

# Have you ever thought of Running Away?

'This is Leslie at his finest' Today

'A great buy' Mail on Sunday

'Vintage Thomas' Times

'One of the geniuses of the modern-day comic novel' Daily Express

HIS NEW BESTSELLER
OUT NOW IN BOOKSHOPS EVERYWHERE
or for further details call 0933 414414

methuen

Waterstone's newly opened bookshop in Above Bar, Southampton have a selection of Leslie Thomas titles on sale in the foyer this evening – including his latest novel, 'Running Away'. Leslie will be pleased to sign purchases for you. His output includes about 20 novels; travel books; and two volumes of auto-biography.

A Diary Note: The Maskers next full production is

Arthur Millers
'DEATH OF A SALESMAN'
At the Theatre Royal, Winchester
April 11–15 1995. Box Office 0962 843434

W

Welcome to

WATERSTONE'S

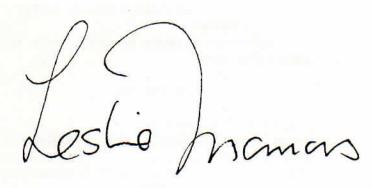
69 Above Bar, Southampton



### TURNER SIMS CONCER HALL

Sunday November 20th 199

## AN EVENING WITH



Supported by members of



the maskers theatre compan

In aid of the

Maskers Theatre Workshop Appeal Registered Charity No. 900067

#### The Company in Order of Speaking

Tom Stansbridge Molly Manns Belinda Drew Sarah Humphrey Philippa Taylor Jan Shrouder Ken Spencer Ben O'Donohoe Marian Westbury Alec Walters

Sheana Carrington Sonia Morris Michael Patterson Brian Stansbridge Angela Stansbridge

Pianos:

Michael Patterson

Belinda Drew

Lighting: Sound:

Ron Tillyer Lawrie Gee

#### Produced by Michael Patterson

#### This production is sponsored by Methuen Ltd: all proceeds go to the Maskers Theatre Workshop Appeal

- 1. Virgin Soldiers soundtrack
- This time next week Leslie Thomas 2.
- 3. Stopping by Woods - Robert Frost
- The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Grahame . 4.
- Grantchester Rupert Brook 5.
- 6. '18th Variation' - Sergei Rachmaninov
- 7. The Cockney Amorist - John Betjeman
- 8. From the Diaries of Francis Kilvert (1870)
- 9. The Chain Letter
- The Importance of Being Earnest Oscar Wilde 10.
- 11. What's that tune?

#### INTERVAL

- 12. You are in Bear Country
- Sister Anna, The Juggling Nun P.R Scott 13.
- Funeral Blues & If I Could Tell You W.H Auden 14.
- The Merchant of Venice William Shakespeare 15.
- 16. 'Dusk' - Armstrong Gibbs
- Running Away Leslie Thomas 17.
- Audience Open Forum 18.
- 19. Chorale From Cantata 147 - J.S Bach
- Harrow on the Hill John Betjeman 20.
- 21. Letter to Mrs Betjeman
- 22. Under Milk Wood - Dylan Thomas

The Maskers Theatre Company are most grateful to Mr Leslie Thomas for donating his services this evening in support of their Theatre Workshop Fundraising Appeal.

The Maskers are this year celebrating their Silver Anniversary. Established as the areas leading amateur theatre group, their 25th Year has been marked by the purchase of Freehold premises in Shirley, Southampton, to be used as a Theatre Workshop providing A fully equipped rehearsal studio; set building workshop; costume store; and members clubroom. The Maskers are a Registered Charity.

Members of the company have enjoyed cooperating with Leslie Thomas on a number of occasions: watch out for the screening of his film 'Present Spirits' on BBC2 TV this Christmas - directed by his son Matthew and with many of the characters 'ahosted' by Maskers!

New Members are always welcome.

Leslie Thomas is one of Britains most popular writers; a bestselling novelist, a travel writer and a television and radio personality. Born in 1931 in Barry, Glamorgan of a seafaring family, he found himself, at the age of 12, in an orphanage following his father's drowning in the South Atlantic during a U-boat attack on a wartime convoy. Within six months his mother also died. From Dr. Barnardo's in Kingsbridge, Devon he was subsequently sent to their home in Kingston-Upon-Thames. At 16 he attended College to learn Shorthand and Typing; and at 17 got his first job (at first unpaid) with the Walthamstow Guardian. Called up at 18 into the Royal Army Pay Corps, he was posted in January 1950 to Singapore. During this time he continued to submit articles to U.K newspapers - and letters advising them of their good fortune that he would be available to work for them when he was demobbed! The only offer came from the 'Willesden Citizen' where he worked for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years, followed by a time as sub editor at the Exchange Telegraph in the City. His goal was achieved when he was appointed a reporter on the London 'Evening News'. As part of Fleet Street's 'Flying Circus' he visited many parts of the world, covering Royal visits, the Eichman trial, Ian Smith's UDI in Rhodesia and Harold Wilson in the Scilly Isles. His first book was published in 1963.