

the maskers

May 1976



Dear

In past years The Maskers have mounted a number of Shakespeare's plays which have been applauded by both audience and critic alike.

Productions of "Much Ado About Nothing", "Hamlet" and "Taming of the Shrew" were toured throughout Hampshire to various colleges before being brought to the Nuffield Theatre for a successful final weeks run. Last year a modern dress version of "Twelfth Night" drew delighted audiences to our own Maskers Theatre and "The Merry Wives of Windsor" played at a dozen different venues including Southampton's own Tudor Merchants' Hall and Salisbury Playhouse where a special performance earned money for their new theatre.

As a kind of climax to these productive years we, The Maskers, have great pleasure and not a little pride in presenting in June this year at the Nuffield Theatre -

"KING LEAR"

"Shakespeare's towering play about parents and children, traces the consequences of a tragic failure to bridge the gap between the generations in a world in which the New Order, with its lusts and ambitions, challenges ruthlessly for power. This violent, cruel, yet extraordinarily moving study of King Lear's progress towards understanding and humanity is Shakespeare's greatest achievement and its themes remain acutely relevant today."

The Director is Ron Stannard, whose integrity in presenting on stage the author's play, has been a hallmark of all his productions, King Lear is played by Jim Smith, probably one of the most experienced actors of Shakespeare in the area. His professional knowledge of the play has been of great help in rehearsal, to Director and cast alike, in the search for textural truth.

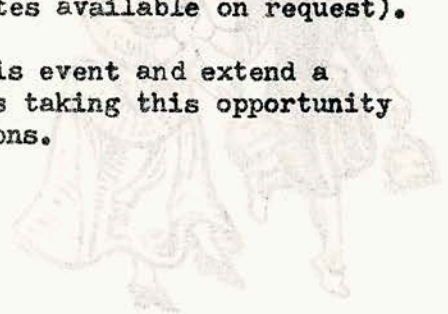
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"KING LEAR" is at the Nuffield Theatre from TUESDAY 15TH to SATURDAY 19TH JUNE 1976 at 7.30 p.m. each evening. Tickets are 65 pence (O.A.P.s and students 40 pence). All bookings and enquiries to Nuffield Theatre Box Office (Southampton 555028) (party rates available on request).

We look forward to your kind patronage of this event and extend a warm invitation to yourself and friends as well as taking this opportunity of thanking you for your support of past productions.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Stansbridge
for The Maskers



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