

FUTURE PROGRAMME

Sunday 23 May 1976 8 pm Moot Hall

MERELY PLAYERS IV - Two more new plays given their first performances in the presence of the authors, with wine and discussion. We hope to have a new script by James Hinkin, author of the last two MERELY PLAYERS plays, called JIGSAW and a short play by Eric Paice, TV writer, called FAMILIARS.

JIGSAW is an experiment in form and very different from anything James Hinkin has done before; FAMILIARS is a tale about witchcraft by an author who has been associated with THE BROTHERS series, and who is resident in Essex.

Thursday 8, Friday 9, Saturday 10 July 1976 7.30 pm
Moot Hall

TWELFTH NIGHT by William Shakespeare
Directed by Jack Mitchley.

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In addition to the above, the Players are providing supporting programmes for a series of Music Hall Entertainments at The Playhouse on Sunday evenings, 23 May, 20 June, 18 July, and hope to take part in A DAY AT THE PLAYHOUSE on 4 July and to collaborate with the Netteswell Singers in a programme at St Andrew's Hall on 10 July.

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For further information about MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS and their activities contact the Honorary Secretary: Mrs Y. E. Mitchley at 162 Orchard Croft, Harlow, Essex; telephone: Harlow 25959.

MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS

Peer Gynt

by Henrik Ibsen

MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS
present

PEER GYNT
by Henrik Ibsen
Translated by Peter Watts

Characters in order of appearance:

PEER GYNT	John Edwards
ÅSE, his mother		Jean Walls
TWO VILLAGE WOMEN	Jackie Cresswell, Una Smith
ASLAK, a blacksmith		Peter Brown
VILLAGE GIRLS)	Chelo Brown, Christine Sadler,
HERD GIRLS		Jennifer Southwell, Angela Warwick
MADS MOEN, the bridegroom	Adrian Lohrey
HIS FATHER		Steven Collins
HIS MOTHER	Kathleen Denham
SOLVEIG		Jan Pearson
HELGA, her sister	Julie Sadler
HER FATHER		Jack Mitchley
HER MOTHER	Audrey Game
INGRID, the bride		Judy Brown
THE WOMAN IN GREEN	Audrey Game
TROLL KING OF THE DOVRE		Jack Mitchley
THE BOY	David Schacht
KARI, friend to Åse		Kathleen Denham
Mr COTTON		Steven Collins
Monsieur BALLON	} business friends of Peer	Robbie Chittick
Herr von EBERKOPF		David Schacht
Herr von TRUMPETERSTRÅLE		Christopher Childs
A THIEF	Nick Hoare
A RECEIVER		Adrian Lohrey
ANITRA, an Arab girl	Una Smith
Professor BEGRIFTFELDT, director of a lunatic asylum		Jack Mitchley
NORWEGIAN SKIPPER		Terry Robinson
SHIP'S COOK	Robert Walls
A STRANGE PASSENGER who is also		Roger Williamson
A THIN MAN		
THE BUTTON MOULDER	Steven Collins
VILLAGERS, TROLLS, ARAB DANCERS, LUNATICS, SHIP'S CREW, etc		The Company

The action takes place as follows:

PART I - NORWAY, in and around a village in the mountains.
PART II - NORTH AFRICA, some 30 years later, in the desert near the coast and in a lunatic asylum.
PART III - NORWAY, some 20 years later still, on board ship and in the village.

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The Play produced by Yvonne Mitchley

Setting devised by the Producer, decorated by Mandy Dymond. Masks by Mandy Dymond. Lighting by John Hadler. Projection and special effects: Edmund Gray. Properties by Roger Williamson. Wigs by Wig Studios. Stage crew: Robert Walls, Robin Harcourt, Fred Dutton, Harry Edwards, Jill Williams. Music arranged by Christopher Childs.

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The play will be given in two parts
with a major interval between Parts I and II

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NOTES

This gigantic play was first published in 1867 and was Ibsen's last work to be written in verse. It was not performed until 1876 and it was for this occasion that Grieg was commissioned to write the incidental music, which is probably far better known than the play itself. Good as the music is, it has dated in a way that the play has not - the play remains modern, the music is inescapably "Victorian" and it commits a producer to a "pictorial" convention, besides giving undue weight to certain scenes (e.g. the Troll kingdom). It is worth noting that neither Ibsen nor Grieg was satisfied with the music in relation to the play - Ibsen's comment was that "it sugars the pill".

No apology is needed, therefore, for the fact that the music has been arranged (and composed where necessary) from Norwegian folk tunes and in some cases improvised by the cast.

The late Tyrone Guthrie introduced his version of the play as follows: "Peer Gynt is Everyman - he is you and I and the man across the street ... all of us share the desire to be Oneself ... Peer pursues this illusion throughout his life until his identity is merged into the mass by the symbolic character of the Button Moulder". Some of Peer's adventures are real, some symbolic - all are a desperate search for identity.

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