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Next issue Thur 8th November  
Deadline 10am, Wed 7th Nov.

WEDNESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2001

COMING

AS THE FIRST in a series of three events entitled 'Criminal Minds', Blackwell's is proud to host Minette Walters, presented by the popular local crime novelist, Jane Jakeman. Minette will be appearing at Blackwell's, 50 Broad Street, Oxford, on Wednesday 7th November at 7.30pm, promoting her latest title, 'Acid Row'. Tickets are £1 and are available from Customer Services, Blackwell's, 50 Broad Street, Oxford. Tel: 01865 333623.

THE FACULTY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE PRESENTS:  
**CARYL PHILLIPS**  
The novelist Caryl Phillips reads from and talks about his work.  
**ALL WELCOME**  
Thursday 8th November Lecture Theatre 2  
(week 5) at 5.15 pm St. Cross Building

REVIEW: THEATRE

the red shoes

by Hans Christian Anderson, Adapted by Emma Rice

The Oxford Playhouse,  
To Wednesday 7th November

Emma Rice's adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's macabre fairytale, 'The Red Shoes', a Kneehigh Theatre production, is the macabre fairytale of a girl who is given a pair of luscious red shoes, which eventually lead her to her death through dancing, and all that dancing represents.

The cast consists of six actors: one female and five males. The story is played out by the 'chorus', five of the actors, who take turns to play different characters from the fairytale, as opposed to having a set character each. These five are led by a mythical cabaret MC figure and dream-weaver, a flamboyant drag queen, and almost as if they were chess pieces or very willing puppets, they are chosen and moved around by her. She watches on, as we do, as they tell the story.

The performance begins with the house lights still up and the grubby-vested, underpants-clad troupe of five (the chorus) climbing onto the stage and washing their feet in tin baths, drying them off and putting on matching pairs of heavy black shoes. At that point, the MC arrives, the house lights go down and the show begins.

The dances were mesmerizing, and reminded us of the darker more magical meaning behind the story, as did the music. There were lots of tricks that seemed quite superfluous to the action, but added to the colour of the performance as a whole.

This was a delightful mixture of what you would look for in a film by Baz Luhrman (Strictly Ballroom, Romeo and Juliet, Moulin Rouge) and what you expect if you were going to see some contemporary dance. In short, it is very funny and mad as well as being quite serious and beautiful.

Pip Johnson 5/11/01

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CINEMA

To Thursday 8th November

Odeon Magdalen St 0870 5050007

THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE(15)  
Wed&Thur: 12.00, 2.45, 5.45, 8.30  
Coen brothers' latest.

THE OTHERS(15)  
Wed&Thur: 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45  
Nicole Kidman gets spooked...

Odeon George St 0870 5050007

AMERICAN PIE 2(15)  
Wed&Thur: 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45  
The teenage search for sex continues

ENIGMA (15) Daily: 11.30, 5.30  
Against-the-clock code-breaking drama.

AMELIE (15) Daily: 2.30, 8.30  
From the director of 'Delicatessen'

MOULIN ROUGE (12) Wed&Thur: 5.30, 8.30  
Sumptuous musical hedonism.

LEGALLY BLONDE(12)  
Wed&Thur: 1.30, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00  
Reese Witherspoon becomes unlikely law student

AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS (12)  
Wed&Thur: 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45  
Romantic comedy.

ATLANTIS (U) Wed&Thur: 12.30, 3.00  
Search for the lost continent

GABRIEL & ME (15)  
Wed&Thurs: 2.00, 4.15, 6.45, 9.10  
Boy dreams of becoming angel

HANNIBAL(18) Wed: Doors 10.15am, Film 10.45  
Senior screen, includes refreshments.

Ultimate Picture Palace 245288

FIGHT CLUB(18) Wed&Thur: 10.30pm  
Madness, anarchy and soap.

BLADE RUNNER(15) Wed&Thur: 8.15  
Ridley Scott's futuristic thriller

ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER(PG)  
Wed&Thur: 6.00  
Captive's true story

Phoenix Picture House 512526

AMELIE (15) Wed&Thur: 2.00, 4.20, 9.10  
From the director of 'Delicatessen'

THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE(15)  
Daily: 1.40, 4.00, 6.30(not Wed), 9.00  
Coen brothers' latest

AIMEE AND JAGUAR(15) Wed&Thur: 6.40  
Atmospheric WWII-drama

ONE DAY IN SEPTEMBER (15) Wed: 6.30  
Documentary of Middle-East upheaval. Includes Q&A with the producer.

THE WITCHFINDER GENERAL(15) Thur: 11.30pm  
Persecution of single cat-owners by travelling baddie.

THE IRON LADIES (15) Wed: 11.30pm  
Adventures of a gay volleyball team (sort of).

Trinity College 279900

BLOOD ON THE CROSS Thur: 8.30  
Oxford West Papua Friendship Society

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THEATRE

Playhouse 798600

THE RED SHOES Mon 5th - Wed 7th Nov: 7.30  
Adapted from Hans Christian Anderson by Emma Rice

Apollo 0870 6063500

CINDERELLA Mon 5th - Sat 10th: 7.30  
Thur & Sat Mats: 2.30

English National Ballet

Old Fire Station 794490

ANIMAL CRAC ERS Tue 6th - Sat 10th: 7.30  
Sat Mat: 2.30

Marx Brothers Mayhem

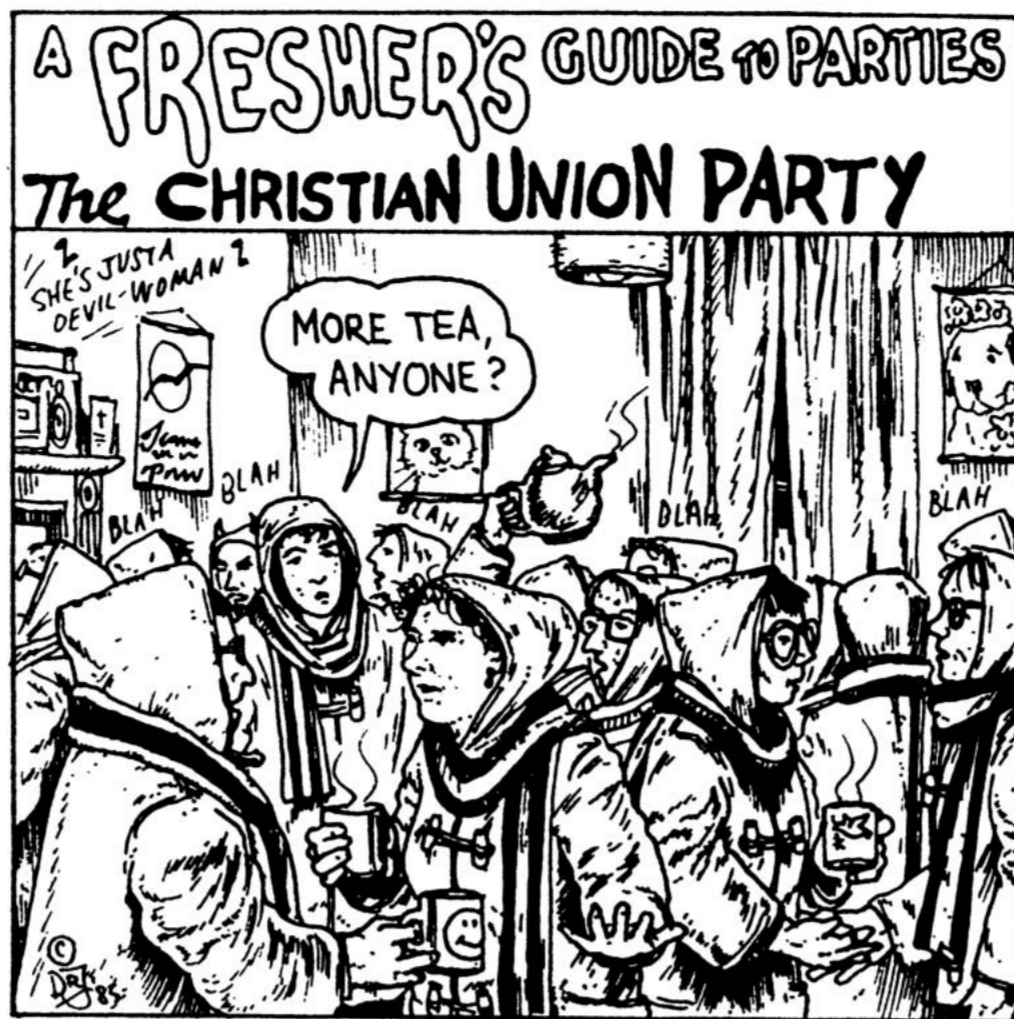
Burton Taylor 793797

CUPPERS DRAMA FESTIVAL Tue 6th - Sat 10th: All Day

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Pegasus Theatre 722851

TODAY'S SPECIAL Thur 8th: 8.00  
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GRADUATE SEEKS MRS robinson. Anyone out there? jsk102@hotmail.com  
LOOKING FOR TWO men matsudaaa@hotmail.com  
GAY31, NEW 2 AREA, LOOKING for people to go out with. roalbo47@hotmail.com  
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Wednesday 7th November

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CAT EA LE / Open mic with poets/singers and dancers (£3.50) / Doors 8pm / Wheatheaf, 129, High St  
LOS HOMBRES / Latin guitars / 11pm-2am / Freud, Walton Street / Tel: 311171

CONCERTS

Wednesday 7th November

PHILIP RUSHFORTH Organ Recital / Free / 1.10pm / The Queen's College, High St / Tel: 279194

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REVIEW: THEATRE

Cinderella

Apollo Theatre, to Saturday 10th

The English National Ballet company is one of England's most popular touring companies, and on the strength of this performance, it's not hard to see why. For their Cinderella, based on Serge Prokofiev's 1945 score, provides a typically lavish and entertaining night at the ballet.

The production takes several steps back from the Disney-popularised version of Cinderella: gone are the galumphing ugly sisters, replaced by a far more haughty, elegant duo; the father is restored to the hearth, yet cruelly cut off from his daughter by the exertions of his new wife; and the ballet incorporates several ethereal set-pieces, such as the changing seasons in a moonlit forest, or the Prince's nightmare of temptation by exotic princesses.

MEETINGS

Wednesday 7th November

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST / Service, with readings and testimonies. / 7.30pm / 36 St Giles / Tel: 557605

CRIMINAL MINDS (see 'Coming') / Minette Walters speaks of her new book, 'Acid Row' (£1) / 7.30pm / GoodBean Coffee Shop, 50 Broad Street

FRENCH POETRY EVENING / Nicole Gore will read poems by Aragon (in French) / Free / 8.30pm / Maison Francaise, Northam Rd / Tel: 274220

PEEP: THE EARLY EDUCATION PROJECT / Discussion of PEEP team's research regarding effective tools to enhance childhood development / 8pm / Port Mahon, St. Clement's

'THE MILLING REVOLUTION: A 19TH-CENTURY SUCCESS STORY' / György Balázs, deputy director of the Ethnographical Museum, Budapest / 8pm / Oriol College, Oriol Square / Tel: 276555

'LATENT IMAGES: BRASSÁI AND THE PROUSTIAN CAMERA EYE' / Ramona Fontaine, University of Glasgow / 5.15pm / Maison Francaise, Northam Rd / Tel: 274220

HEALTHY LIVING SUPPER CLUB / Cookery demo & buffet supper / 7-9pm / 43 St. Giles / Tel: 379751



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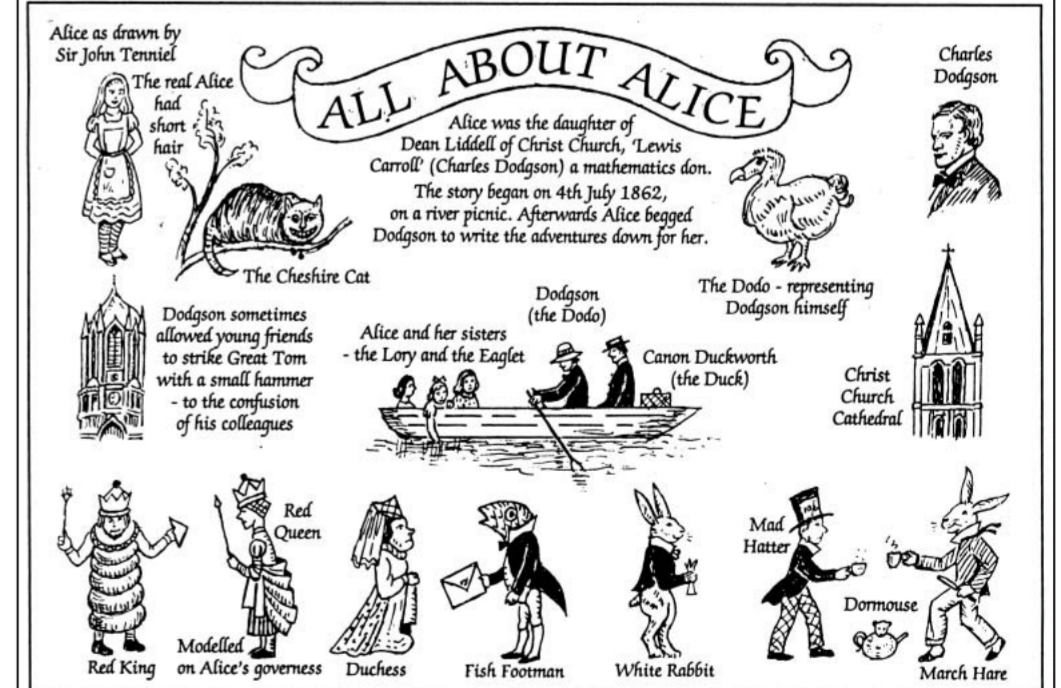
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The strength of the dancing is of course the main draw. Cinderella glides effortlessly - a truly beautiful dancer - yet it is her two stepsisters who are provided with the most interesting, expressive, and frequently comedic choreography. They perform their roles with vigour and skill, and truly manage to 'act' with their feet. Aside from a few minor glitches, the rest of the company provide strong support, and it is definitely the company dances that provide the highlights of the ballet. It is in these parts that the spectacle of the production really stands out (with 540 sequins on each star's tutu, the eye cannot fail to be dazzled), and indeed it is hard for the third act not to seem rather anti-climactic compared to the ballroom scenes of its predecessor.

Come-down aside, I was enthralled by this little piece of fairytale magic.

Eavan Buckley 5/11/01

OXFORD HISTORY



1. Charles Dodgson gave Alice a handwritten copy of 'Alice's Adventures Underground' with his own drawings, for Christmas 1864. The version with which most of us are familiar, published a year later, was illustrated by Sir John Tenniel (1820-1914), who was a Punch artist.

2. It was agreed with Tenniel that his illustrations should not resemble the real Alice, whose hair was short and dark. Photographs and a portrait by Dodgson show an intelligent, serious little girl with deep set eyes & heart shaped chin, quite unlike the popular image of Alice. Tenniel caricatured himself in his drawings of the White Knight.

3. It is thought that hatters had a tendency to mental deterioration because of the toxic effects of the mercury they used to weight hat bands.

4. The original stuffed Dodo, in the Tradesant Collection at the Ashmolean since 1683, became infested with moths. The remains (the feet and a few feathers) are now in the University Museum.

6. The manuscript was sold by Alice in 1928 to an American dealer for £15,400. It was subsequently presented back to the British Museum by the Americans in 1948 'as the slightest token of recognition for the fact that they held off Hitler while we got ready for the war'.

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