

the maskers theatre company

RING ROUND THE MOON

By Jean Anouilh

Directed by Philippa Taylor

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The Maskers is an amateur theatre company, based in Southampton, which prides itself on producing a professional standard of show. We hope you think we do!

Maskers formed sixteen years ago and nearly all of the founder members are still very active members of the company. At the present the membership has swelled to more than eighty.

Over the years, Maskers have performed in almost every kind of venue and have produced a wide variety of shows. These have included: 'Oh What a Lovely War', 'Lysistrata', 'National Health', 'Equus', 'King Lear', 'Habeas Corpus', 'The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See...', 'A Man for all Seasons' and many farces and music halls.

In a standard season (September to July) we will stage four or five major productions and do several one-night entertainments.

This is Maskers fourth open air production at Mottisfont and we hope to be coming here for years to come.

We are always keen to welcome anybody interested in joining the company to any of our rehearsals or social gatherings. If you think you might like to join us, please contact Betty Riggs on West End 472619 or speak to any of the Maskers you see here at Mottisfont.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

December 1985 'Murder on the Nile'
by Agatha Christie
Mountbatten Theatre, Southampton

February 1986 An evening of entertainment
featuring two experimental
plays
Oaklands Community Theatre, Southampton

April 1986 'Lock Up Your Daughters'
by Laurie Johnson
lyrics by Lionel Bart
based on 'Rape Upon Rape'
by Henry Fielding
Nuffield Theatre, Southampton

July 1986 'Cyrano de Bergerac'
by Edmond Rostand
Mottisfont Abbey

If you would like to receive regular information about the Maskers productions, please write to :-

MERI LAWTHER
10, Rose Road
Southampton
SO2 1AE

Enclosing a cheque or postal order for £1.

We hope you have enjoyed your picnics and refreshments as well as the show. Please help us to keep Mottisfont Abbey beautiful by putting all your rubbish in the bags provided and returning all the glasses to the bar.
Thank you.

RING ROUND THE MOON

by JEAN ANOUILH
translated by
CHRISTOPHER FRY

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

JOSHUA, a crumbling butler	KEN SPENCER
HUGO, a young man-about-town) BRIAN STANSBRIDGE
FREDERIC, his twin brother, in love with	
DIANA MESSERSCHMANN, engaged to Frédéric, secretly in love with Hugo	ENID CLARK
LADY INDIA, Messerschmann's mistress, secretly in love with	SONIA MORRIS
PATRICE BOMBELLES, Messerschmann's secretive secretary	DAVID PIKE
MADAME DESMERMORTES, Aunt to Hugo, Frédéric and Lady India	WIGGS DALGLEISH
CAPULAT, her faded companion	HAZEL BURROWS
MESSERSCHMANN, Diana's father, a melancholy millionaire	DAVID BARTLETT
ROMAINVILLE, a lepidopterist patron of	JOHN TURNBULL
ISABELLE, a ballet dancer	ANGELA STANSBRIDGE
HER MOTHER, a teacher of the pianoforte	SHEILA CLARK
GUESTS/DANCERS	PAM ASTON HILARY BOWEN SARA BUTLER JULIE JORDAN JULIA PATTERSON BARBARA WILLIAMS MALCOLM DOUGLAS KEITH LARKIN CHRIS WILLIAMS

The play is set in the gardens of a chateau in France, one summer day in the late 1920's.

ACT I Scene I - Morning
ACT I Scene II - Before the Ball
ACT II Scene I - During the Ball

INTERVAL
(30 minutes)

ACT II Scene II - During the Ball
ACT III Scene I - During the Ball
ACT III Scene II - After the Ball

FOR THE MASKERS

Directed by	Philippa Taylor
Assisted by	Pat Sawyer
Stage Manager	Angela Barks
Sound	Tim Hobbs
Lighting	Clive Weeks
Set Design	Ken Spencer
Set Construction	John Riggs
Properties	Chris Williams
Wardrobe	Janet Cairney
Dances arranged by	Jenny Cox
Front of House	Jan Ward
Publicity	Meri Lawther Graham Buchanan
Photography	Meri Lawther
Pyrotechnic operator	Tony Lawther
Wine Bar	Keith Larkin
Refreshments	Becket & Ann Pennington-Leigh Lockerley Post Office

The Maskers thanks to :

John & Barbara Cavanagh
Sylvia & David Pankhurst
Mr & Mrs Trevor Green
Southampton University

JEAN ANOUILH

Jean Anouilh was born in 1910, the son of a tailor and a violinist.

He reached the height of his fame in the 1950's and early 1960's when he produced works which have become modern classics such as 'The Lark', 'Becket ou l'amour de Dieu' and 'La Grotte'. Many of his plays have been translated into English and a number made into films.

Anouilh divided his works into Pièces Roses, Pièces Noires and Pièces Brillantes. 'Ring Round The Moon' (L'invitation au Château) is a Pièce Brillante.

Anouilh's plays cover a wide range of emotions and often have a period feel. He uses a gentle, witty humour. The main themes of his work are the death of love, idealism and disillusionment.

Mottisfont Abbey

Dating from the 12th century, the house was an Augustinian priory until the Dissolution. Lord Sandys, the Lord Chancellor, was given it by Henry VIII in exchange for the villages of Chelsea and Paddington.

He pulled down the priory living quarters, making his home in the nave of the church - the buttressed wall of the nave today forms the north front of the house. Further major changes were made in the 18th century and rooms are still decorated in the style of the time.

One outstanding feature is the drawing room with a 'trompe d'oeil', Gothic fantasy painted on ceilings, walls and curtain pelmets. The room was painted by Rex Whistler in 1938.