

Forthcoming Productions

WHAT GOOD DOES

By Steve Moulster
Directed by Albie Minns

MASKERS STUDIO

Emsworth Road, Shirley, Southampton SO15 3LX

26 - 31 October 2009

Box Office: 023 8055 1489
Tickets on sale from September

THE CRUCIBLE

By Arthur Miller
Directed by Harry Tuffill

NUFFIELD THEATRE
Southampton

3 - 7 February 2010

Box Office: www.nuffieldtheatre.co.uk
or 023 8067 1771



www.maskers.org.uk

The Maskers Theatre Company is a Registered Charity No. 900067

THE MASKERS THEATRE COMPANY presents

Henry Fielding's

Tom Jones

A RIGHT BAWDY ROMP!



Wed 15 to Sat 25 JULY 2009 at 7.30
Except Mon 20 July

£1

The Maskers at Hamptworth Lodge

Welcome to the Maskers Theatre Company's open air production of Tom Jones!

This is our second 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 grateful to the Hamptworth Estate and the Anderson family for allowing us to perform here and for all their help in putting this year's play together.



The Maskers Theatre Company is now in its 41st year and aims to continue to bring award winning quality theatre to its audiences at the Nuffield Theatre, the Maskers Studio in Shirley and at Hamptworth Lodge for many, many years to come. We hope you enjoy the performance and your visit to this lovely house, 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 you to vacate the grounds by 11.00pm. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

The Maskers Theatre Company
www.maskers.org.uk

If you would like to receive details of future Maskers productions, please complete the form on page 7 of this programme and leave it in the box provided on the Front of House table.



This year Hamptworth is supporting Salisbury District Hospital STARS Appeal - raising money to create the best possible experience for the 300,000 people who rely on Salisbury District Hospital. It funds extra care and equipment over and above that provided by the NHS. The Appeal benefits all wards and departments. It also raises money for major projects. In 2007, they funded advanced equipment for premature and critically ill babies and an advanced keyhole cancer surgery suite.

They now face their biggest challenge to date, raising £1 million to help fund a state-of-the-art Children's Centre through Caring 4 Kids. **If you wish you help, you can make a donation tonight in the marked buckets provided on the Archery Lawn. For more information visit: www.starsappeal.org.**

Provision for smoking has been made in the parkland below the Archery Lawn. Smoking is prohibited in the grounds of the house. Thank you.

About The Author

To the movers and shakers of 17th century England, Henry Fielding, author of Tom Jones, must have seemed 'omnipresent'. He is best known as a novelist and dramatist and for his rich earthy humour, and satirical prowess. Aside from his literary achievements, however, he was a campaigner for liberal causes and has a significant place in the history of justice and law-enforcement.



His background was fairly representative of the upper middle classes of the time. He was the son of a General who 'retired' to become a disastrous gentleman farmer in Dorset and died in a debtor's prison leaving an estate valued at five pounds. On the death of his father, however, things started to look up. His mother had also died, when Henry was ten, so he was adopted by his maternal grandmother, who sent him to Eton where he thrived as a scholar and made some powerful and influential friends, including the future Prime Minister, William Pitt (Pitt the Elder). Some things never change, do they!

Henry had been raised by his father to dislike Catholics, so it is ironic that when his mother died his father remarried - to an Italian Catholic! Interestingly enough, this dislike of Catholics is probably the only legacy his father left him that actually proved valuable. It was his active opposition to the Jacobite cause and support for the Church of England which won him influence and high office in the 1740's.

Two early episodes in Henry's life help to illustrate that some of the incidents presented in Tom Jones are not as far-fetched as they might at first appear. In the summer of 1725 Henry was in Lyme Regis, ostensibly for a holiday, but more likely to visit his distant cousin Sara Andrews, with an eye on her fortune and to win her as a wife. (Sara at the age of 15 had just become a rich heiress on the death of her father.) Sara's guardian, Andrew Miller, had hopes that she would actually marry his own son John and may well have tried to tarnish Henry's reputation by encouraging a drunken brawl following which Henry was charged with assault on a local man. Despite this it seems that Henry was having some success in his pursuit of Sara, since he was still in Lyme two months later. On Sunday 11th November matters came to a head when Henry assisted by his servant attempted to abduct Sara as she was walking to church with Andrew Tucker and his family. The attempt failed and the same day Tucker laid a charge before the magistrates against Fielding and his servant for an attack on his person. His servant was soon captured, but Henry eluded capture by the constables and left the town the following day, but not before putting up a hand written poster ridiculing the Tuckers. This is the man (Fielding) who later became the Chief Magistrate of London and co-founder of London's first police force, the Bow Street Runners!

He began his writing career at the age of 21 but did not enjoy early success, so he left England to study at the University of Leiden in The Netherlands. Unfortunately, like his father, he was not good at managing money and fled Leiden after a year, leaving all kinds of unpaid debts behind him. It was then that his writing began to flourish and became a vehicle for political satire and his liberal, campaigning views. It is said that his satirical play The Vision of the Golden Rump was directly responsible for the introduction of the Theatrical Licensing Act of 1737, making political satire on the stage virtually impossible.

The novel, *Tom Jones* has been labelled "Hogarth in Words" not just because of the bawdy romp it relates, but also because his friend, William Hogarth, engraver, painter and creator of The Rakes Progress, shared Henry's political views and was a great influence on him. We hope that you enjoy our telling of the story, this evening.

Brian Stansbridge

Cast

In order of appearance

Tom Jones	Rob Praine
Squire Allworthy	Alan Watson
Jenny Jones	Philippa Burt
Bridget Allworthy	Clare Minns
Thwackum	Paul Baker
Blifil	Ian Wilson
Squire Western	John Souter
Molly Seagrim	Joanna Russel
Sophia Western	Eleanor Marsden
Susan	Gemma Aked-Priestley
Mrs Waters	Philippa Burt
Mrs Fitzpatrick	Rachael Courage
Betty	Jenni Watson
Honour Seagrim	Linda Webb
Captain Fitzpatrick	David Cradduck
Lord Fellamar	Brian Stansbridge
Constable	Ken Hann
Bystander 1	Andy Burrows
Bystander 2	Neil Parsons
Woman with Basket	Jenni Watson
Bystander 3	Catherine Tarrant
Bystander 4	Christine Baker
Pheasant	'Anderson'
Act I	Somerset
Act II	Interlude at Upton

***There will be an interval of 30 minutes
(we recommend you pre-order your interval drinks)***

Act III London

***There will be some gun fire and minor explosions during
this performance.***

The play ends at approximately 10.15pm

Production Team

Director	Ken Hann
Casting Director	Ken Spencer
Assistant Director	Brian Stansbridge
Production Manager	Graham Buchanan
Stage Manager	Angie Barks
Technical Manager	Jamie McCarthy
Lighting	Tony Lawther
	David Illsley
	Clive Weeks
Sound	Tony Lawther
	David Fancett
	Nathan Weeks
Sound Design	Jamie McCarthy
	Geoff Grandy
Wardrobe	Serena Brown
	Susan Wilson
	Catherine Tarrant
Properties	Ella Lockett
	Gill Buchanan
	Alison Tebbutt
	Liz Hill
Set Construction	Roger Lockett
	Graham Buchanan
	Geoff Cook
	Ken Spencer
Painting	Ken Spencer
Artwork	John Hamon
Set Dressing	Sarah & Steve Russell
Fight Arrangement	Paul Benzing
Choreographer	Louise Hodson
Voice Coach	Fran Morley
Photography	Clive Weeks
Front of House Casting	Pete Hill
Front of House Managers	Geoff & Pam Cook and team of Maskers
Box Office Manager	Angela Stansbridge
Publicity & Marketing	Angela Stansbridge
	Ian Morley
	Geoff & Pam Cook
	Geoff Wharam
Front of House Display	Luciana Lattanzi
Programme	Sarah Russell

Acknowledgements

Grateful thanks are extended to:

The Hamptworth Estate	Meri Mackney
Manor Farm Country Park	Nuffield Theatre
Linda at Underhill Trophies	Bristol Costume Services
Ian Abrahams at Bitterne Historical Society	The Wig Room, Basingstoke
	All who provided poster/advertising sites

Hamptworth Country Fayre and Companion Show Sunday 16th August 2009, 10am-5pm

We welcome The Pike and Shot Tour and Event Company with their 17th Century living history 'village' with costumed villagers giving various demonstrations.

You will also be able to enjoy the usual country activities:

- Clay Pigeon Shooting •
- Gundog displays •
 - Archery •
- Ferret and Terrier Racing •
 - Falconry •
- Parading of the New Forest Hounds and Beagles •
- The Companion Dog Show with fun classes and the ever popular Waggiest Tail Competition! •

Adults £5, concessions £4, children under 6 free - family ticket £15

Bring a picnic and stay all day!

Tom Jones in Rehearsal!



Why not join The Maskers?

The Maskers Theatre Company is keen to welcome new members. It's a great opportunity to get involved and have fun whilst learning about all aspects of the theatre, from acting and directing, to lighting, sound, costume designing and set building. If you're interested in joining please complete the slip below and leave at the Front of House tent on your way out. You may also leave your contact information to receive regular updates on forthcoming productions.

- ✂ -----
- I am interested in becoming a member of the Maskers Theatre please send me details
- Please add me to your mailing list

Name

Address

Email

Or return slip to:

The Maskers Theatre, c/o 29 Lime Gardens, West End, Southampton SO303RG

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