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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shakespeare Swings with the Spirit of Jazz
The 22nd Annual Shakespeare Festival/LA Summer Production of
A Midsummer Night's Dream

Los Angeles, CA – May 2007

Drawing its inspiration from the people, places and sounds of L.A.'s Central Avenue in the 1920s, this production takes us to the Asuza Revivalist Church, Club Alabam, the Dunbar Hotel, and the Lincoln Theater. This *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is imagined as a jazz dream, featuring a live jazz trio performing classic jazz standards that accentuate the play's age-old themes. Ben Donenberg directs al fresco performances on the plaza of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Downtown Los Angeles (Wednesday – Sunday, July 11-22), and at the South Coast Botanic Garden on the Palos Verdes peninsula (Wednesday – Sunday, July 25- 29).

“The intoxicating effect of the moon is a recurring theme in both jazz and Shakespeare's language; onstage, the two effortlessly come together to underscore the shifting moods, tones, and emotions that drive our wonderfully crazed and fantastic characters,” says Donenberg.

At the Cathedral, Preferred seating next to the stage is guaranteed to all SF/LA Members (plans starting at \$25). General Admission tickets to the Cathedral are free, but are limited to the first 300 callers per performance; patrons must make a reservation by phone at least 48 hours in advance. General Admission seating is first come, first served. SF/LA encourages patrons bring non-perishable foodstuffs for charitable distribution. The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels is located at 555 West Temple Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles. Parking at the Cathedral is \$5.

Admission to all performances at The South Coast Botanical Garden is \$20 pre-sale and \$22 at the door. The South Coast Botanic Garden is located at 26300 Crenshaw Blvd in Palos Verdes Peninsula. For more information and reservations, call the box office at (213) 975-9891. Shakespeare Festival/LA is a professional, non-profit theatre company that grounds the Bard's work in the modern L.A. landscape, and seeks to create theatrical traditions accessible to all. The company is also known for its youth-in-arts education program, Will Power to Youth, a comprehensive enrichment, employment, youth development, and leadership program. Shakespeare Festival/LA; building community play by play, since 1986. www.ShakespeareFestivalLA.org.

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