

THURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2001 (3RD WEEK)

TODAY

OXFORD AMNESTY LECTURES

Sheldonian Theatre | Thursday 1st February 5.30pm

Tzevetan Todorov

Critic and author of *Nous et les autres* (1989) and *Face à l'extrême* (1991)

Introduced by Prof. Niall Ferguson

The Faculty of English, University of Oxford

PRESENTS the second in a new series of special lectures on Biography

GRAHAM ROBB

Biographer of Victor Hugo, Balzac and Rimbaud

"BEING A BIOGRAPHER"

Thursday 1 February at 5.15pm, Lecture Theatre 2, St. Cross Building, Manor Road.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST GLASSES - BROWN FRAME. Along St. Giles. kakaliu78@yahoo.com

EXHIBITIONS

THE LIFE OF CHRIST / Old Master drawings illustrating scenes from the life of Christ, including unusual subjects such as Christ Taking Leave of His Mother. Artists include Caracci and Rubens. 18th November - end February 2001 / Christ Church Picture Gallery: Mon-Sat 10.30 - 1 and 2.00 - 4.30. Sunday 2 - 5.30 / 276172.

A PASSION FOR PLANKTON / Photographs by Peter Parks: free / 12pm - 5pm / Museum of Natural History, Parks Road / 272970 / Fax: 272950

IKATS OF ASIA / Examples of Ikat, a textile printing technique, dating back as far as the 9th century. Admission free. / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street / 278000 / Fax: 278018

FRANCE ET GRANDE-BRETAGNE AU JOUR LE JOUR / Drawings by Planti on a theme of international unity / Maison Française, North Rd / 274220 / Fax: 274225 / Email: maison@sable.ox.ac.uk

'PRAETERITA': A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS SUGGESTED BY THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JOHN RUSKIN / By John Riddy / Ends 23rd Feb / Ruskin School of Drawing, 74, High St / 276940

KATARZYNA KOZYRA / New Polish art, digitally altered video installations, exploring what it is to be human / Ends 7th March. / Museum of Modern Art, Pembroke Street. Opening times: Tues-Sun 11am-6pm, Thurs 11am-9pm. Tel: 722735. Fax: 722573. Email: generalenquiry@moma.demon.co.uk

ALISON TURNBULL: HOUSES INTO FLATS / Images of buildings originating in architectural drawings / Ends 22nd April / Museum of Modern Art, Pembroke Street

JOHN HARLAND / New paintings / Ends 22nd April / Museum of Modern Art, Pembroke Street

OXFORD/FILM FILMS AND PHOTOS / Part of the RAP project / 10am-7pm / 220, Cowley Rd

EDUCATION SHOW / Covering all aspects of education. / Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxford. Tel: 01993 811325

THEATRICAL NEEDS

DIRECTOR / MUSICAL DIRECTOR needed for Trinity production of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'The Mikado'. Contact gands@sable.ox.ac.uk by 5th week.

DAILY INFORMATION OXFORD MAPS

CENTRAL (To Station, Wolfson, Magdalen Bridge & Folly Bridge) & GREATER (To Ring Road).

Should your organisation appear on the next edition of these maps? Does its current status need alteration?

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Saturday 3rd February 10am - 5pm

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TO LET

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LARGE ROOM, SUMMERTOWN house. £295 inclusive. Tel: 01865-514677.

BEDSITTING ROOM, SELF contained, fully-equipped, warm, quiet (Summertown). Pay phone, launderette, small garden/shed. £69 weekly. References (someone interested in deeper sides of life). Mrs Hall 01865-516158.

ACCOMMODATION IN HEADINGTON. Females preferred. Contact Catherine Quinton: 0207 7335283(w), 01865 760179 (w/e), 07714 674924, charlene@bavtreecentre.co.uk

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ROOM ST CROSS-ANNEXE, MARCH 01. Grads Bransesow / St. Cross Colleges: lazara@maths.ox.ac.uk

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2 GREAT ROOMS IN FRIENDLY professional house. sarah_stocks@yahoo.com

NORTH OXFORD, 2 bed furnished flat, £300 pcm inc. 513323

AVAILABLE 1ST MARCH One bedroom flat carpark. suryanishra@hotmail.com

LARGE ROOM IN friendly prof. live, Cowley, £320pcm 725044

LARGE DB. FAMILY HOUSE, Eynsham/Roadsdown/area. £310, tel 451366

LARGE ROOM IN Central House, previous applicants need not apply. 07740170939

SINGLEROOM(£270)CENTRAL HOUSE, NICE person preferred (m/young/prof) 243917

2 PROF FEMALES seek 2 others for houseshare, Louise: 07748648785

ROOM IN GORGEOUS house-James St(Off Cowley Rd), £266pcm. 01865463450, mthompson10@hotmail.com

ROOM (CENTRAL, SHARED) house avail mid feb. Suit postgrad. Dan: Woodford@svw200.com

GREAT DOUBLE ROOM Divinity Rd, Cowley only £60pw inc call Badr: 0775625566

ROOM NEAR CITY Centre Tel: 07050228738

TWO ROOMS E Oxford friendly shared house good value £215pm 725274 mvarrow@excite.co.uk

UNFURNISHED ROOM SUMMERTOWN, in friendly shared house £250pcm bills Eleanor: 07803004652

1 ROOM COWLEY shared house £300pcm including bills Kevin: 07788475492

FREE ROOM IN Headington from May for female £327 bills evenings

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JOBS WANTED

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WEB DEVELOPMENT AND Design...ASP, XML, HTML, Flash, stefanos1@yahoo.com or 07880636174

JOBS OFFERED

RECEPTIONIST FOR HIGH CLASS, well-established small city centre hotel. Part and full time considered. Computer skills and pleasant manner essential. Telephone Yolanda or Kathleen 01865-791812.

KIN'S SCHOOL OXFORD based in Cowley require evening cleaners (8.00pm - 8.00pm) £15 per hour. Contact Bursar on Oxford 711829 - Office Hours

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED For a few hours each week for our Focus Challenge programme. We work with teams of young people taking on projects in their communities. Please call Elaine on 01865-316559.

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATOR FOR A US overseas study programme. Recent graduate or similar preferred, in smoking office (non-smoking room available), centre of Oxford. About £18,000 depending on experience. 30-40 hours a week. Flexible. Please send CV to Dr Richardson, Flat 8, Temnyson Lodge, Paradise Square, OX1 1UD.

OU G & S Society presents

The Pirates of Penzance

by W.S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan

St John's College Auditorium

Tuesday 30th Jan - Saturday 3rd Feb

8pm (Sat mat. 2.30)

Tickets from 798600 or on door.

BANDS, DISCOS, LIGHTS

DISCO, PA & LIGHTING equipment - hire and sales. 118 Cowley Road, 722027.

BANDS, DISCO, KARAOKE. Equipment hire from ODS, (01865) 736960.

DISCO, KARAOKE AND EQUIPMENT HIRE - Dave Seamer Entertainments, (01865) 240054.

REVIEW: THEATRE

The Ruffian on the Stair, by Joe Orton

Burton Taylor Theatre until Saturday 3rd

You may have seen the posters for *The Ruffian on the Stair* - a goldfish inside a condom? The same goldfish lies suspiciously still in his bowl for most of this short one scene play. But it's about the only thing that does stay still. Joe Orton's first play, written in 1963, revolves around the squalid lives of Mike (Mike Lovatt), Joyce, his live-in girlfriend (Katherine Rushton), and 'the Ruffian', Wilson (Rob Riddell). Being Orton's first play, and least well known, it could be seen as a breeding ground for the later blackly satirical writing which was to earn him the title of "the Oscar Wilde of welfare state gentry". Not quite so startling as his other work, but not without some little shining gems (the opening line being a good example: "I'm to be at King's Cross station at eleven. I'm meeting a man in the toilets"). Despite all its clever talk, the play is basically about the fear of solitude and rejection amidst the everyday activities of sexual indecency and murder.

The male cast do well to convey a sense of near brutal misogyny at times, buffered by the very empathically played Joyce. Joyce is an ex-prostitute who veers from intense bravery to scary levels of stupidity, and who, despite the very male focus of the play actually utters the majority of the hilarious lines. Mr. Lovatt and Mr. Riddell seemed slightly less able than Ms. Rushton to ignore the raucous audience, but then we were virtually sitting on their knees in the tiny arena. Orton wrote of *The Ruffian* that all pauses should be natural and that "pace, pace, pace" was important. At times, the pace was slightly too slow, but when it picked up there was many a brilliant comical moment. The music, written for the play by Dominic de Cogan, was suitably lively and initially captured the clown-like quality of Orton's writing.

Apparently the set should "produce a feeling of familiarity - yet with an odd dislocation". I don't know if it was the set so much, but I certainly left the theatre not knowing whether I actually found *The Ruffian* amusing or tragic, or whether I felt pity or anger towards the characters. Pretty good work for the production of a play written by an "enemy of order". And you'll have to see what happens to the goldfish at the end....

Angharad Rudkin, 30 / 1 / 01

CONTACTS

SINGLE, STRAIGHT MALE, 25, seeking kind, fun female. jay135@hotmail.com

CUTE, YOUNG, MASCULINE GAY GUY looking for discreet fun in ox_cabins@scandalmail.com

MALE-COUPLE HIGH CULTURE seeks same share arts country weekends travel gss@dmu.ac.uk Box 2721/1/01

GOOD LOOKING, 28, male with a pulse seeks caring lady 28 - deadmitshell@btinternet.com Box 2721/1/01

B/GAY MALE, 31, good looking, straight acting and discreet seeks similar. mikeg41@hotmail.com, Box 28/1/01/5

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WHO WANTS TO sell his dutch style bicycle? 01865/281347

SOLO VIOLINISTS NEEDED chamber concerts reha""1 network socialize professionalize gsc@dmu.ac.uk

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WANTED: MUSICIANS For sophisticated jazz and blues band. 07855 182368

WANTED: SMALL CHEAP dishwasher d.roberts@physics.ox.ac.uk

CENTRAL LONDON BEDSIT studio occasional use for paying Oxford researcher gss@dmu.ac.uk

1/2 SIZE VIOLIN WANTED with case and bow. whithead@btinternet.com

REQUIRED REQUIRED REQUIRED: punk/rock bassist/drumist 07977290440

FOR SALE

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ARMCHAIR FOOT STOOL: £115, 6 months old. farwell_sab@hotmail.com, 01235525767

