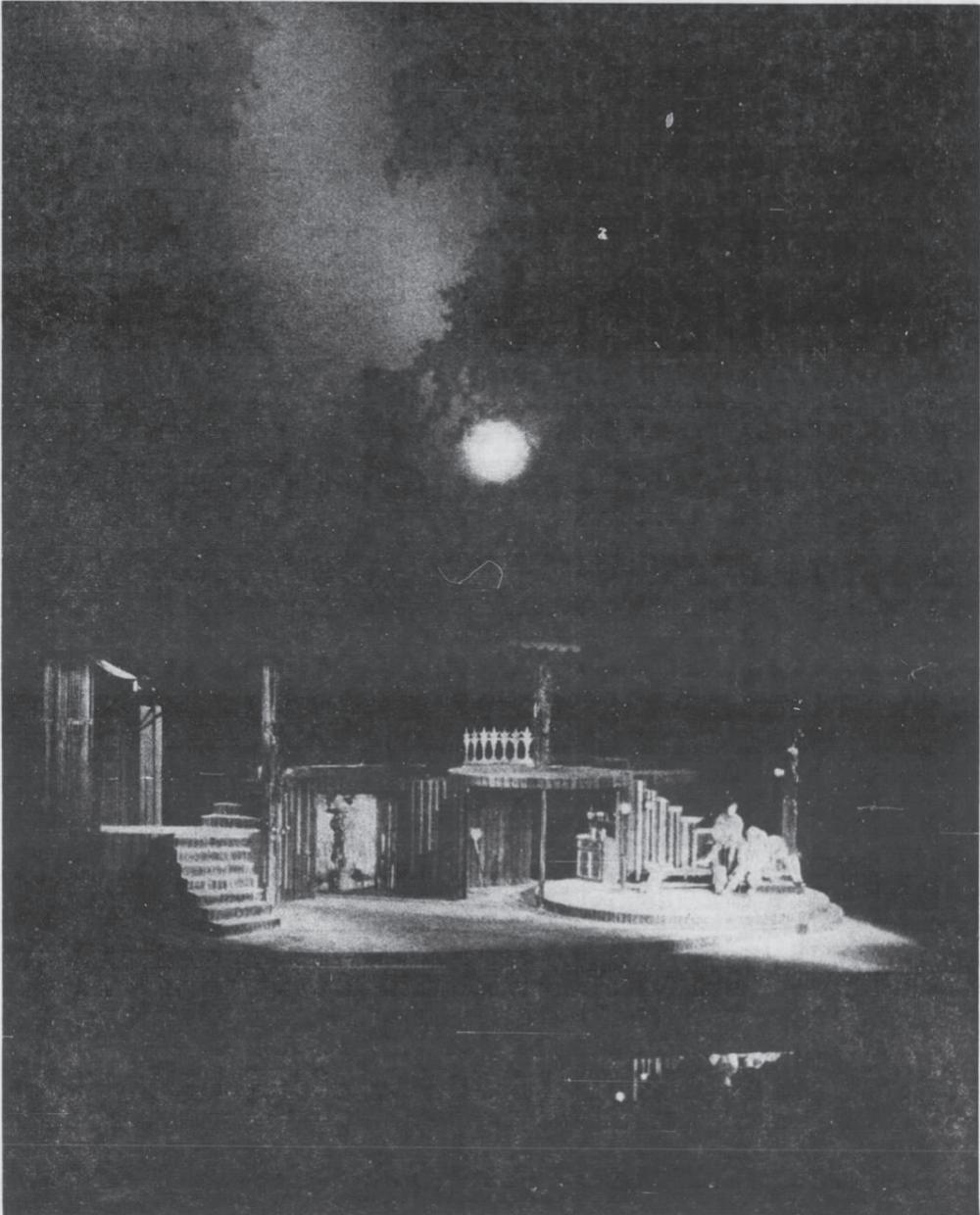


**Marin**  
MAGAZINE

Independent-Journal, Saturday, August 19, 1967



*Shakespearean Drama Under The Trees*

See Page M2



Independent Journal, Saturday, Aug. 19, 1967, M3

# The Shakespeare Festival's New Home

## Dominican College's Forest Meadows Proves Perfect Setting For The Bard

**Continued from Page M2**  
 a minimum number of existing trees. We wanted to offer seating for a large audience, yet give that audience a feeling of intimacy.

"AND WE HAD to keep always in mind that the theater should be useful for other cultural events such as music and ballet, as well as plays."

It marked Schubert's first assignment to design a theater. But he had traveled extensively abroad, studying theater layout in many countries.

The design he worked out for the Forest Meadows Amphitheater included such unusual conceptions as a reflective pool in front of the stage, the use of earthen beams to reduce sound from not-too-distant Highway 101, and the installation of permanent lighting and sound equipment that did not intrude upon the quiet, uncluttered mood of the meadows.

**THE ARCHITECT**, designer of many Marin homes, is a former Tiburon resident, now living in San Francisco.

The \$60,000 construction contract went to a Marin firm, H. S. Meinberger and Sons of San Rafael.

Despite uncommonly inclement weather, Meinberger was determined to complete the project in time for the opening of the 1967 Shakespearean summer season. And he and his men succeeded.

"I'VE LIVED in Marin since 1950," Meinberger explains, and I realized the need for this new cultural facility. My men seemed to share my interest. For whenever the heavy rains slowed us down, the workmen would pitch in with greater enthusiasm than ever, and make up for the lost time."

The result was that on July 15, with appropriate Elizabethan pomp and pageantry, the amphitheater off Grand Avenue was opened formally, and the seventh annual Marin Shakespeare Festival began with a performance of "Twelfth Night" before 600 theater-goers. Spectator reaction to the amphitheater with its excellent views and its comfortable seats complete with back-rests was one of wholehearted approval.

**THE BEAUTY** of the surroundings and the magnificent reflecting pool caused one theater critic to term the Forest Meadows amphitheater "one of the country's most elegant outdoor theaters."

The Marin Shakespeare Festival, sparked by the

Continued on Page M4



**COVER PHOTO**  
 THE MOON beams down on an nocturnal scene from Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," being performed on the new Forest Meadows Amphitheater stage by the Marin Shakespeare Festival company. Performances of "Twelfth Night" or "King Lear" are being presented nightly, Wednesday through Saturday, beginning at 8:30 o'clock. (Photos by L. John Larsen)

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27th Year of Publication  
 Daily Independent Journal, Saturday, Aug. 19, 1967

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ARCHITECT Henry Schubart consulted with Sister Patrick, center, president of Dominican College, and Sister Nicholas, head of the school's English department, in the planning

of the new Forest Meadows Amphitheater so that it could best serve as a major cultural outlet for the community.

**UNDER THE EUCALYPTUS**

**Found: The Perfect Place For Marin's Shakespeare Festival**

Continued from Page M3  
 Brebners, both with long careers in the theater and both having studied at Britain's famed Old Vic Theater School, has established itself firmly as a community asset and tradition. Since the first festival opened with "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the company has presented 14 productions to increasing attendances.

THIS YEAR "Twelfth Night"

and "King Lear" are alternating in the new amphitheater, playing Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, starting at 8:30.

Indicative of the prestige the Marin festival has acquired have been the tributes paid it by a man who has never seen one of the productions, and, for that matter has never set foot upon these United States.

Twice P. W. Walker, mayor of Stratford-on-Avon, William

Shakespeare's "hometown," has seen fit to issue formal proclamations saluting the Marin festival.

MAYOR WALKER would, the Brebners feel, be all the more enthusiastic if he could visit and see for himself the idyllic Marin site where the Bard's great works are currently being performed.

For that matter, so would Shakespeare himself.



THE BREBNERs, John and Ann, executive directors of the Marin Shakespeare Festival, were frequent visitors to the site where the

new outdoor theater was taking shape among the trees of Forest Meadows.