonderful, colourful introduction to this 1960s production.
- There were brilliant moments of comedy throughout the piece, from Titania dropping Bottom's head, to Lysander's cheekiness with Hermia and the spiky relationship between Puck and Oberon.
- The whole ensemble remained on stage for much of the play which was particularly effective for the staging of fairy scenes. They were fantastically well staged and choreographed.
- Bottom's multiple deaths was a hilarious moment, as well as the reactions from the whole ensemble.

I'd also like to commend the cast on the great attention paid to details of character and status along with strong, connected performance work, which hugely impressed me.

This production was colourful, charming and lively. Huge congratulations to all the cast and crew who made it happen.

I hope to see Blacon High School in the Festival again next year.

Mark France

Shakespeare Schools Festival Venue Director

'BE NOT AFRAID OF GREATNESS'

TWELFTH NIGHT

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