

Thu 24th - Fri 25th November 2005 (7th Week)

WHAT'S ON / COMING SOON

Friday 25 November 8pm - Sheldonian Theatre Oxford Philomusica Alicia Grant Centrifuge Rachmaninoff Variations on a theme by Paganini Sibelius Symphony no 5

Celebration of St. Cecilia Handel: Ode to St Cecilia. The King Shall Rejoice; Pergolesi: Magnificat; Monteverdi: Beatus Vir; Vivaldi: Dixit Dominus Cherwell Singers/Oxford Sinfonia Saturday 26th November 8.00pm University Church

International Guitar Virtuoso Craig Ogden The Alpha Chamber Orchestra Louise Cannon (Soprano) Saturday 26th November Jaqueline du Pre Music Building, Cowley Place Tickets £15/£10 01865-305305 www.ticketsoxford.com

JACQUELINE JOHNSON - CELLO & TALLIS BARKER - PIANO, play Beethoven, Debussy, Rachmaninov. "Played superbly..." - Oxford Times. Saturday 26 November 7.30pm, Holywell Music Room. Tickets £10 / £8 from 305305

TANGO LESSONS, SATURDAYS, OXFORD. Dine and dance with guest artists. 7.30pm. Ring Ed 07814 904445.

BIODANZA Introductory Workshop: The South American way to health & wellbeing through movement, music & rhythm. 12-5pm £25/£20

EMAIL: tessbiobanza@yahoo.co.uk. East Oxford Community Centre, Princes Street. Tel: 792168. Tess - 0117 9240596, Patsy: 01865 205368



CINEMA Until Fri Nov 25th

Vue Cinema (0870 444 3030)

THE LIBERTINE [18] Thu: 1.45, 4.15, 7.00, 9.20pm, Fri: 11.30pm Johnny Depp debauches himself. STONEY [15] Thu: 3.45, 8.45pm Stones' former road to the swimming pool. HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE [12A] Fri: 12.30, 1.30, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, 11.00pm A new and hotter Potter.

THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE [15] Thu: 9.40pm A German student believes she is possessed. WALLACE & GROMIT IN THE CURSE OF THE WEREBABBIT [U] Cracking marrow, Gromit! Thu: 12.00, 2.15, 4.30, Fri: 2.15, 4.30pm The mark is back. THE BROTHERS GRIMM [12A] Terry Gilliam's Grimm tales are back on the big screen.

THE CONSTANT GARDENER [15] Thu: 2.40, 5.15, 8.00pm Le Carré on the big screen with Rachel Weisz. IN HER SHOES [12A] Thu: 2.50, 5.30, 8.15pm, Fri: 6.45, 9.40pm Sisters Cameron Diaz and Toni Collette come to terms with each other in 130 minutes. KISS KISS BANG BANG [15] Sex, murder, mystery. Welcome to the party. CORPSE BRIDE [PG] Under marital animation from Tim Burton. Thu: 12.15pm

NANNY MCPHEE [U] Thu: 11.30am, 2.00, 4.45, 7.15pm Edinburgh child taming with Emma Thompson. THE LEGEND OF ZORRO [PG] The mask is back. Mrs Henderson Presents [12A] The story of a pre-WWII theatrical entrepreneur. Fri: 1.45, 4.45, 7.00, 9.15pm SAW 2 [18] People meet a variety of grisly ends in a booby-trapped shelter. FLIGHTPLAN [12A] Neo-Hitchcock with Jodie Foster. Fri: 1.00, 3.30, 5.45, 8.15, 10.30pm

Phoenix Picture House (512526) KISS KISS BANG BANG [15] Thu: 2.00, 6.30pm Thriller: thievery and double-crossing in LA. THE BEAT THAT MY HEART SKIPPED [15] Thu: 4.15, 8.45pm Explosive French thriller. FACTORY [15] Thu: 4.30, 6.45, 9.00pm A thriller.

Mrs Henderson Presents [12A] Judi Dench & Bob Hoskins in wartime comedy-drama. FUTURE SHORTS [15] Short films from around the world. THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES [15] Fri: 11.30pm The rather beautiful Gael Garcia Bernal as the young Che Guevara touring South America. THE CONSTANT GARDENER [15] Fri: 1.00, 3.30, 5.45, 8.15pm, 8.45pm Ralph Fiennes seeks his wife's murderers across several continents.

Ultimate Picture Palace (245288) APARAJITO (The Unvanquished) [U] Approved for children under 11. 1957 sequel to "Pather Panchaj". Thu: 7.00pm NOWHERE IN AFRICA [15] Fri: 9.15pm German Jewish refugees family moves to & adjusts to a farm life in 1930s Kenya. A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE [18] Fri: 9.30pm A quiet small town, a quiet friendly bartender. What lurks beneath? BREATHLESS (A BOUT DE SOUFFLE) [PG] Fri: 11.30pm Young criminal goes on the run with US girlfriend in seminal 60s New Wave film. CRASH [15] Fri: 7.00pm Clever exploration of race relations in LA.

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007) HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE [12A] Thu and Fri: 12.00, 1.00, 3.30, 4.00, 7.30, 8.00pm The one with the inter-school wizarding championship. WALLACE & GROMIT IN THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT [U] Cracking marrow, Gromit! Thu: 12.40, 3.00, 5.30pm

review on dailyinfo.co.uk

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GIGS

Thu 24th FORMALDEHYDE + THE WOODIN SHADES / 8pm / Kiss Bar, 9 Park End Street DRUM N BASS - CYANTIFIC / DJ Cyantific - Hospital Records. Supported by Jibba, Rogue and Azonica. / 9pm-2am £5 (E4 food / gig) / Email: drumbabydrum@hotmail.co.uk / baby love bar. 3 King Edward Street, Oxford (off High St @ Oddbins). Tel: 01865 200011 SKA CUBANO / 11-piece Latin Ska Bonanza return with their incendiary live show! / Skylarkin' Soundsystem / 7.30pm - late. £12.50 adv / Email: dalton@tommykneeps.com / www.skabonanzano.com / The Zodiac. 190 Cowley Road, Tel: 420042; Web: www.the-zodiac.co.uk

Fri 25th

THE WEEKEND GUITAR TRIO / 3 exceptionally skilled Estonian guitarists from diverse backgrounds / Oxford Contemporary Music / 7.45pm, £13.50 (£9 conc) / Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, St. Hilda's College, Cowley Place. Tel: 276821; THE ATTIKA STATE - UNSUNG HERO + DAVID LOPAN / 8pm, Fri / Oxford Brookes Univ. / Bistro, White Hart, North End SMILEX + A SILENT FILM (EX SHOUTING MYM) + SYLOSIS (EX JOR) + LAST PROPOSAL + RETRIBUTION / 7pm, £4 / The Net, Abingdon ORIGINAL / Soul, Funk & Jazz with Disco Darrell + Guest DJs / 9pm till late, free! / Email: dcs2263@yahoo.co.uk / Cricketers Arms, 43, Ifley Rd, Tel: 427505

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THEATRE Until Sat Nov 26th

Oxford Playhouse (305305) GUYS AND DOLLS Mon 21st - Sat 26th Oxford Operatic Society - classic gangster musical. £10 - £15. 7.30pm + 2.30 Sat Pegasus Theatre (722851) SYNERGY LIVE Thu 24th & Fri 25th: 7.30pm Four nationally-acclaimed visual arts acts. £8 (£5.50) TRIPLE-CITY-3 Dance, music and film. £5.50 (£3.50) Sat 26th: 7.30pm

Old Fire Station Theatre (297170) MEASURE FOR MEASURE Tue 22nd - Sat 26th: 7.30pm Shakespeare's tale of virtue or lack thereof. £8.50 (£6.50) also Sat 2.30pm

Burton Taylor Theatre (305305) THE WELL OF THE SAINTS Tue 22nd - Sat 26th: 7.30pm Two blind beggars receive the gift of sight. Exploration of reality vs. illusion. £5 (£4) A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION TO TIME Tue 22nd - Sat 26th Comic foray into the nature of love, death and redemption. £5 (£4) 9.30pm

Moser Theatre, Wadham College THE SORCERER Thu 24th - Sat 26th: 7.30pm Lesser-known early Gilbert & Sullivan about a travelling spell salesman. £6 (£4)

BMW Group Plant (01865 245745) SNOW QUEEN Tue 22nd - Sat 26th and beyond... Creation Theatre Sparking Mashow £19.50 (£18.50) daily: 7.30pm, Sat 2.30pm

Café Nero, High St (07720 052572) THE VIRGIN STUDENT Thu 24th, 9pm One girl's quest to lose her virginity in the last two weeks at University. £5

The Wheatsheaf (07720 052572) THE VIRGIN STUDENT Fri 25th, 7.30pm One girl's quest to lose her virginity in the last two weeks at University. £5

Kent Theatre, Henley-on-Thames A DOLL'S HOUSE Tue 22nd - Sat 26th Frank McGuinness's new version. £9 (£7) daily: 7.30pm, Sat 2.30pm

Waddesdon Manor (01296 653226) CURIOUS AND CURIOUS Fri 25th - Sun 27th Opera anywhere presents an Opera Pantomime £11 - £14 daily: 7pm

Islip Village Hall (07770 319131) INSTANT WIT! Fast-paced, off-the-cuff humour from Arts at Large. £15, £7, £5 Fri 25th, 7.30pm

Morrell Room, Stratley (01491 873530) ARISTOPHANES'S LYSISTRATA Wed 23rd - Sat 26th, 8pm Women seize the Acropolis to stop the 17 year Athens vs. Sparta war. £7 (£6)

Stonesfield Village Hall (01993 891560) OLIVER! Wed 23rd - Sat 26th, 7.30pm Stonesfield Players present the much-loved musical. £7 (£4) also Sat 2pm

review on dailyinfo.co.uk

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OXFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SERVICES Graduate Library Trainee Open Day. 8th December 2005. Come and find out about our excellent Graduate Library Trainee Programme. Our one year posts are suitable for Graduates intending to undertake a postgraduate library/information course. We offer the opportunity to experience world class collections and services and to attend a specially tailored training programme. For more information see www.ouls.ox.ac.uk/staff/home/staff_dev/trainees/recruitment_06-07

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The Sunday Times Independent School of the Year MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL OXFORD 670 boys, aged 7-18

Magdalen College School Oxford English Required from September 2006, a newly qualified or experienced teacher to teach from Year 7 to A level and Oxbridge at this thriving, academic day school. Salary includes MCS 10% allowance and relocation expenses of £2,000 to those on point 2 or below. A willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities will be advantageous. Letter of application, full CV and details of two referees should be sent to the Master (from whom full details may be obtained) by the closing date of Friday 2nd December 2005.

Chemist Required from 1st September 2006, a bright capable graduate to teach Chemistry throughout the senior school (11-18), including A level. Are you a Chemistry finalist or postgraduate? Have you considered teaching but don't want to do a PGCE just yet? Starting salary: £22,000 p.a. (plus a one-off start-up payment of £2,000) Please telephone the Master's PA on 01865 242191 for further details, or email her at ibeam02@mcsosford.org Closing date for applications: Friday 25th November 2005

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THEATRE REVIEW A Very Short Introduction To Time At The Burton Taylor until 26th November At the heart of this short piece is a struggle between good and evil, with a suggested twist. It opens, however, with an unnamed male character asleep on a table. He wakes unsure of his surroundings. Thanks to the arrival into his room of a young woman, we soon discover this is because he has lost his memory. At first, the woman's role is ambiguous. She could in her first few lines be a young professional therapist - albeit one lacking in confidence. It soon turns out that she is the young man's ex-partner. This is revealed when in an unprompted miracle his amnesia is cured. In fact he has more than recovered. He now has full recollection of all that went before and of the events and differences that caused him to be where they are now. The young man is suddenly enraged and in the ensuing argument kills his one time lover with a knife which has been conveniently left on the table - along with a packet of cigarettes, matches and an ashtray. Needless to say anger turns to guilt.

Enter a man in search of a symbol; a man who wants to be a shepherd of people. This godly figure is a little unsure of himself but almost manages to persuade the murderer that he can be saved in spite of his crime. Unfortunately, salvation involves a second murder - that of the shepherd himself. This will not only bring back the dead girl but allow all three of them to live as one big happy family. The thought of killing for a second time, not surprisingly, causes revulsion and doubt in the young man. Cue a man who preys on doubting souls. He enters only to introduce himself as Jesus. This devil (for he surely is one) has all the best lines - a factor which unfortunately has no bearing on the outcome of the play.

The battle between good and evil can provide a sound basis for drama. Unfortunately, in this case it is not as well executed as it might be. In the first instance, the circumstances of the rift between the male and female characters is vague and never spelled out. There is a sense of a power struggle, but the audience has to suspend a considerable amount of disbelief in order to accept that murder was a likely outcome. Apart from that, none of the characters is solidly defined. This is partly the problem of the acting, which with the exception of the devil, was pretty unremarkable, and partly due to the language of the play. While there has been an attempt to give the shepherd and the devil individual voices, the whole production is confused by what appears to be unrefined improvisation.

During last night's performance there must have been well of 200 utterances of 'OK'; many of them in quick succession and sometimes meaning different things. There was also a repetition of lines which suggested the actors didn't know where to take the characters next. Consequently, the language just didn't work hard enough and, in the first half in particular, it lowered rather than heightened the drama. Inside there is probably a good play waiting to get out, but for the moment it needs a lot more work. Jacqueline Walkden 23/11/2005

MEETINGS AND LECTURES Thu 24th GUILLAUME APOLLINAIRE AND THE GREEN MOUSE. THE ROLE OF CHILDREN'S RHYMES. / Prof. W Bothy, Illinois State University, speaks on surrealist poetry. / 5pm, fee payable for non-University members / Lecture Room XXIII, Balliol College CLIMATE CHANGE PUBLIC MEETING / Caroline Lucas - will politicians ever save us from climate change? / Climate Outreach Info Network / 7pm-9pm. Doors open 6.30. Free / Email: info@coinet.org.uk / Web: http://coinet.org.uk/speakers / Oxford Town Hall. 109-113 St Aldate's; Tel: 252195

OPEN DOOR DROP-IN CENTRE. Drop-in centre for refugees & asylum seekers, relax, mingle, network / Open Door / 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. / East Oxford Community Centre, Princes Street, Tel: 792168 'CLOSELY OBSERVED INFANTS' / Judith Brody talks about paediatric psychoanalyst Renee Arpad Spitz / Oxford Hungarian Society / 8 p.m / Email: hungoc@hungoc.com / Web: http://hungoc.com / Oriel College MacGregor Room SPEEDWELL SUPPORT GROUP / For anyone with serious illness interested in complementary therapies / Speedwell & Well Being / 11.30am - 1.30pm / Email: speedwellbeing@tiscali.co.uk / Web: www.speedwellbeing.org.uk / Friends' Meeting House, 43 St Giles; Tel: 01865 557373

READING GROUP IN JERICO / Reviewing Niall Griffiths' intense, guttural debut 'Grits' / 8.00 pm / Email: esbooks@hotmail.com / The Harcourt Arms

Fri 25th INTRODUCTION TO IMPRESSIONISM / Lunchtime Gallery Talk. Booking recommended. / 1.15pm £2 / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street. Opening times: Tue-Sat 10-5, Thu-7, Sun 12-5, Bank Hol Mns 10-5; Tel: 278000; Fax: 278018; Web: http://www.ashmolean.org.uk

THE BODLEIAN LECTURES / An Architectural Insight into the Facade of the Bodleian Library / Architecture Oxford / FREE! 5.00pm Friday 25th Nov / Outside the entrance of Hertford College, (opposite the Bodleian's main entrance)

MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL OXFORD English Required from September 2006, a newly qualified or experienced teacher to teach from Year 7 to A level and Oxbridge at this thriving, academic day school. Salary includes MCS 10% allowance and relocation expenses of £2,000 to those on point 2 or below. A willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities will be advantageous. Letter of application, full CV and details of two referees should be sent to the Master (from whom full details may be obtained) by the closing date of Friday 2nd December 2005. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD, OX4 1DZ. Tel: 01865 242191 Email: master@mcsosford.org

Museum of the History of Science Broad Street, Oxford has a two-month vacancy for an Outreach Assistant linked to the current exhibition of astrolabes. Closing date for applications: 2 December Full details on the Museum's website, see link at www.mhs.ox.ac.uk

GRILL CHEF required by Quod Restaurant, ideally with similar experience of working in a busy kitchen using fresh ingredients. £7 ph plus bonus and benefits. Please call Sophia on 01865 799591 or e-mail sophie@oldbank-hotel.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD Department of Psychiatry CAN FOOD AFFECT MOOD? We are trying to find out if natural proteins with a high tryptophan content can improve well being. The study involves taking a single protein drink, followed by some computer tasks. We are looking for female volunteers aged between 18 and 50, and with English as their 1st language, to take part. Re-imbursment for time and inconvenience is provided. If you are interested please contact Dr Anne Carbonnier (e-mail anne.carbonnier@psych.ox.ac.uk). 05/Q1606/109 vs 3 16.8.05

THEATRE REVIEW Measure for Measure - William Shakespeare At the Old Fire Station until Saturday 26th November Measure for Measure is one of Shakespeare's less frequently performed plays. It follows the events which unfold in Vienna after Duke Vincentio (Leon Harlow) absents himself, leaving the city in the care of his deputy Angelo (Neil Boyd). Angelo institutes a reign of puritanical terror, harshly enforcing the city's strict laws against fornication. This results in a man named Claudio (Shane Sibbel) being condemned to death, and his sister Isabella (Sian Robins-Grace) having to plead with the deputy for his life. Angelo, upon seeing Isabella, loosens his strict morals just enough to make her an indecent proposal, and so events unfold.

The play is a complex one, by turns comic and sober, touching upon such grand themes as death, sin, and liberty. The character of the Duke is particularly difficult to deal with - he is on the one hand the benevolent figure who sets everything to rights, and on the other hand the maniacal romp full of comedy prostitutes, and a serious analysis of the twin dangers of tyranny and anarchy. With a play this complex, it is easy for a production to lose its focus, and sadly that seems to have happened here. The play lacks cohesion, on all levels. Nobody seems to have been entirely sure what they actually wanted to do with the play. There are a lot of fragments of ideas that crop up, but are not properly followed through - the use of modern pop and rock music to introduce some scenes, for example, implies an intent to make the piece contemporary in feel, but if this was the case it was too sporadic to have any real impact.

The costumes are similarly inconsistent. The Duke, when disguised as a friar, wears a medieval looking black habit, whilst constable Elbow wears a nineteenth century policeman's outfit. The nobleman wear modern suits (although Lucio's outfit looks distinctly 1970s) while most of the rest of the cast seem almost to be wearing regular street clothes. The set design suffers from a similar problem. Autumn leaves strewn the stage for no readily apparent reason. The set consists otherwise of one bench, one chair, and one table, which the crew spend an inordinate amount of time moving. This directionless quality extends to the performances as well. Nobody is actively bad, but at no point do they really come together, at no point do you really think "ah, now I get what this play is about." You never really get to grips with who the characters are. Essentially, there's the constant impression that nobody is entirely sure what they are doing. The only notable exception to this is Sian Robins-Grace as Isabella. She gives a genuinely strong, very naturalistic performance, which stands head and shoulders above the other leading characters.

In short, then, the play makes a lot of strange decisions, none of which seem consistent with one another. Possibly strangest of all, however, is the decision to open after the interval with the Duke, dressed as a monk, sitting in Marianna's Moated Grange, singing what appears to be a soft rock anthem and accompanying himself on acoustic guitar. As always, the final question is: should I spend my time and money on this show. Unless you have strong reasons to do otherwise, I would suggest avoiding this one. Oxford student drama is capable of far, far better.

Dan Hemmens, 23/11/2005

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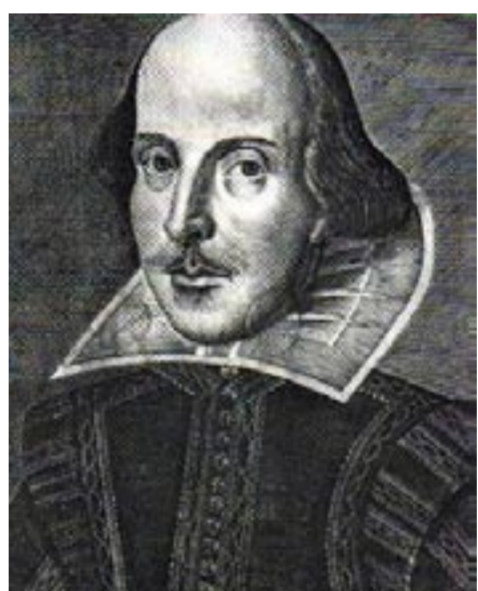
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THEATRE REVIEW

Measure for Measure - William Shakespeare At the Old Fire Station until Saturday 26th November



Measure for Measure is one of Shakespeare's less frequently performed plays. It follows the events which unfold in Vienna after Duke Vincentio (Leon Harlow) absents himself, leaving the city in the care of his deputy Angelo (Neil Boyd). Angelo institutes a reign of puritanical terror, harshly enforcing the city's strict laws against fornication. This results in a man named Claudio (Shane Sibbel) being condemned to death, and his sister Isabella (Sian Robins-Grace) having to plead with the deputy for his life. Angelo, upon seeing Isabella, loosens his strict morals just enough to make her an indecent proposal, and so events unfold.

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