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THE MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS

present William Shakespeare's

Characters in order of appearance :

<i>A Messenger</i>	...	...	...	Geoffrey Marshall
LEONATO, <i>Governor of Messina</i>	...	...	...	Gordon Hewlett
BEATRICE, <i>niece to Leonato</i>	...	...	...	Yvonne Mitchley
HERO, <i>daughter to Leonato</i>	...	...	...	Susan Carpenter
MARGARET	} <i>gentlewomen attending Hero</i>	...	...	Jill Williams
URSULA		...	...	Eileen Spraggon
ANTONIO, <i>brother to Leonato</i>	...	...	...	Ray Ainsworth
DON PEDRO, <i>prince of Arragon</i>	...	...	...	Robin Harcourt
BENEDICK, <i>a young lord of Padua</i>	...	...	...	Philip Ellis
DON JOHN, <i>bastard brother to Don Pedro</i>	...	...	...	John Donovan
CLAUDIO, <i>a young lord of Florence</i>	...	...	...	George Tarry
CONRADE	} <i>followers of Don John</i>	...	...	William Taylor
BORACHIO		...	...	Peter Spraggon
<i>Page to Benedick</i>	...	...	...	Christopher Spraggon
BALTHASAR, <i>attendant on Don Pedro</i>	...	...	...	Alan Aplin
DOGBERRY, <i>a constable</i>	...	...	...	Charles Hill
VERGES, <i>a headborough</i>	...	...	...	Jack Mitchley
<i>The Watch</i>	Peter Banyard, Peter Graves, Danny Killick, Martin Spraggon, Alan Aplin, Geoffrey Marshall			
FRIAR FRANCIS	...	...	...	Bill Ring
<i>Musicians</i>	...	...	...	John Genower, Paul Handscomb
<i>Attendants</i>	...	...	...	Angela Parkin, Marjorie Alford

The scene is set in Messina

The play produced by Jack Mitchley

Setting by Gordon and Bettina Hewlett. Costumes by Laws. Wigs by Gustave. Lighting by Harry Edwards. Settings for the songs by David Hill. Music for the dances is traditional, arranged and played under the direction of John Genower. Stage Staff: Janet Nelson, Peter Banyard, Rosemary Eales. Properties by Anita Flateau, George Tarry and Robert Walls.

The play will be given in two parts with one interval, during which refreshments will be available in the foyer and Club Bar

MUCH ADO

NOTES

THE TEXT

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING was probably written in 1598 and was first printed in a quarto edition in 1600 and next appeared in the Folio of 1623. There is little significant difference between the two versions and the present acting version is based on the quarto with a very few cuts where contemporary references become too involved for modern audiences.

MUCH ADO has always been popular with audiences largely because of the three delightful comedy figures of Beatrice, Benedick and Dogberry—in this play the plot is nothing, the characters everything.

THE PRODUCTION

The play is given on a large open stage with the architecture of the setting so arranged that it makes its own contribution to the development of the main comedy scenes. The costumes approximate in date to that of the writing of the play.

This production closes the Moot House Players tenth anniversary season and is their ninth essay at Shakespeare. The touring production of EVERYMAN has still several "dates" to play but the company will give no more performances in Moot Hall until next season.

FUTURE PLANS

The Players propose to present 6 productions in Moot Hall during the 1963/4 season, one of which will be toured. No definite titles have yet been chosen but the possibilities include THE SEAGULL (Chekov), PRESENT LAUGHTER (Coward) and some form of celebration of Shakespeare's 400th anniversary—perhaps by showing something by one of his contemporaries as his own works are bound to be available on all sides next year! In this connection VOLPONE (Jonson) and THE WHITE DEVIL (Webster) have been suggested; the final decisions will be made very soon and circulated to our regular mailing list as early in the season as possible.

ABOUT NOTHING