Sogno di una notte di mezza estate

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## Luogo (ambientazione)

Athens

## Anno di pubblicazione

1600

## Epoca

twelfth century b.c.

## Soggetto (descrizione dell’opera e del luogo)

Sogno di una notte di mezza estate is a comedy play that talks about four Athenians that run away to the forest only to have Puck the fairy make both of the boys fall in love with the same girl. The four run through the forest pursuing each other while Puck helps his master play a trick on the fairy queen. In the end, Puck reverses the magic, and the two couples reconcile and marry.

Act I

Duke Theseus, preparing for his marriage to Hippolyta, is interrupted by Egeus, who asks the Duke to force his daughter Hermia to marry Demetrius. Hermia refuses because she loves Lysander. The Duke gives Hermia two choices: marry Demetrius, face death, or become a nun.

Lysander and Hermia plan to elope and tell Hermia’s friend, Helena, who is desperately in love with Demetrius. The lovers escape Athens and enter the forest, where they soon lose their way. Demetrius, hearing of their plan, follows them, with Helena chasing after him, hoping he will choose her.

Meanwhile, a group of craftsmen prepare a play for the Duke’s wedding, with Nick Bottom as Pyramus and Flute as Thisbe.

Act II

Oberon, King of the Fairies, quarrels with Queen Titania over a magical child. To get revenge, Oberon sends his servant, Puck, to fetch a flower that causes love for the first creature seen.

Oberon overhears Helena’s plea to Demetrius in the forest and orders Puck to enchant "the Athenian" so Demetrius will fall in love with Helena. However, Puck mistakenly applies the magic to Lysander, causing him to fall for Helena, and later does the same for Demetrius.

Act III

While the craftsmen rehearse their play, Puck gives Bottom an ass’s head, frightening the others. Bottom is drawn to the sleeping Titania, whom Oberon has enchanted. She wakes and falls in love with him.

Meanwhile, Demetrius and Lysander, both enchanted, pursue Helena, leaving Hermia confused and heartbroken. Oberon instructs Puck to fix the situation. Puck distracts the men, leading them astray, and the lovers fall asleep. Puck reverses the spell on Lysander.

Act IV

After being pampered by Titania, Bottom falls asleep beside her. Oberon lifts Titania’s enchantment, and she wakes, horrified by her love for Bottom. The two reconcile, and Titania gives Oberon the child.

Bottom returns to the city as the actors prepare for their play. Theseus and Hippolyta’s hunting party finds the lovers, and Lysander’s love for Hermia is restored, while Demetrius remains in love with Helena.

Act V

The couples—Lysander with Hermia and Demetrius with Helena—celebrate the Duke’s wedding. The craftsmen perform their play for the guests. As the night ends, Puck and the fairies bless the palace and its people.

<https://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/shakespedia/shakespeares-plays/midsummer-nights-dream/>

[https://www.rsc.org.uk/a-midsummer-nights-dream/about-the-play/dates-and-sources#:~:text=A%20Midsummer%20Night's%20Dream%20was,the%20Lord%20Chamberlain%20his%20Servants'.](https://www.rsc.org.uk/a-midsummer-nights-dream/about-the-play/dates-and-sources%23:~:text=A%20Midsummer%20Night's%20Dream%20was,the%20Lord%20Chamberlain%20his%20Servants'.)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Midsummer_Night%27s_Dream>

[https://www.encyclopedia.com/arts/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/midsummer-nights-dream#:~:text=A%20play%20set%20in%20Athens,performed%20between%201595%20and%201596.](https://www.encyclopedia.com/arts/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/midsummer-nights-dream%23:~:text=A%20play%20set%20in%20Athens,performed%20between%201595%20and%201596.)

## Immagini (elenco)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KTB9i4RpZBE--XgOA296nJrxe1qLCsxS/view?usp=drive_link> (Athens)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1owhMGa86zTVJcFkHp0-IbMQKwi8dm-7X/view?usp=drive_link> (Bottom’s transformation)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16riQToVBADuOJ52SumGU7h1FscNiRou-/view?usp=drive_link> (fairies)

## Personaggi principali

**The Athenians:**

* **Theseus** – Duke of Athens
* **Hippolyta** – Queen of the Amazons
* **Egeus** – Hermia's father
* **Philostrate** – Theseus' Master of Revels

**The Fairies:**

* **Oberon** – King of the Fairies
* **Titania** – Queen of the Fairies