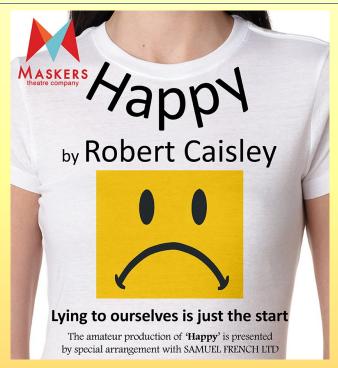
# **OUR NEXT PRODUCTION**



22 - 27 October HAPPY

**Maskers Studio Theatre** 

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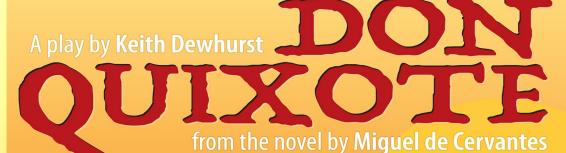
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An epic comedy of love and delusion

In the beautiful gardens of

# HAMPTWORTH LODGE

Hamptworth, near Landford, SP5 2EA

18 - 28 July 2018

maskers.org.uk

Programme

Registered charity 900067

# Maskers at Hamptworth Lodge

Welcome to Maskers' open-air production of Don Quixote.

This is our eleventh year at this beautiful location and we think you'll agree that the Archery Lawn and its terraces are the perfect place in which to perform. We are very grateful to Richard and Charlotte Everett, the owners of Hamptworth Lodge, for allowing us to perform here and for all their help in ensuring that the preparations for this year's show went smoothly.

This is Maskers' Golden Anniversary year and we are very proud of our record of bringing award-winning quality theatre to audiences for fifty years. We aim to continue to do so for many years to come. We hope you enjoy the performance and your visit to this lovely house and its gardens and grounds.

We respectfully request that you take all your picnic leftovers and empties home. You may remain to finish your picnics at the end of the play but we ask that you vacate the grounds by 10.30pm (5.45pm for matinée). Thank you!!

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Details of Maskers' next production is on the back page of this programme - why not come and see us at our very own Studio Theatre in Shirley, Southampton? See our website for full details: www.maskers.org.uk.



Please take care when moving around the grounds as steps and paths may be uneven and slippery if wet.

Provision for smoking has been made in the parkland below the Archery Lawn - please use the sand buckets provided. We ask that you don't smoke in the grounds of the house - thank you!



# Next year? - Keep an eye on our website for news of future productions

# For the Maskers

Technical Manager --- Jamie McCarthy; Marketing Director --- Sarah Russell; Marketing Team --- Angela Stansbridge, S J Wareham, Kate McCraken, James Norton, Clive Weeks, Robert Osborne, Meri Mackney, Matt Avery; Front of House Director --- Chris Baker; Front of House Display --- Meri Mackney; Box Office Manager --- Chris Baker; Photography --- Clive Weeks.

# The Production Crew

Director

**Mentor to the Director** 

**Production Managers** 

**Technical Installation Manager** 

Stage Manager

**Deputy Stage Manager** 

Set Design
Set Dressing
Lighting Design
Lighting Operator

Sound Design

Sound Operation

Technical Team
Costumes Team

**Armour construction** 

Properties
Assisted by
Puppet Design
Set Construction

Fight Arranger Spanish Songs Live Music Music Advisors

Front of House and Parking

Ruben Sanchez-Garcia Brian Stansbridge

Christine Baker, Brian Stansbridge

Jamie McCarthy

Jo Fox

David Cowley John Hamon

Angela Stansbridge

Clive Weeks

Paul Duell, Tom Foyle

Jamie McCarthy

Peter Court, Jamie McCarthy

Tom Foyle, Martyn Welch, Nick Lawther

Meri Mackney, Allegra Carlton

Brian Stansbridge Adam Taussik

Nicky Caveney, Martin Caveney

John Hamon

John Hamon, Peter Hill, Ken Hann,

Graham Buchanan, Adam Taussik,

Paul Benzing Ruth Kibble Carolina Dopico

Carolina Dopico, Damian Sanchez-

Garcia, Ruth Kibble

James Norton, Jill Desborough

# **Director's Notes**

It is a great pleasure, and a greater responsibility, to introduce this classic Spanish tale to our Hamptworth audience. Published in two parts in 1605 and 1615, it is the most famous book in the Spanish language and a founding work of modern literature. As a schoolboy in Spain, it was, for me, just another boring topic for the Literature exam... until, years later,



encouraged by my father (it is the only book he claims to have read three times!), I read it from beginning to end. Four hundred years on, the book's beautiful prose, universal themes, and sheer comedy, remain as powerful as when it was first published. Unfortunately though, the author Cervantes, unlike Shakespeare, did not write this story for the stage and any theatre adaptation faces enormous challenges. We hope our choice of scenes, staging, and production style reflects the huge effort by cast and crew to bring this story alive for you on the beautiful Archery Lawn at Hamptworth Lodge, and also does justice to this universal novel. I would like to thank the cast for their unwavering commitment to this mad adventure and the Maskers technical crew for their usual professional standard. Special thanks to Brian Stansbridge for support, encouragement and advice, and to my wife Kate for picking up the pieces.

# Ruben Sanchez-Garcia

Ruben joined Maskers in 2010 and has since appeared at Hamptworth as a pirate in *Treasure Island*, Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and, last year, as Passepartout in *Around the World in 80 Days*. Other acting credits include Soldier in *Chair*, Peter in *Zoo Story* and Andrey in *Afterplay*. Ruben directed Phyllis Nagy's *Butterfly Kiss* at Maskers Studio Theatre in 2013.

# Acknowledgements

Richard And Charlotte Everett (Hamptworth Lodge)
Emphasis Event Productions (Electrical Supplies)
Wheelers of Westbury (Electrical Consultancy)
armsandarchery.co.uk for the Helmet of Mambrino
Lilies Touring Theatre Co. for the pitchfork
Oliver Trojak and Lynda Brown for Alchemy Consultancy
SUP Theatre Company (Props and Costumes)



# Miguel de Cervantes

Miguel de Cervantes is one of the greatest novelists of the Spanish language. His masterpiece, *Don Quixote*, is one of the most important and influential books in the history of the novel.

Cervantes was born in 1547 in Alcalá de Henares, Spain and died on April 23, 1616, in Madrid – the same day as William Shakespeare.

Nothing is known of Miguel Cervantes' life until 1569, when he contributed three poems to a volume in memory of Queen Isabel de Valois.

In 1570, he joined the Spanish forces, fighting against

the Ottoman Empire. As a soldier, he took part in the naval victory at the Gulf of Lepanto, Greece, and was wounded twice in the chest and once in the left hand. This maimed his hand for life but he continued to fight as a soldier.

After being in action from 1572 through to 1574, he obtained leave to return to Spain with his brother Rodrigo, but the ship they were on, the Sol, was captured with its crew and passengers.

Cervantes lived in slavery for five years. In captivity he demonstrated an unbreakable will and honourable courage and led several unsuccessful escape attempts. Twice his family sent ransom money, but the amounts were not enough. The first ransom money was used to rescue his brother.

Christian merchants supplied the difference for a second attempt and in September 1580, Cervantes was released. Before leaving Algiers, Cervantes wrote his *Información*, which described his conduct while in captivity.

Cervantes began writing his first novel, *the Galatea*, but it did not appear until 1585. About this same time, Cervantes turned to writing for the theatre. Unfortunately, only two of his early plays survived: *Los Tratos de Argel* and *La Numancia*.

In 1587 Cervantes was in Seville, Spain, as the war between Spain and England was gearing up. Sadly, his new post as commander of the navy brought him only grief, shame, and discomfort. The Cathedral church of Seville excommunicated him for taking their grain. His finances went from bad to worse. As before, he turned to the theatre for financial help. However, for the next seven years Cervantes was in and out of jail for bad financial deals.

Then, in January 1605, *Don Quixote* was published and was an immediate success. At the age of sixty-five, Cervantes entered a period of extraordinary literary creativity. His *Novelas Ejemplares* are twelve little masterpieces, with which Cervantes created the art of short story writing in Spain.

In 1614 a counterfeit version of *Don Quixote*, signed with a false name, was published. The identity of this author remains the greatest mystery of Spanish literature. Cervantes' writing was not affected by the publication of the counterfeit and, in 1615, Cervantes published his own second part of *Don Quixote*, considered by many to be even better than the first part.

Cervantes then put all of his energy into finishing *Los Trabajos de Persiles y Sigismunda*, a novel of adventures. He signed the dedication to the Count of Lemos (dated April 19, 1616) on his deathbed. Cervantes' unmarked grave is in the convent of the Calle de Lope de Vega in Madrid, Spain.



# The Cast

Don Quixote de la Mancha Neil Quinlan
Sancho Panza Colin Russell
Housekeeper Jenni Watson
Curate Alan Watson
Barber Jez Minns

Niece Millie Grundy

Landlord Paul Baker

Landlord's Wife Sue Dashper

Maritornes Angie Stansbridge

Narrator, Martinez Brian Stansbridge Steward, Don Diego Adam Taussik

Duchess Hazel Burrows

Duke Roland Dauncev

Lady in Waiting Heather Calloway

Musician Carolina Dopico

Teresa Panza Kate Grundy-Garcia

Villagers, Carters, Guards, Slaves, etc. Members of the company

There will be one interval of 20 minutes. Refreshments may be ordered in advance.

Toilet facilities are located in the parkland below the Archery Lawn along with a designated smoking area. Please do not smoke elsewhere in the grounds of the

lodge.





# BITTERNE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1005127 "Keeping Bitterne's History Alive For The Future !"

Maskers would like to thank Bitterne Local History Society for the loan of the handcart. Membership Enquiries to 231 Peartree Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton, SO19 7RD or blhsmembership@gmail.com

Visit the Heritage Centre and Charity Shop at 231 Peartree Avenue, Southampton.

### The Cast



**Duke—Roland Dauncey** Roland has been with Maskers for just about 18 months. He is coming back to acting after over 30 years and was last seen as Basil Fawlty in *Fawlty Towers* in his earlier Surrey roots. Roland is very much looking forward to being in this summer's production of *Don Quixote* as The Duke, a character who shares a similar wicked sense of humour.



Lady-in Waiting—Heather Calloway Heather has only recently joined Maskers and is thrilled to be involved in the summer production at Hamptworth. She has been happily retired for several years, pursuing her interests in music and travel, but fulfilled a latent yearning for the stage when she became part of the community company of migrants in *The Grapes of Wrath* at the Nuffield. 'One of the grapes', as she says, with pride!



Musician—Carolina Dopico Carolina joined The Maskers last year. She recently enjoyed appearing in a Nuffield show, *The Shadow Factory*, as a member of the chorus. Now in *Don Quixote*, she has only one line to say, despite being the only Spanish person in the cast! However, she is enjoying playing the Spanish songs. She hopes you all have a great time!



**Teresa Panza—Kate Grundy-Garcia** Kate has been a Masker for over 25 years and has acted in the open air on a number of occasions. She recently played Ismene in *Antigone* but is now enjoying being part of a family show with her daughters, Millie and Isla, and husband,

**The Babies - Sally and Sam** This is the babies first production for The

Maskers and they love being part of the show, chasing Sancho about the stage, and they miss him when he's off on adventures with Don Quixote. They are not very good at facial expressions but hopefully this will improve with experience.

All other characters are played by The Company





# 50 years of Maskers Theatre 36 years of open-air plays

How many do you recognise?



# The Cast



**Don Quixote—Neil Quinlan** This is Neil's first production with the Maskers and he is looking forward to the challenge of the role. Quixote is a complex mixture of sanity and madness, with lashings of comedic personality. Neil started performing many years ago with Southern Theatre Productions, playing roles in many well-known musicals. He has played many diverse roles with RAODS, such as Captain Oates (*Terra Nova*), Antonio (*Much Ado About Nothing*), Sergeant Troy (*Far From The Madding Crowd*), and Widow Twanky (*Aladdin*).



Sancho Panza—Colin Russell Over the years Colin has appeared in several open-air shows with other companies, including *Canterbury Tales*, *Jack The Ripper*, *Cheshire Cats* and *Twelfth Night*, but the setting at Hamptworth Lodge is obviously one of the most impressive. This is Colin's second Maskers' show, following *Wyrd Sisters* in the Berry Theatre. Bringing such a classic story to life has been an



**Housekeeper—Jenni Watson** At the age of three, Jenni was bitten by the acting bug when she first performed in her local church nativity play! Over the years she has performed for Maskers, as well as other local groups, in a variety of settings. Jenni is very much looking forward to playing the Housekeeper and many other parts in **Don Quixote!** 



**Curate—Alan Watson** Alan has been a Masker for forty years and has played in eighteen Open Air productions at Hamptworth and, previously, at Mottisfont. He is looking forward to a fortnight here in Spain with **Don Quixote**; saves the hassle of Gatwick!



**Barber - Jez Minns** Jez is very happy to be coming back to Hamptworth this year - despite the terrible weather last year! He can't think of anything to say that is witty and scintillating, but he has shaved his head for this show and grown a grey beard so, if you're right at the back, you should still be able to spot him!



## Niece—Millie Grundy

Millie's first show at Hamptworth was *Treasure Island* when she played 'Minnie Captain Flint', aged just 7. Since then she has played a monkey and a wolf in *The Jungle Book* and the ill-fated Wally in *Our Town*. She is now looking forward to playing Don Quixote's niece, among other roles, in this epic Spanish Play.



Landlord—Paul Baker Don Quixote will be Paul's 23rd open air show for Maskers. During that time he has played a variety of roles, including Weasel Norman in Wind In The Willows and Thomas Cromwell in Anne Boleyn. In last year's Around The World in Eighty Days he played four parts; if you count puppets and impersonating a knight, he plays even more parts this time. Rumours that 2019's show will be his one man show persist.



Landlord's Wife—Sue Dashper Sue has been a regular in the Hamptworth cast playing various maids, monkeys, fairies and a selection of characters in last year's *Around the World in 80 Days*. She was nominated for a Curtain Call Award 2016 for best supporting actress for her role as Mrs Samsa in *Metamorphosis*. This year, she is again playing multiple roles of both sexes!



Maritornes—Angela Stansbridge Angie has been a member of Maskers since 1973 and has enjoyed playing a wide range of parts, most recently in *Room at the Inn, Ten Times Table, The Comedy of Errors, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Treasure Island* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. She is often to be found working on the finishing touches of set dressing and helping with wardrobe and props. Angie is enjoying playing multiple parts in Don Quixote.



Martinez—Brian Stansbridge Brian has been a member of Maskers for far longer than he cares to remember and has been involved in many shows, both as an actor and a director. Recent acting credits include the Station Master (*Mistletoe Junction*) and Long John Silver (*Treasure Island*). Recent directing credits include *Mistletoe Junction*, *Room at the Inn*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Servant of Two Masters* and *The Comedy of Errors*.



**Don Diego—Adam Taussik** Since joining Maskers 15 years ago, Adam (a committed pacifist) has played a few officers and servants (usually of the lower ranks), ending up as Colonel Stamp Proctor in last year's *Around the World in 80 Days*. For this show, Adam will also be renewing the international character of the last few years and channelling the spirit of globalisation into the myriad Spaniards seen here (but don't expect the Spanish Inquisition).



**Duchess—Hazel Burrows** Hazel is delighted to be returning to the beautiful grounds of Hamptworth Lodge with **Don Quixote**. Hazel has been a member of Maskers for many years; her special interests have drawn her to directing, set design and, of course, performance. Hazel plays several roles in this production, which gives her an opportunity to wear a pretty dress. This is a pleasant change from her last role as a bearded Welshman in **Wyrd Sisters!**