

Partridge, John, artist. A midsummer night's dream, Pyramus: If I were fair, Thisbe, I were only thine. 1831. Folger ART Box P725.5 no.1 (size XL)

This drawing by James Partridge is part of the output of the "Society for the Study of Epic and Pastoral Design, better known as 'the Sketching Society'." The society, which numbered eight members, would gather once a week for dinner, a reading, and a sketching session. In the session held on February 5, 1831, the topic was Bottom's transformation in Act 3, Scene 1 of A *Midsummer Night's Dream*. For an extensive discussion of this and other images created that night, see Judith Kennedy, "Bottom Transformed by the Sketching Society," *Shakespeare Quarterly* 47.3 (1996): 306-318.