

Unbelievably it is over ten years since Michael Green's classic "The Art of Coarse Acting" was published. And when the idea of this Festival was first discussed less than ten months ago, all three of us directly concerned said: "Oh yes. I have a copy of course." And all three of us sheepishly admitted a day or two later that ours could not be found. The result, no doubt, of the exercise of The Art of Coarse Lending.

The book covers the whole field of theatre - indeed it is sub-titled "How to Wreck an Amateur Dramatic Society". In this Festival we have restricted ourselves to the stage itself. Competing teams have been given a list of subjects from which to choose one and are allowed 9 to 12 minutes, and from 2 to 7 performers with which to complete their task. But above all they have been asked to enjoy themselves and to entertain you, the audience. If any team has taken itself seriously it has broken Law One of Coarse Festivals.

The Salisbury Playhouse is grateful to the three Heat organisers who have been responsible for making all the arrangements for this preliminary round in Salisbury, Southampton and Weymouth, to those who have made premises available, and to those Amateur Companies who have entered. The winning team from each heat will go forward to a Grand Final in the Salisbury Playhouse on Sunday 23rd March, where they will compete against invited teams from The Questors, Bristol Old Vic and the National Theatre, and against the Playhouse itself. Michael Green himself will be adjudicating, in not too serious a vein. A night not to be missed so why not get your tickets here in the Interval or after the show? They are only 40p each.

Quote from one of the first enquiries about the Festival:
"I have always considered myself to be a fine Coarse Actor and welcome the opportunity to prove it".

FESTIVAL OF COARSE ACTING

A R E A H E A T

ADJUDICATOR - ROGER CLISSOLD

IN AID OF THE SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE APPEAL



THE MASKERS (and they don't come Coarser than that!)
present

THE SAVOY ENSEMBLE

Cast, in order of appearance

in

COX Peter Robson
BOX John Hoskins
BOUNCER Dennis Gooch

"COX AND BOX"

Words by F.C. Burnand
Music by Sir Arthur Sullivan

At the piano: Edwina Laird
Director: Pamela Hoskins

After "COX AND BOX" there will be an interval of 20 minutes during which time the fully licensed bar will be open in The Bassett Hotel: Coffee and Soft Drinks are also available.

THE SOUTHAMPTON HEAT OF THE FESTIVAL OF COARSE ACTING
featuring (in some order or other)

The Rigormortis Glee Club

in
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE"

Shylock Harold Gasnier
Portia Glynis Jasper
Nerissa Lynda Blizzard
Antonio Brian Drinkwater
Bassanio Dave Rhoderick
Salario John Sillence
Duke Jack Gasnier
Clerk John Sillence

The Director wishes to remain anonymous and have no credit for the performance whatsoever

MR. & MRS. KENNETH HANN

with
Members of The Eddystone Lighthouse
Theatre-in-the-Round Company
in
"HAMLET"

Hamlet MR. KENNETH HANN
Francisco Pete White
Barnardo Kenneth Spencer
Horatio John Carrington
Marcellus Michael Shailer
Ghost Rev. Graham Buchanan
Claudius Kenneth Spencer
Gertrude MRS. KENNETH HANN
Voltemand John Carrington
Cornelius Michael Shailer
Polonius Pete White
Laertes Rev. Graham Buchanan
Ophelia MRS. KENNETH HANN

Directed by MR. KENNETH HANN
Costumes by MRS. KENNETH HANN
Lighting MR. KENNETH HANN
Sound MR. KENNETH HANN
Effects MR. KENNETH HANN

The Southampton Shakespearean
(dedicated to preserving the name of the noble and immortal Bard in our fair City) Society
in
"ROMEO AND JULIET"

Romeo Keith Wiggins
Juliet Tricia Anderson
Benvolio John Martin
Mercutio Richard Mead
Nurse Lesley Ward
Peter Stephen Farmer
Friar Brian Hoppel

Prompter Paula Lynch
Sound Chris Harries
Lighting Mike Andrews
Directed by Keith Wiggins

The Corsairs
in
"OTHELLO"

Othello George Kirk
Desdemona Pat Mannering
Emilia Jean McConnell
Iago John Morgan
Cassio Noel Bishop
Gratiano Peter Westerby

Prompter Lee Kirk
Director Walter Plinge

The four productions will be followed by a "coarse" thought or two by our adjudicator, Roger Clissold, Artistic Director of The Salisbury Playhouse.

.....and, thanks for coming!