

THE OLD VIC THEATRE

Waterloo Road, S.E.1

Licensee GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN, Clerk to the Governors

THE OLD VIC COMPANY

TIMON OF ATHENS

William Shakespeare

Director of The Old Vic :
TYRONE GUTHRIE

Administrative Director :
HUGH HUNT

Produced at the Old Vic Theatre on Wednesday, May 28th, 1952

6^D

TWO SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS AT THE OLD VIC IN JULY

Monday, June 30th to Saturday, July 19th

THE BRISTOL OLD VIC COMPANY
**THE TWO GENTLEMEN
OF VERONA**

Shakespeare

A revival of the production by Denis Carey which packed this theatre during its brief visit in February.

and

Monday, July 21st to Saturday, August 2nd

THE BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY COMPANY

KING HENRY VI

Part Three

Shakespeare

The third part of KING HENRY revived for the first time at the Old Vic since 1923. The Vic is proud to welcome this distinguished Company and to be able to bring to London audiences a production which has created such wide interest.

BOOKING FROM MON., MAY 26th FOR BOTH PLAYS

TIMON OF ATHENS

Some Notes by TYRONE GUTHRIE

In view of the fact that "Timon" is an unfamiliar play, and accounted "difficult," perhaps a brief note may not be unacceptable, explaining how we are endeavouring to interpret the play.

In our view it is not a tragedy but a satire, directed against the Deceitfulness of Riches; against materialism as exemplified by society in "Athens"—a fictitious city which is evidently not intended to give a very literal impression of classical Athens, and, more particularly, as exemplified by Timon.

Timon is not a hero in whose sufferings we are supposed to share with pity and with terror. He is the spoiled Darling of Fortune, whom Fortune suddenly spurns—the allegory of the Poet in the first scene of the play is intended as an extremely literal clue to the course of the story. In misfortune Timon shows unmistakably that he is not of heroic stature. He is peevish, hysterical; he adopts the cynicism of *Apemantus* not from intellectual or moral conviction but as a kind of compensatory gesture against society; it is, to quote *Apemantus*, "a poor unmanly melancholy sprung from change of fortune." His death is a symbolical gesture of purification—

*"Timon hath made his everlasting mansion
Upon the beach'd verge of the salt flood;
Who once a day with his embossed froth
The turbulent surge shall cover."*

The same idea of purification is, I think, exemplified in the character of Alcibiades. It is rather a sketchy portrait, but obviously intended to be one of the principal figures in the play's design. One thing that emerges unmistakably—he is meant to represent the Soldier, the Man of Action. My belief is that, at the end of the play, it is Shakespeare's intention to suggest that a corrupt materialism, symbolised by the Government of the Senators, can only be purged by violent action; its guilt can only be washed away in blood. Bloodletting is avoided only by the total surrender of the Senators to the Man of Action. Perhaps it is an implicit part of the satire, that Alcibiades is not represented as having any constructive or imaginative ideas. There is no evidence whatever that Athens, under his military protectorship, will be a better place to live in than before.

THE OLD VIC CLUB AND MAILING LIST

If you would like to receive regular information about Old Vic productions, join the Old Vic Club. The subscription is 2/6 annually, and it is only necessary to send your name and address and 2/6 for the first year to:

THE OLD VIC CLUB,
Old Vic Theatre,

Waterloo Road, S.E.1.

Membership forms can also be obtained from the Box Office and subscriptions in cash received at once. Members receive booking concessions at the beginning of the season and may attend the lectures held specially for them; they are also eligible for reduced prices for party bookings

TIMON OF ATHENS

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Timon	.. .. .	.. .. .	ANDRÉ MORELL
Alcibiades, <i>an Athenian General</i>	.. .. .	.. .. .	PETER COKE
Apemantus, <i>a philosopher</i>	.. .. .	.. .. .	LEO McKERN
Lucullus	} <i>Noblemen</i>	{	JOHN PHILLIPS
Lucius			DAVID WALLER
Ventidius	} <i>of Athens</i>	{	JOHN COLICOS
1st Senator			.. .. .	.. .. .	ERNEST HARE
2nd Senator	.. .. .	.. .. .	JOHN PHILLIPS
Other Senators of Athens : GRAHAM SQUIRE, PETER SALLIS, DONALD FINLAY, JACK CUNNINGHAM, ROBERT WELLES				
Flavius, <i>steward to Timon</i>	.. .. .	.. .. .	WILL LEIGHTON
Flaminius	} <i>Servants</i>	{	LEE MONTAGUE
Lucilius			RICHARD PASCO
Servilius	} <i>to Timon</i>	{	JOHN ABINERI
An old Athenian			.. .. .	.. .. .	ROBERT WELLES
A Poet	.. .. .	.. .. .	JOHN BLATCHLEY
A Painter	.. .. .	.. .. .	WOLFE MORRIS
A Merchant	.. .. .	.. .. .	DONALD FINLAY
A Jeweller	.. .. .	.. .. .	PETER SALLIS
Bandits (<i>Deserters from the Army of Alcibiades</i>) : DAVID WALLER, JACK CUNNINGHAM, JOHN COLICOS				
Three Strangers : .. JACK CUNNINGHAM, MURRAY GILMORE, DONALD FINLAY				
Phrynia	} <i>Mistresses to</i>	{	JOAN POULTER
Timandra			.. .. .	.. .. .	YVONNE BONNAMY
Servants, Soldiers and Messengers : JOHN ABINERI, JOHN COLICOS, CYRIL CROOK, JACK CUNNINGHAM, MURRAY GILMORE, DAVID HALL, COLIN MANN, PHILIP MELLOR, LEE MONTAGUE, RICHARD PASCO, PETER SALLIS, ANTONY VERCOE, GEORGE VERNON, DAVID WATKIN-JONES				

The Play produced by TYRONE GUTHRIE

Scenery and Costumes by TANYA MOISEWITSCH

The action of the play takes place in Athens, and the neighbouring woods.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes

Production Manager	} For THE OLD VIC	{	.. .. .	CECIL CLARKE
Publicity Manager			.. .. .	PATRICK IDE
Company Manager			.. .. .	J. A. TITCOMBE
Staff Producer	} For THE OLD VIC COMPANY	{	.. .. .	ROBERT QUENTIN
Stage Manager			.. .. .	MICHAEL INNES
Assistant Stage Manager			.. .. .	ELIZABETH BUTTERFIELD
Master Carpenter			.. .. .	CHARLES PHIPPS
Chief Engineer			.. .. .	STANLEY COPPIN
Wardrobe Mistress			.. .. .	PEARL SHAW

Scenery and furniture made in The Old Vic Workshops under the direction of W. H. Parker and painted by John Collins, assisted by Ann Rodger. Costumes made in The Old Vic Wardrobe under the direction of Dinah Greet. Men's costumes by Maria Garde. Women's costumes by Judy Peyton-Ward. Hats by Eric Gates. Costume accessories by Jean Davies, Jak Angles, Brenda Gardener and Michael Hoare. Shoes by Thompson and Pudney. Wigs by Nathanwigs. Properties made by Jacqueline Cundall, David Gauld and Norman Smith. Metal work by Enterprise Metal. Photographs by John Vickers.

House Manager	.. .. .	.. .. .	MARGOT CAMERON
Box Office (WATERLOO 7616)	.. .. .	.. .. .	HENRY OSBORN

The Old Vic works by arrangement with the Joint Council of the National Theatre and the Old Vic, and in full association with the Arts Council of Great Britain

First aid facilities in this theatre are provided by St. John Ambulance Brigade members, who give their services voluntarily

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE AUDITORIUM

The Management reserves the right to refuse admission, and to make any alteration in the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable cause

In accordance with the requirements of the Lord Chamberlain—

1.—The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors and such doors must at that time be open. 2.—All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions. 3.—Persons shall not in any circumstances be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways intersecting the seating, or to stand in any of the other gangways. If standing is permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, it shall be strictly limited to the number indicated by the notices exhibited in those positions. 4.—The safety curtain must be lowered and raised in the presence of each audience.

The Box Office is now open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and patrons are reminded that seats can be booked during the first interval. Booklets giving the full programme for the Season are available in the boxes under the wall picture frames in the entrance vestibule.

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Representatives of the Association are on duty in this Theatre, in the Bars and in the Library (near the Gallery) from 6.30 to 7 p.m., and during the first Interval. Hon. Sec. c/o Sadler's Wells Theatre, London, E.C.1.



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Box Office: TERminus 1672/3

OPERA & BALLET SEASON

OPERA

The present repertoire includes

The Barber of Seville
The Bartered Bride La Boheme
Carmen Faust Don Giovanni
The Marriage of Figaro
Madam Butterfly Tosca La Traviata
Il Trovatore

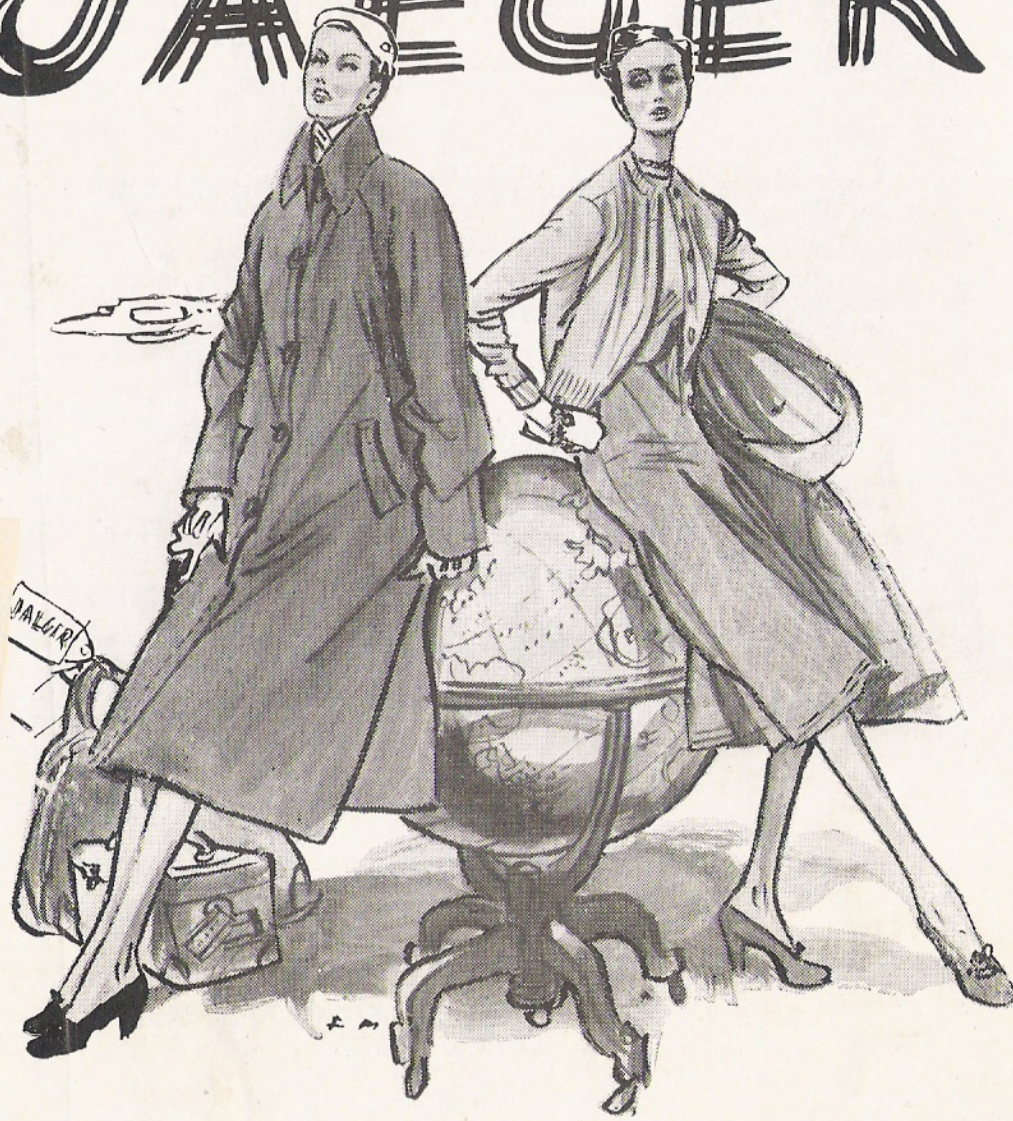
BALLET

The Theatre Ballet returned to the Theatre on April 24th after their American Tour

The repertoire includes

Assembly Ball Coppelia
Haunted Ballroom Harlequin In April
Prospect Before Us
Pineapple Poll Les Rendezvous

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