



(Photographs credit Nicholas Ripley)

Renowned for wonderful adaptations and imaginative open-air performances, Warwickshire based professional theatre company, Heartbreak Productions have been touring open air shows for nearly twenty years and have an exciting, if punishing, schedule planned for 2010.

This summer (June, July, August) Heartbreak make their incomparable contribution to the open-air theatre season with:

- **THE SECRET GARDEN** – Frances Hodgson Burnett’s classic tale of a young orphaned girl who finds the key to friendship and happiness by unlocking her Uncle’s secret garden. Adapted by David Kerby Kendall. Directed by Marie McCarthy. Suitable for all who believe in magic, especially aged 6yrs & above.
- **AN IDEAL HUSBAND** - An Oscar Wilde favourite, full of intrigue, romance and razor sharp wit. A story of political corruption and blackmail, a tale for our times some might say! Directed by Peter Mimmack. Ideal for a summer’s evening out
- and an open air exclusive **LOVE IN SHAKESPEARE** devised especially for Heartbreak this is a comedic and at times, irreverent love story following the journey of Chris as he plays out his own love story through some of the Bard’s best bits. Set in The Shakespeare pub in 2010 this is a tale for our times designed to inspire and inflame even the bitterest of cynics. Served up with a garnish of Heartbreak song, audience interaction and the occasional dance we hope this experience will awaken the Romeo or Juliet in us all. Directed by Maddy Kerr. (Suitable for aged 10yrs & above)

Starting nineteen years ago from the basement office of their home, husband and wife team, Peter and Maddy have increased the company’s output from just one production a year to a repertoire of year-round school workshops designed to make Shakespeare accessible to students, bespoke forum theatre projects including a recent BBC Warwickshire & Coventry project aimed at exploring the effects of redundancy, film and theatre practice courses including a Saturday morning drama club & indoor touring productions. And they still find time to undertake the mammoth task of touring three open-air shows that travel the length and breadth of the UK – this is a team who are dedicated & passionate about their craft.

Now based in an office in Leamington Spa’s Cultural Quarter, Spencer Yard a small but perfectly formed team that swells to forty over the summer months as actors, directors, designers and volunteers (many return year on year) are taken on board to help with the epic task of launching a family adaptation, a classic production and a new piece of work based on Shakespeare, Heartbreak Productions have much to be excited about:

“This year is probably our most diverse year:” Executive Director, Maddy enthuses, “we have seen our drama based work with schools and community groups escalate this year including an in-school arts week project where THE SECRET GARDEN will form the inspiration for the pupils arts & craft work and we are excited about the creation of a *mockumentary* style film which will follow the antics of open air touring allowing us to develop the reach of our creative output through alternative – less weather dependent media – although the recent burst of Mediterranean style sunshine has certainly made rehearsals much warmer!”

So gather friends and family pack a mouthwatering picnic and head out to see Heartbreak Productions performing in picturesque settings across the UK. **Open air theatre at its best.**

For tour dates and venues, please visit [www.heartbreakproductions.co.uk](http://www.heartbreakproductions.co.uk)  
or call 01926 430307 and ask for a tour brochure.

For further details about the company and press enquiries, contact: **Tracy Stanton - Heartbreak Productions, North Hall, Spencer Yard, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 3SY. 01926 430307**  
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