



## NEWS RELEASE

25 July 2016

### FAIRIES AND MAGIC COMING TO PINNER

For the first time in many years, an outdoor theatre company will perform in Pinner Memorial Park. The new Heath Robinson Museum has invited the renowned Illyria Theatre Company to perform *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on the evening of Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Five couples – three human, one fairy, and one mythical – find their relationships sorely tested, intimately probed and indecently exposed when a troupe of amateur theatricals bumble into the forest to rehearse a play. Add to this a heady brew of confusion, magic and mischief, and you have the most perfectly frothy comedy for a moonlit summer evening.

Tickets are £14 for adults and £8 for 5-14 year olds. They are available from The Village Gallery, High Street, Pinner or Gibbs Gillespie, Chapel Lane, Pinner or online (booking fee applies) at [illyria.uk.com](http://illyria.uk.com). Entrance is at 6.30pm and the show begins at 7pm. People coming should bring a rug or chair, warm clothes and a picnic. Heath Robinson cards and books, including his stunning illustrated version of the play, will be on sale.

Illyria, an Equity Outdoor Touring Guidelines compliant company, is touring the show to other prestigious venues this summer from Penzance to Penrith. Using only five actors for all the parts and with minimal props, they perform the entire play uncut and at a brisk pace, as they believe Shakespeare would have wished it.

The illustrations which William Heath Robinson produced for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are widely regarded as some of his finest work. In the year of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare's death, Museum trustees are keen to celebrate the association between these two great representatives of British culture.

As all things magical descend on Pinner Memorial Park that week, children will also have the opportunity to make fairies, elves and goblins at a 3D workshop on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August at West House in the Park. For details visit [heathrobinsonmuseum.org/whatson](http://heathrobinsonmuseum.org/whatson)

These events are part of the runup to the Museum's opening on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Other events include comedy nights and children's activities at West House, the cultural hub next door to the new Museum. For more information visit [heathrobinsonmuseum.org](http://heathrobinsonmuseum.org).

## Notes to Editors

[www.heathrobinsonmuseum.org](http://www.heathrobinsonmuseum.org)

William Heath Robinson (1872-1944), acclaimed British illustrator, painter and cartoonist, lived in Pinner from 1908-18, ten of the most productive years of his life.

The West House and Heath Robinson Museum Trust is a registered charity which restored West House in Pinner Memorial Park for community use. The Trust is a partnership between local Pinner people and the William Heath Robinson Trust, custodians of the artist's work. Trustees are now building a new Museum at West House to Heath Robinson, having received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £1.3m. £69,000 is still needed. This project is delivering

- The first purpose-built museum in Greater London for over 40 years
- A permanent home for the Heath Robinson collection of artworks and illustrations
- A celebration of the life and works of one of our most innovative artists, cartoonists and social historians.

Donations are welcome on <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/heathrobinsonmuseum>

### Background to the William Heath Robinson Trust

When Heath Robinson's daughter died, her husband wanted her collection of her father's work to be kept in public ownership. As a result the William Heath Robinson Trust was formed in 1992. The original collection included about 500 pieces of original art work together with an archive of letters, association copies and special editions of the books that he illustrated, proof prints, advertising booklets and ephemera.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund and the Art Fund recently grant-aided the William Heath Robinson Trust to purchase some 400 additional important works for the Museum, bringing the collection to nearly 1,000. It is the only substantial collection of the artist's work in public ownership.

**Use of icons and images:** Project photos from the architects and a range of authorised Heath Robinson images are available in jpg format.

### Media contacts

Ruth McNeil

✉ [ruth@heathrobinsonmuseum.org](mailto:ruth@heathrobinsonmuseum.org)

☎ 020 8868 5653 / 07721 564 994

Sharon Pink

✉ [sharon@heathrobinsonmuseum.org](mailto:sharon@heathrobinsonmuseum.org)

☎ 020 8582 2513 / 07876 228 254

Veronica Chamberlain, Trustee

✉ [veronica@heathrobinsonmuseum.org](mailto:veronica@heathrobinsonmuseum.org)

☎ 020 8866 3024 / 07910 835 699

Heath Robinson Museum, Pinner Memorial Park, West End Lane, Pinner HA5 1AE

T: 020 8866 8420 E: [welcome@heathrobinsonmuseum.org](mailto:welcome@heathrobinsonmuseum.org) W: [www.heathrobinsonmuseum.org](http://www.heathrobinsonmuseum.org)

The West House and Heath Robinson Museum Trust – Registered Charity No 1086567

