

KAREL SVOLINSKÝ

Illustration zu Shakespeare  
„Ein Sommernachtstraum“  
Illustration for Shakespeare  
"Midsummer Night's Dream"



matter; neither should its aim be purely decorative for herein lies the danger of detracting from the author's poetic diction; rather should the illustration rank alongside the written word enhancing its meaning, illuminating its atmosphere. The illustrator must feel at home in this atmosphere; for then reacting to its influence he will naturally and freely reproduce it through the medium of his drawings. At the same time, however, he must accept and

adjust himself to the thronging impressions the work itself makes on his mind. Of course this is all the more easily done when the illustrator can choose his own author." Svoboda is very fortunate in this respect, and this is the reason for the complete and harmonious effect produced by most of the books he has illustrated. Outstanding among these are "Midsummer Night's Dream" with coloured lithographies, Smetana's "Verkaufte Braut" in which he