A Shakespearean Festivat

On a thousand stages in many countries of the world, acting groups this year are paying homage to William Shakespeare with performances commemorating the 400th anniversary of his birth. The University Theatre has participated with distinction in this international bow to the Bard. It brought to the stage of the Fine Arts Theatre two noteworthy productions offered as A Shakespeare Festival. Ushering in the celebration was the novel presentation of Journeys End in Lovers Meeting, an evening of varied scenes on the theme of love as selected from several of Shakespeare's plays. This achievement was followed two months later by Hamlet, similarly a solid triumph. The two productions, presented at midwinter for a total of fourteen performances, drew enthusiastic acclaim for their vitality and quality.

The student actors delivered excellent performances in the presentations. They were, primarily, members of the advanced acting class taught by Miss Robin Humphrey, assistant professor of speech and dramatic art. She had brought them through earlier classes and, as one student commented, the group had achieved a common bond. They had formed "a company of actors" and were trained in Shakespeare in preparation for their anniversary contribution. Some of them handled several major roles in one evening when *Journeys* was presented.

While Miss Humphrey was the guiding light back of both productions that gave the University community its first offering of Shakespeare in many years, she readily acknowledges the assistance of several of her colleagues. Journeys, which she conceived and directed, was based on a script idea by Dr. William M. Jones, who served as literary consultant and made the original selection of scenes, to which she added others. Dr. Jones is associate professor of English. Lewis Stoerker, associate professor of speech and technical director of the Theatre, designed the sets and handled the elaborate lighting for both productions. Bruce Wise, assistant professor of music, also was associated with both productions, arranging Elizabethan music, which he played on the harpsichord, for Journeys. Kirk Mee, student, portrayed the title role of Hamlet and directed. H. Donovan Rhynsburger, professor of speech and dramatic art, served as executive producer.



Phebe (Marion Smith)

AS YOU LIKE IT

PHEBE: I would not be thy executioner. I fly thee, for I would not injure thee.

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RICHARD THE THIRD

- RICHARD: It is a quarrel most unnatural, To be reveng'd on him that loveth thee.
- ANNE: It is a quarrel just and reasonable, To be reveng'd on him that kill'd my husband.



Richard-Kirk Mee

Lady Anne-Dulcie Creasy



George McDaniel

Jeanne Kunznick

Jan Wagoner

Charles Closser

Martha Gordon

TWELFTH NIGHT

A company of actors, singing a medley of Elizabethan songs, moves through the theatre. The actors gather on stage and with laughter and anticipation of the performance they are about to create, they play upon lines from TWELFTH NIGHT: "... so full of shapes is fancy that it alone is high fantastical."

SECOND PLAYER: Will you go hunt my loard? FIRST PLAYER: What, Curio? SECOND PLAYER: The hart. FIRST PLAYER: Why, so we do! We pursue an evening of love!

Music begins, the company bows, exits variously, and the performance begins in which each actor plays a variety of roles.

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RESOIVAL continued



Catharine-Marion Smith

Henry the Fifth-Jan Wagoner

KING HENRY THE FIFTH

CATHARINE: Your Majesty shall mock at me; I cannot speak your England.

KING HENRY: O fair Catharine, if you will love me soundly with your French heart, I will be glad to hear you confess it brokenly with your English tongue.



Rosalind—Sue James AS YOU LIKE IT

Orlando-Jan Wagoner

ROSALIND: Make the doors upon a woman's wit and it will out at the casement; shut that and 'twill out at the key-hold; stop that, 'twill fly with the smoke out at the chimney.



Oberon (James Zvanut)

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

I'll watch Titania when she is asleep And drop the liquor of it in her eyes: The next thing then she waking looks upon, ... She shall pursue it with the soul of love:



Petruchio-George McDaniel

Katharine—Dulcie Creasy

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

PETRUCHIO: Now, by the world, it is a lusty wench! I love her ten times more than ere I did:

RESOIVAL continued



Professor Robin Humphrey, shown directing a rehearsal.



Laertes-James Zvanut; Hamlet-Kirk Mee. (Background) Osric-Richard Fuchs; Claudius-George McDaniel; Gertrude-Dulcie Creasy.

HAMLET

A hit, a very palpable hit.

THE END

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