MASKERS FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

Bah Humbug?

Directed by Avril Woodward at The Tudor Merchants Hall off Bugle Street, Southampton 8-13 December 2008 Tickets £7 - to include a glass of mulled wine and mince pie Box Office: 023 80551489

Little Women

By Louisa M Alcott Directed by Sheana Carrington at The Nuffield Theatre, Southampton 27-31 January 2009 For more information visit www.nuffieldtheatre.co.uk

The Homecoming

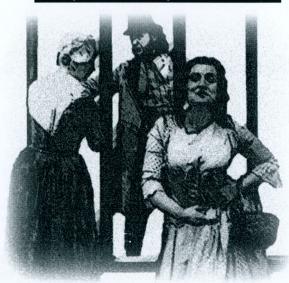
By Harold Pinter Directed by Ron Stannard at The Maskers Studio, Shirley 30 March - 4 April 2009

The Maskers Studio has a licensed bar and is accessible for patrons with disabilities. The Maskers Theatre Company is a Registered Charity 900067 For more information visit www.maskers.org.uk

the maskers theatre company

THE DEGGTA'S OPERA

Monday 20th to Saturday 25th October 2008



Director's Notes

This piece, first staged in 1728, made history as the longest run - 63 nights! - on the English stage up to then. John Gay's play-with-songs was the experimental theatre of its day, and was the forerunner of many more such 'ballad operas' during the 18th century, in which the dialogue was interspersed with appropriate short songs set to traditional or currently popular tunes. The society of its time is satirised in the play, where self-interest and greed are the only motivations of most of the characters, and where the behaviour of the ruling class is parodied by that of the criminal class. Our version of this 'Newgate Pastoral' does not claim to be fully authentic; we have taken some liberties with the script, but have endeavoured to capture the vigor and rumbustiousness of the original. Our singing may be in places enthusiastic rather than operatic. but this is an entertainment to be performed by singing actors, rather than acting singers, so we hope you will accept it in that spirit!

The Setting

The Scene is the inside of Newgate Gaol, London, in which all the action is supposed to take place.

There will be no interval. Refreshments available in the bar after the performance.

Acknowledgements

John Evans for Assistance in Accompanying at Rehearsals. Wendy South and Jackie Hollins for loan of Pistols, Index Engineering for manufacture of Manacles

The Cast

The Governor of Newgate Gaol The Governor's Lady The Beggar MacHeath

Peachum Mrs Peachum Filch Pollv Lucv

Lockit Mat o' the Mint

Jemmy Twitcher Ben Budge

Crook-fingered Jack

Robin of Bagshot Nimming Ned Wat Dreary Jenny Diver Sukey Tawdry Mrs Coaxer Mrs Slammekin

Dolly Trull Mrs Vixen Mrs Trapes Guards

The Crew

Director **Musical Director** Director's Assistant Accompanist

Setting

Props

Costumes

Technical & LX

Stage & Production Manager **Business Manager** Artwork and Programme

Printing Photography Box Office Front of House Catering

Philip de Grouchy Avril Woodward Graham Buchanan

Lewis Brunt Ian Wilson Hazel Burrows **Daniel Humphreys** Ruth Kibble Joanna Jacovou David Jupp Ian Morley Ken Hann

Graham Buchanan Ken Spencer

(Saturday only:Terence O'Farrell)

David Collis Paul Baker Ron Randall

Hayley Cheesworth

Rae Kibble Leah Barlow Movra Allen Katy Mortimer Hazel Burrows Avril Woodward Ken Hann **David Collis**

Philip de Grouchy Pam de Grouchy Avril Woodward Rosa Longman Ken Spencer Roger Lockett

Gill & Graham Buchanan

Adam Taussik Ella Lockett Christine Baker Kay Hann

Jamie McCarthy Clive Weeks Meri Mackney Sarah Russell Anja McCloskey Geoff Wharam Clive Weeks Christine Baker Julia Jupp Jan Spiers