The Music of Me Swapn Pahile

Me Swapn Pahile, a Marathi Musical adaptation of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, though very true to the original, is deeply rooted in Maharashtrian (a region in India's west) culture. The original music and songs created -written, composed, sung - for this show is the key to the strong Marathi flavor to Bard's Dream. Here's a list with links to the video footage from the Musical released on the official Maharashtra Mandal Singapore channel.

Song: Kshama kara krupawanta

(Egeus' block to young love)

The song, in traditional Marathi Natyageet style (a la operatic singing in Marathi theatre), expresses Ajay Singh's rage. He is demanding strictest punishment for his young daughter Haripriya - as per the ancient law of Anantanagari - for disregarding her father's choice of groom for her.

Lyrics: Arun Manohar

Music: Seema Ovalekar

Singer & Performer: Yogesh Vijay Gondhalekar

Tabla by Bharat Modak

Harmonium by Sachin Vartak

Song: Premache Shatru Phaar

Young love of Haripriya and Lakshendra, having faced a block by authority and laws of the kingdom, take heart in the knowledge that all great love stories encounter huge blocks like theirs. They decide to flee Anantanagari and get married at a village beyond the forest on the edge of the kingdom

A blend of spoken word and singing, this composition expresses the young lovers' transition from despair to hope as they take agency to their love and their life.

Lyrics: Arun Manohar

Music: Atharva Patwardhan

Choreography: Aparna Temurnikar

Vocals & Performance: Parimal Asanare & Arohee Temurnikar

Song: Natyageet Unplugged

Helena's iconic 'How happy some o'er other some can be! Through Athens I am thought as fair as she...'

The emotion and situation is precisely and succinctly captured beautifully in words by Anita Kale, in music by debutant music director Rutvik Pethe composing well beyond his age, ably supported on guitar by the talented Jasraj Shintre, and vocals by Prajakta Mahajan-Nene - sweetest voice ever!!

A modern take on the traditional Natyageet, this song expresses the young girl's mix of emotions - love, heartbreak, self doubt, helplessness and envy.,

Lyrics: Dr. Anita Kale

Music: Rutvik Pethe

Singer: Prajakta Mahajan Nene

Guitar & assistance: Jasraj Shintre

Choreography & Performance: Akshata Modak

Fairy Music & Dance

This scene reveals the various facets of the fairy world through dance and music. The beauty of the fairy world is illustrated by our youngest cast members.

Music/ Piano: Shantanu Modak Choreography: Priyanka Chetan

Song: Puck

The mischief and magic is exemplified by Puck, King Oberon's sidekick (played in our version by 2 teenagers to magical effect). 'Thou speak'st alright, I'm the merry wanderer of the night' - this funny verse about tricks and pranks introduces Puck and the powerful magic Puck is capable of; shape shifting and mimicry that he will use to a dramatic effect in the second half of the play.

Crafted masterfully into this fun Marathi song by our lyricist duo Arun Manohar and Vivek Nerurkar in Singapore, composed effortlessly (burning the midnight oil with a baby in arms) by our most loved musical genius Akshay Avadhani in Ireland and sung with swagger and chutzpah by Amol Paranjape in the US, this is a transnational composition, an exemplar of creative collaboration in post-pandemic times.

Lyrics: Arun Manohar and Vivek Nerurkar

Music: Akshay Awadhani Singer: Amol Paranjape

Choreography: Priyanka Chetan

Oberon - Tilottama Faceoff with Kathak

The fight in the 'spiritual world' between the royal spirits leads to discord in the natural and physical world illustrated elegantly through the key elements of kathak - footwork, padhant (vocals), graceful dancers and the rhythm of ghungroo.

Composition & Kathak Choreography: Bhupali Deshpande Kulkarni

Music: Shantanu Modak

Padhant (rhythmic syllables in Hindustani classical music): Mrunal and Bharat

Modak

Song: Tilotamma's Lullaby

Out of the many fabulous things our team did, this one is special. we truly deeply believe - having heard निंबोणीच्या झाडामागे as the only lullaby for years - we are gifting Marathi parents and grandparents this very refreshing and soothing lullaby. Composed and sung by Seema Ovalekar in her silken voice. Lyrics by Arun Manohar are absolutely spot on for our setting, and may we say, the current world.

Lyrics: Arun Manohar

Music & Singing: Seema Ovalekar

Music Arrangement: Aneesha Mhaisalkar

Choreography:Priyanka Chetan

Love Mime

Haripriya and Lakshendra's entry into the forest.

Music/ Piano: Atharva Patwardhan

Choreography: Swapna Madhukar

Song: Hospitality Song

This is a hospitality song in honor of an unexpected guest who is accidentally transported in the fantastical fairy world and through some magic into the fairy queen's heart. But the lovely composition may as well sit beautifully in a road-trip playlist.

When our Titania (Tilotamma) calls on her 4 little fairies to serve her 'love at first sight' - a magically transformed donkey-headed human - Bottom (our Bandu can do), the girls break into this lovely song. They win Bandu's trust and our hearts.

Lyrics: Arun Manohar

Music: Seema Ovalekar

Singers: Anita Kale, Anuja Vartak, Prajakta Mahajan Nene, Varsha Chittawar

Choreography: Priyanka Chetan

Fight Mime

Fight within the two sets of lovers

Music/ Piano: Atharva Patwardhan

Fight Choreography: Swapna Madhukar

Song: Waari Jawa

Tilottama under the magic spell, and the donkey headed Bandu dance to this groovy Hindi number that is part folk, part Bollywood and a total genius of a composition.

Lyrics: Arun Manohar

Music & Arrangement: Akshay Awadhani

Singers: Raksha Shetty Shintre

Choreography: Swapna Madhukar

Fairies' Love Dance

Harmony is restored in the spiritual world as the royal couple comes together depicted through this instrumental music and semi-classical dance..

Music/ Piano: Atharva Patwardhan

Choreography: Bhupali Deshpande Kulkarni

Fairies' Blessing Dance

The finale is elevated by this original music on piano, based on a Hindustani classical piece, our Kathak dancers illustrating the traditional Indian celebratory ritual.

Music/Piano:Shantanu Modak

Choreography: Bhupali Deshpande Kulkarni