

THE MASKERS THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENT

CIDER WITH ROSIE

BY LAURIE LEE

ADAPTED BY JAMES ROOSE-EVANS

DIRECTED BY MOLLIE MANNS

30 January to 3 February 1996

Nuffield Theatre, Southampton

Laurie Lee was born in 1914 in the Cotswold village of Slad, Gloucestershire where he spent his childhood.

Cider with Rosie, published in 1959, is Laurie Lee's best known work. It is a nostalgic and evocative account of his childhood in a secluded Cotswold valley and describes a vanished rural world, 'a world of silence... of hard work and necessary patience... of white narrow roads, rutted by hooves and cartwheels, innocent of oil or petrol'.

Laurie set out from his home 'one mid-summer morning' at the age of nineteen to walk to London. He carried with him a tent, a violin, and only a few shillings and some biscuits and cheese in his pocket. He walked to Southampton because he wanted to see the sea (perhaps the tide was out when the choir outing went to Weston Super Mare!). Here he stayed in a down-town boarding house for a shilling a night and near there, under a bridge by the old Terminus station, he had his first experience of 'busking'.

After a few weeks he travelled along the coast as far as Worthing (he was moved on by a policeman whilst playing 'Bless This House' outside Chichester Cathedral) and then on to London where he worked as a builder's labourer before setting off for Spain, walking from Vigo to Andalucia, paying his way by playing the violin. The account of his journey is described in the second volume of his autobiography *As I Walked Out One Mid Summer Morning*.

A Moment of War, the third volume of Laurie Lee's autobiography published in 1991, is an account of his return to Spain in 1937, when the country was in the grip of Civil War.

He has described himself as a chance witness 'of the end of a thousand years of life'.

Laurie Lee has now returned to live in Slad. Long may he continue to do so.

CIDER WITH ROSIE

The Cast

Laurie.....	Brian Stansbridge
Mother.....	Sheana Carrington
Loll.....	Paul Taylor
Tony.....	Tom Stansbridge
Jack.....	Michael Coleman
Harold.....	Andrew Wagstaff
Phyll.....	Carmen Betteridge
Doth.....	Emma Carrington
Marge.....	Polly Morris
Midwife.....	Brenda Atkinson
Mrs Moore.....	Chris Baker
Crabby B.....	Sonia Morris
Miss Wardley.....	Belinda Drew
Assistant Teacher.....	Jan Ward
Spadge Hopkins.....	Carl Dunnington
Walt Kerry.....	Dominic Peckham
Granny Trill.....	Hazel Burrows
Granny Wallon.....	Philippa Taylor
Baker.....	David Jupp
Mrs Davies.....	Jean Durman
Mr. Davies.....	Graham Hill
Vincent.....	Steve Clark
Youths.....	Carl Dunnington
.....	Matt Betteridge
.....	Emanuel Vattier
Girls.....	Claire East
.....	Michelle Cox
Bar Maid.....	Jan Ward
Miss Flynn.....	Belinda Drew
Maurice.....	Alec Walters
Uncle Ray.....	David Pike
Uncle Sid.....	Geoff Wharam
Fred the Milk.....	Albie Minns
Rosie.....	Amy Stansbridge
Jo.....	Katy Ward
Betty Glead.....	Linzi Harvey
Squire.....	Michael Patterson
Vicar.....	Graham Buchanan
Baroness.....	Julie Baker
Mrs Pimsbury.....	Chris Baker

With: Hannah Stansbridge and Paul Woodman

Pianist.....Belinda Drew

Violinist.....Chris Nelson

There will be one interval of approximately 20 minutes.

FOR THE MASKERS

Director	Mollie Manns
Production & Stage Manager	Ken Spencer
Assistant Stage Managers	Georgia Emm Tamasin Garland Louise Merritt
Technical Coordinator	Ron Tillyer
Set Design	Ken Spencer
Set Construction	Bryan Langford Geoff Cook Douglas Shiell Ron Randall
Lighting Design	Clive Weeks
Lighting Operators	Nathan Weeks Edward Randall Gemma Smith
Sound	Lawrie Gee Andy Roberts
Properties	Ella Lockett Christel Mauffet
Poster photograph	Hazel Burrows
Publicity	Michael Patterson Philippa Taylor Jan Ward Harry Tuffill Jim Portman Vicky Griffiths
Programme production	Sandy White
Wardrobe	Christine Baker Hazel Burrows
Chaperones	Angela Stansbridge Jan Ward

The Maskers would like to thank:

- The University of Southampton Faculty of Engineering for the loan of their bus, the 'Toast Rack', for publicity photographs.
- 18th Southampton Maybush Scout Group
- Drummond Read Associates, Fine Art Valuers, Cambridge House, 32 Padwell Road, Southampton.
- Amber Antiques, Gordon Avenue, Portswood, Southampton.
- Pine Crafts, Brook Street, Bishops Waltham.
- Prospect Antiques, Folly Farm, Crawley, Winchester.
- Le Petit Pain Patisserie, Portswood, Southampton.
- A & N Engineering, Shirley, Southampton.
- Springhill School, Southampton

The Director wishes to thank members of the Maskers and other friends who have helped in so many ways with this production.

THE MASKERS THEATRE COMPANY was formed in 1968 by a group of twelve amateur actors. The membership is now over a hundred and the Company maintains its reputation as the most active and successful in the area.

We have recently acquired our own premises in Southampton and have received generous financial support from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts and the Arts Council Lottery Board. These grants have supplemented our own fundraising efforts.



Forthcoming Productions:

'A Rose by Any Other Name' - an anthology of the rose in words, music and song.

To be held at Mottisfont Abbey during the Rose Garden season, in collaboration with the National Trust. Dates to be confirmed, but there will be a Gala Performance on Midsummer's Eve - Sunday 23 June. Further details will be advertised in the local press. Tickets and further information available from the National Trust, tel. 01794-340757.

'The Three Musketeers' - a play by Willis Hall adapted from the novel by Alexander Dumas. An open air production at Mottisfont Abbey from 17-22 July [not Monday 22nd].

Tickets and further information available from the National Trust, tel. 01794-340757.

New Members are always welcome, both backstage and on stage.
For further information please contact Betty Riggs, Membership
Secretary, on 01703-472619.

The use of cameras or tape recorders in the Theatre is strictly forbidden. The management reserve the right to refuse admission, also to make any alterations to the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable causes. In accordance with the requirements of the Licensing authority:

1. The audience may leave by all exit doors
2. All gangways, corridors, staircases and passageways which afford a means of exit shall be kept free from obstruction.
3. Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways.
4. The safety curtain shall be lowered and raised at each performance in the presence of the audience.

FOR THE NUFFIELD THEATRE:

Artistic Director	Patrick Sandford
Administrative Director	Mark Courtice
Marketing Manager	Tracey Shaw
Box Office Manager	Lesley Kirby
Catering Manager	Maureen Gardiner
House Manager	Lori Dorman
Bar Manager	Lori Dorman
Production Manager	Julien Boast
Assistant Production Manager	Mark Raggett
Company Stage Manager	Nicola Wingfield
Chief Electrician	Greg Head
Deputy Chief Electrician	Peter Gibson
Sound Technician	Dan Hyman
Wardrobe Supervisor	Jane Hunter