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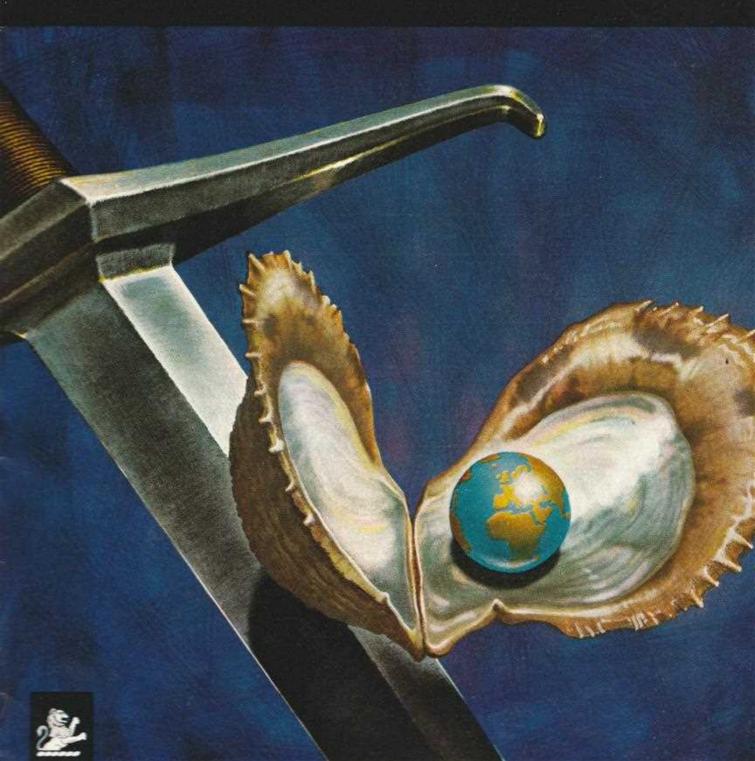
"Why, then the world's mine oyster, which I with sword will open"...

(Merry Wives of Windsor, II,2.)

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The 110th season of plays by William Shakespeare April to December 1969



The Winter's Tale

by William Shakespeare

The Cast

Juliet Aykroyd David Bailie John Berwyn Sydney Bromley Brenda Bruce Basil Clarke Judi Dench Lisa Harrow Janet Henfrey Denis Holmes Myles Hoyle Geoffrey Hutchings Philip Taylor Barrie Ingham

Alton Kumalo

Boyd Mackenzie Peter Messaline Richard Pasco Anthony Pedley Roger Rees Sam Rich Nicholas Selby Michael Shannon Susan Sheers Morgan Sheppard Derek Smith James Vallon Janet Whiteside

	Time	Alton Kumalo		
SICILIA		BOH	HEMIA	
Leontes the King	Barrie Ingham	Polixenes the King	Richard Pasco	
Hermione	Judi Dench	Florizel	David Bailie	
Mamillius	Sam Rich	Archidamus	John Berwyn	
Camillo	Nicholas Selby	Autolycus	Derek Smith	
Antigonus	Morgan Sheppard	Old Shepherd	Sydney Bromley	
Paulina	Brenda Bruce	Young Shepherd	Geoffrey Hutchings	
Cleomenes	Anthony Pedley	Perdita	Judi Dench	
Dion	Philip Taylor	Mopsa	Susan Sheers	
First Lord	Myles Hoyle	Dorcas	Lisa Harrow	
Second Lord	Michael Shannon	First Servant	Roger Rees	
Third Lord	Basil Clarke	Second Servant	Myles Hoyle	
Fourth Lord	Peter Messaline	Shepherds	John Berwyn Basil Clarke	
Fifth Lord	Roger Rees		Denis Holmes Alton Kumalo	
Officer	Denis Holmes		Boyd Mackenzie Peter Messaline	
Gaoler	Boyd Mackenzie		Anthony Pedley Michael Shannon	
Mariner	James Vallon	war (Missing)	Morgan Sheppard Philip Taylor	
Emilia	Janet Henfrey		James Vallon	
Ladies	Juliet Aykroyd Lisa Harrow	Shepherdesses	Juliet Aykroyd Janet Henfrey	
	Susan Sheers Janet Whiteside	THE STATE OF THE S	Janet Whiteside	

Designer Christopher Morley

Assistant Susan Allan
Workshop Administration Desmond Hall
Scenery Fred Jenkins Peter Pullinger
Properties William Lockwood
Scene Painting John Collins Wardrobe Management David Perry Costume Cutting Supervisor Joe Clark Costume Cutters Teresa Barker Norma Whittard Michael O Neil Costume Dyeing and Painting Dorothy Marshall Illinery and Accessories Jack Wilson Julian Gilbert Wigs Felicite Gillham

Director Trevor Nunn

Assistant Buzz Goodbody Movement John Broome Movement John Broome
Voice Cicely Berry
General Stage Manager Roger Howells
Stage Manager Roger Gregory
Deputy Stage Manager Jill Fraser (Book)
Assistant Stage Manager Julian Beech (Sound)
Assistant Stage Manager Frances Rilkin (Props)

Lighting John Bradley Christopher Morley

Composer Guy Woolfenden

Assistant Music Director Michael Tubbs Instrumentalists: Flute Richard Lee Trumpet Gordon Bennett Trumpet Trevor Green Trumpet Robert Pritchard Hom Peter Morris Hom David Statham Percussion Tony McVey Percussion Robin Weatherall Guitar Ray Cockerton Bass Gultar Robin Eve Oboe Stephen Nagy Trombone Gareth Richards

Basic staging and lighting scheme for the 1969 Stratford season: Christopher Morley

"And so, from hour to hour, we ripe and ripe, And then, from hour to hour, we rot and rot; And thereby hangs a tale."

THE WINTER'S TALE

Written: 1610/11 Published: First Folio, 1623

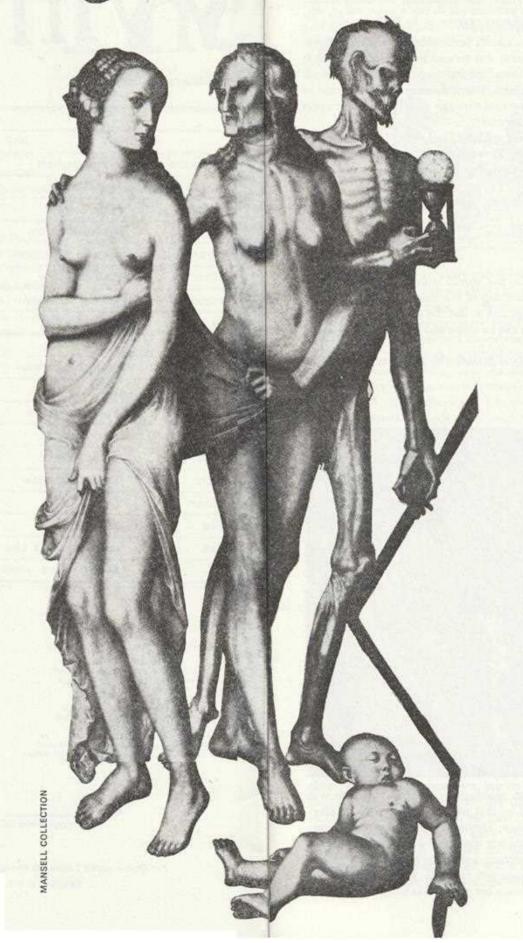
Source: Shakespeare found most of the tale in a prose romance, *Pandosto*, first published in 1588 and often reprinted. By Robert Greene, who when dying in 1592 had sneered at "the upstart crow, Shake-scene", its fuller title was:

Pandosto. The Triumph of Time. Wherein is discovered by a pleasant History, that although by the means of sinister fortune Truth may be concealed, yet by Time, in spite of fortune, it is most manifestly revealed. Pleasant for age to avoid drowsy thoughts, profitable for youth to eschew other wanton pastimes, and bringing both to a desired content. Temporis filia veritas.

Shakespeare's alteration of the tale added the characters of Autolycus, Paulina, Antigonus, Time, and others, and a happy ending instead of, in Greene's version, the suicide of Pandosto (Leontes) and the death of his wife.

Stage History: Simon Forman recorded that he saw the play performed by the King's Men in May, 1611. It was soon a favourite, played again in November that year, and one of the plays chosen to celebrate the marriage of the Princess Elizabeth in 1613. Frank Kermode (1963) speculates that it was a particularly suitable play for a company acting regularly both at court and before a wider public. Shakespeare, he thinks, "probably used in the fourth act dances that his company had performed under grander circumstances at court. He may also have had in mind the Blackfriars, his company's new indoor theatre, where from about 1609 they enjoyed the advantages of a smaller house with better music, good artificial lighting, scenes and machines, and an audience willing to pay six times the price of the cheapest place at the Globe. This was the time of the spectacular masques at the court of James I; Shakespeare's company were the King's Men; never had relations between court and stage been closer than now. They continued to play in the great outdoor theatre; but possibly the Blackfriars, where some of the courtly spectacle could be reproduced, had something to do with the vogue for extravagant romance stories.'

For 25 years after it was written, the play was often performed at court, and marked as "liked" by Charles I,



but a century of neglect followed. A performance of 1741 described itself as the first for a hundred years. New versions thereafter included Garrick's Florizel and Perdita. Kemble and Mrs Siddons acted the play later in the eighteenth century, and it was often performed by the Victorians, with spectacular adornments: one critic found that "the effect baffles description. The entire allegory may be pronounced the greatest triumph of art ever exhibited on the stage." Ellen Terry was nine years old when she played Mamillius for Charles Kean in 1856; fifty years later she played Hermione. Mary Anderson was much admired when she doubled the parts of Hermione and Perdita in 1887 (as in the present RSC production, for the first time since then, and to mirror the idea of mother and daughter as versions of the one theme). Macready, Irving, Beerbohm Tree and Granville Barker produced other notable performances. The play was last acted at Stratford in 1960, with Eric Porter (Leontes), Peggy Ashcroft (Paulina), Elizabeth Sellars (Hermione), and Jack MacGowran (Autolycus).

The Story: Leontes, King of Sicilia, suspects his wife Hermione of adultery with his life-long friend Polixenes, King of Bohemia. He has her new-born daughter taken to a desolate coast, and left there, by Antigonus, one of his lords.

The oracle of Apollo declares that Hermione is innocent, that Leontes is a jealous tyrant, and that he will die without an heir should he fail to recover the lost daughter. The oracle is confirmed by the (apparent) death of Hermione and the real death of Mamillius, Leontes's son. Reproached by Paulina, Antigonus's wife, and repenting of his obsessive jealousy, Leontes goes into mourning.

Antigonus has been killed by a bear, but the little daughter, Perdita, is found by country people who cherish her. She grows up beautiful and graceful. Florizel, son of Polixenes, falls in love with her and seeks to marry her without his father's knowing. Discovered by Polixenes, Florizel and Perdita run away. They reach Leontes's court, where it is proved that the girl is the lost princess. She is married to Florizel, Leontes is reconciled to Polixenes, and Hermione is revealed as still living.

"thou met'st with things dying...

AMONG all the passions wherewith human minds are perplexed, there is none that so galleth with restless despite as the infectious sore of jealousy: for all other griefs are either to be appeased with sensible persuasions, to be cured with wholesome counsel, to be relieved in want, or by tract of time to be worn out, jealousy only excepted which is so sauced with suspicious doubts and pinching mistrust, that whoso seeks by friendly counsel to rase out this hellish passion, it forthwith suspecteth that he giveth this advice to cover his own guiltiness. Yea, whoso is pained with this restless torment doubteth all, distrusteth himself, is always frozen with fear and fired with suspicion, having that wherein consisteth all his joy to be the breeder of his misery. Yea, it is such a heavy enemy to that holy estate of matrimony, sowing between the married couples such deadly seeds of secret hatred, as, love being once rased out by spiteful distrust, there oft ensueth bloody revenge, as this ensuing history manifestly proveth: wherin Pandosto, furiously incensed by causeless jealousy, procured the death of his most loving and loyal wife and his own endless sorrow and misery.

opening of Robert Greene's Pandosto (1588), Shakespeare's source for The Winter's Tale

Formerly, the cruelty, the meanness, the dusty fretful passion of human life seemed to me a little thing, set, like some resolved discord in music, amid the splendour of the stars and the stately procession of geological ages. What if the universe was to end in universal death? It was none the less unruffled and magnificent. But now all this has shrunk to be no more than my own reflection in the windows of the soul through which I look out upon the night of nothingness . . .

There is darkness without, and when I die there will be darkness within. There is no splendour, no vastness, anywhere; only triviality for a moment, and then nothing

Bertrand Russell (1968), remembering a "mood of pessimistic meditation"

The worst thing in the world is the passing of human affection . . . The thing of which I am speaking is the gradual weakening, and at last the severance, of human bonds . . . no man can be alone and live. None, not even in old age.

Grizzlebeard in Hilaire Belloc's The Four Men (1912)

RADIO TIMES HULTON



ABOVE: Cellini's bas-relief of Persephone and Hades, a myth which was in Shakespeare's mind when he was writing *The Winter's Tale*. Persephone (also known as Proserpina, and invoked by that name by Perdita in the play) was abducted by Hades, the god of the underworld, who loved her. Her mother, Demeter (also known as Ceres) goddess of the cornfields, forbade all fruits and herbs to grow on the earth until her daughter was restored to her. Zeus persuaded Hades to relinquish Persephone on condition that she had not already tasted the food of the dead. It was found that Persephone had eaten seven pomegranate seeds, and a compromise was reached: Persephone would spend three months a year with Hades in the underworld, and the other nine with her mother in the cornfields.

... I with things new born"

SHAKESPEARE never did anything finer, more serious, more evocative of his full powers, than his picture in *The Winter's Tale* of an earthly paradise painted in the form of the English countryside.

E M W Tillyard (1938)



In the Hippie alphabet, Love stands for something wider and more inclusive than sex. It is a complex affirmation. It has a widening circle of resonances. First, it is a liberation from the repressive taboos of middle class life which surround sexual experience. Secondly, love stands for the physical and spiritual community between men and men. Thirdly, love stands for an inclusive and receptive tenderness to others, a sacred respect for personal relationships (in a world where personal relationships are fragile and contingent). Fourthly, there is the all-embracing love for mankind, naive and vulnerable in its apparent simplicity, but transformed, in Hippie philosophy, into a sort of silent power.

Stuart Hall (1968)

A fair and happy milkmaid is a country wench, that is so far from making herself beautiful by art, that one look of hers is able to put all face-physic out of countenance... Though she be not arrayed in the spoil of the silkworm, she is decked in innocency, a far better wearing. She doth not, with lying long abed, spoil both her complexion and conditions. Nature hath taught her too immoderate sleep is rust to the soul. She rises therefore with chanticleer, her dame's cock, and at night makes the lamb her curfew. In milking a cow, and straining the teats through her fingers, it seems that so sweet a milk-press makes the milk whiter or sweeter; for never came almond glove or aromatic ointment on her palm to taint it. The golden ears of corn fall and kiss her feet when she reaps them, as if they wished to be bound and led prisoners by the same hand that felled them. Her breath is her own, which scents all the year long of June, like a new-made hay-cock. She makes her hand hard with labour, and her heart soft with pity: and when winter evenings fall early (sitting at her merry wheel) she sings a defiance to the giddy wheel of fortune . . . She bestows her year's wages at next fair; and in choosing her garments, counts no bravery in the

world like decency. The garden and bee-hive are all her physic and chirurgery, and she lives the longer for it. She dares go alone and unfold sheep in the night, and fears no manner of ill, because she means none: yet to say truth, she is never alone, for she is still accompanied with old songs, honest thoughts and prayers, but short ones; yet they have their efficacy, in that they are not palled with ensuing idle cogitations. Lastly, her dreams are so chaste, that she dare tell them; only a Friday's dream is all her superstition: that she conceals for fear of anger. Thus lives she, and all her care is she may die in the spring-time, to have store of flowers stuck upon her winding-sheet.

Sir Thomas Overbury (1616)

Autolycus

In his last phase when hardly bothering
To be a dramatist, the Master turned away
From his taut plots and complex characters
To tapestried romances, conjuring
With rainbow names and handfuls of sea-spray
And from them turned out happy Ever-afters.

Eclectic always, now extravagant,
Sighting his matter though a timeless prison
He ranged his classical bric-a-brac in grottos
Where knights of Ancient Greece had Latin mottoes
And fishermen their flap-jacks—none should want
Colour for lack of an anachronism.

A gay world certainly though pocked and scored With childish horrors and a fresh world though Its mainsprings were old gags—babies exposed Identities confused and queens to be restored; But when the cracker bursts it proves as you supposed—Trinket and moral tumble out just so.

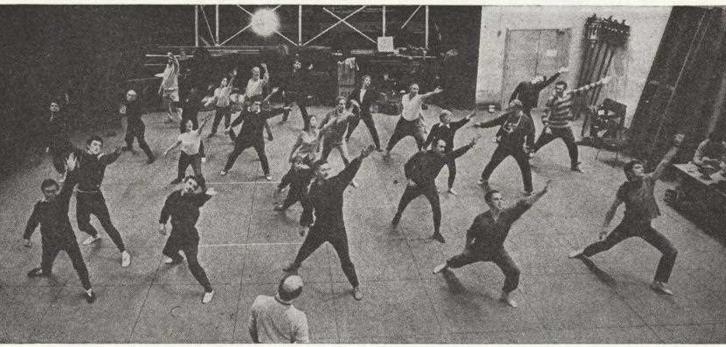
Such innocence—In his own words it was
Like an old tale, only that where time leaps
Between acts three and four there was something born
Which made the stock-type virgin dance like corn
In a wind that having known foul marshes, barren steeps,
Felt therefore kindly towards Marinas, Perditas.

Thus crystal learned to talk. But Shakespeare balanced it With what we knew already, gabbing earth Hot from Eastcheap—Watch your pockets when That rogue comes round the corner, he can slit Purse strings as quickly as his maker's pen Will try your heart-strings in the name of mirth.

O master pedlar with your confidence tricks, Brooches, pomanders, broad sheets and what-have-you Who hawk such entertainment but rook your client And leave him brooding, why should we forgive you Did we not know that, though more self-reliant Than we, you too were born and grew up in a fix? Louis MacNeice (1946)













Top left: David Bailie Geoffrey Hutchings Juliet Aykroyd Myles Hoyle Boyd Mackenzie Judi Dench Alton Kumalo Janet Henfrey James Vallon

Top right: John Berwyn Philip Taylor Boyd Mackenzie Denis Holmes Centre: Movement Class

Bottom left: Nicholas Selby Richard

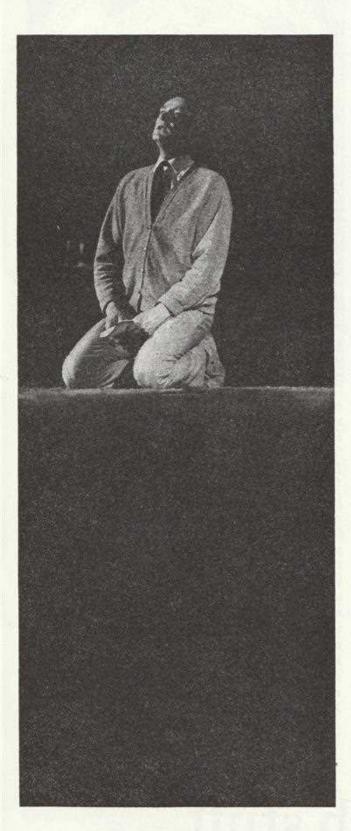
Pasco Judi Dench

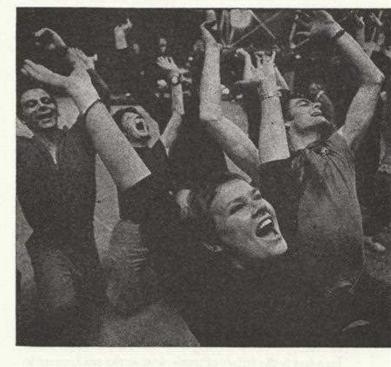
Bottom centre: Derek Smith Sydney Bromley

Bottom right: Lisa Harrow David Bailie John Broome Trevor Nunn Judi Dench (seated foreground)

rehearsals

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ED PRITCHARD





Above left: Barrie Ingham

Above right: Geoffrey Hutchings
Janet Whiteside
Boyd Mackenzie
Judi Dench
David Bailie

"in this wide gap of time..."

The Winter's Tale

Time present and time past
Are both perhaps present in time future,
And time future contained in time past.
If all time is eternally present
All time is unredeemable.
What might have been is an abstraction
Remaining a perpetual possibility
Only in a world of speculation.
What might have been and what has been
Point to one end, which is always present.
Footfalls echo in the memory
Down the passage which we did not take
Towards the door we never opened
Into the rose-garden. My words echo
Thus, in your mind . . .

Allow but a little consciousness.
To be conscious is not to be in time
But only in time can the moment in the rose-garden,
The moment in the arbour where the rain beat,
The moment in the draughty church at smokefall

Be remembered; involved with past and future. Only through time time is conquered. from Burnt Norton (1944) by T S Eliot

There is, for instance, the view—less common nowadays, but still to be met with—that these plays [the late Romances] share a sort of calm or detached simplicity, as if the author had sought in Romance relief from the evils and disasters of the tragedies. Now, the idea of romance, properly understood, implies passion and catastrophe, storm and violence; and Shakespeare's romances not only contain such elements but often enact them with much turbulence both in the action and in the language. The verse frequently registers not a gentle detachment but rather a remarkable activity of mind...

Like Spenser, Shakespeare is preoccupied by Time as destroyer and renewer, that which ruins the work of men but is the father of truth. Just as the sea appears to be aimlessly destructive, tearing apart father and child, husband and wife, but is in the end seen to be "merciful" because it finally brings them together and restores

their happiness, so Time only seems to change things because it must renew their truth. Frank Kermode (1963)

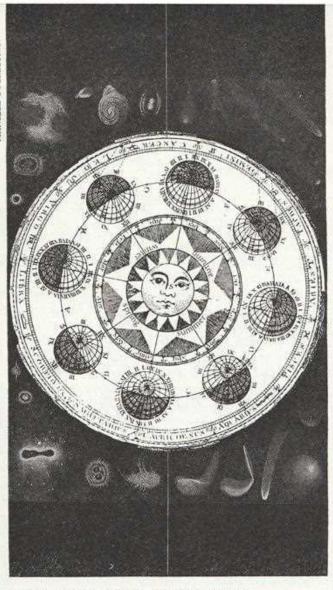
The characters of the Romances have status not in a metaphysical universe, but in society—a society that continues through the generations—and they mend their ways not in the sight of God, but in the sight of men... The conception of character in the Romances cannot sustain the notion of spiritual renewal, but the notion of the renewal of generations, mother and daughter, father and son, of biological renewal, social continuance, is everywhere proclaimed.

Arthur Sewell (1951)

... Those 16 years have been passed by Leontes in a sorrow that is in no sense merely nostalgic, a despairing regret for the results of his folly. To Cleomenes, indeed, it appears as a prelude to sanctity. His faults have been "redeem'd", his trespass balanced by a corresponding penitence, and the time has now come when he can be called upon, without undue levity, to "forget" his past, to accept by reassuming his full royal functions the forgiveness which the "heavens" are now ready to grant him. The steeping of the action in a supernatural atmosphere, although anticipated from the first, only now becomes fully explicit . . . D A Traversi (1954)

Hermione is associated throughout the play with the word grace. During the uneasy and rather cloying friendliness at the beginning of the play Hermione pronounces the word "grace" conspicuously three times, after which the harsh dissonances of Leontes's jealousy begin. She also uses the word when she is ordered off to prison and in the only speech that she makes after Act III. But such grace is not Christian or theological grace, which is superior to the order of nature, but a secular analogy of Christian grace which is identical with nature . . . The symbolic reason for the sixteen-year gap is clearly to have the cycle of the year reinforced by the slower cycle of human generations . . . Northrop Frye (1963)

"We are such stuff As dreams are made on.



THE WINTER'S TALE HAS
ATTRACTED MUCH ATTENTION
FROM MODERN CRITICS.
THOSE QUOTED ON PREVIOUS
PAGES ARE DEALING WITH
PARTICULAR THEMES: THOSE
ON THIS PAGE OFFER
CONTRASTING APPROACHES
TO THE WHOLE PLAY . . .

The personal drama is made to move upon a complexity of larger rhythms – birth, maturity, death, birth . . . the concrete presence of time in its rhythmic processes . . . the vital rhythms of nature at large . . . that effect as of the sap rising from the root. No doubt it might as truly be said of Florizel and Perdita as it has been of Ferdinand and Miranda, that they are lovers seen by one who is himself beyond the age of love, but Florizel and Perdita are not merely two individual lovers; they are organic elements in the poetry and symbolism of the pastoral scene, and the pastoral scene is an organic part of the whole play.

F R Leavis (1952)

I should like to argue that *The Winter's Tale* not only contains a good deal besides religious symbolism, but also has themes that are more closely related to the problems of early 17th-century society than most accounts of the play would suggest . . .

Central to the play is the contrast between the artificiality and sophistication of the court, and the "natural" qualities of the cottage . . . Leontes is trapped in an obsession, and this leads him to suborn

the murder of a guest, to accuse Camillo of treason, to order the murder of his daughter, and to place his wife on trial for adultery. This would not strike the Jacobean audience as mere fairy-tale: for example, the trial and execution of Anne Boleyn for adultery were still near enough in time for behaviour of this kind to be reckoned practical politics. The irrationality of Leontes's jealousy is underlined by its sudden eruption, without the process of development seen in Othello. This treatment of the theme is sometimes given a metaphysical interpretation: it shows that evil simply is a state that fallen man is subject to. However, it can equally well be given a political interpretation: irrespective of the psychology of the individual king, the tenure of the crown tends to produce passion and tyranny. There is no such eruption of evil in the cottage; but the other king in the play, Polixenes, also becomes irrational and tyrannical .

... For the England of 1610 or 1611, the theme of court and country has a clear topical reference: for at that time the division between the court and the country, both politically and culturally, was becoming

increasingly obvious . . .

In the great tragedies, the breakdown of order and the agonies arising from a change of custom and of worldview fill the picture. But in this play Shakespeare has stepped further back, and these conflicts have become merely part of the picture, disturbances in the continuum of human history.

C L Barber (1964)

It is a play almost mockingly presented as a play, with the stage machinery innocently visible. We find it hard to become absorbed in characters which are dropped for a whole act at a time or which only appear half-way through the performance, and especially hard to become concerned over their fate when we may be called upon to laugh at an untimely end, as with the gentleman on whom the bear had not half dined. The course of events is too casually unfolded, with too many interruptions and asides, for a breathless anxiety such as we tend to feel over Othello. We are, in fact, quite firmly warned to seek our pleasure elsewhere; we are compelled to attend to the verse, to seek for inner "meanings", to observe the subtle interplay of a whole world of interrelated ideas . . . As in the treatment of time, this is not only a means of commanding a special sort of attention but is also in itself a statement about the nature of reality.

S L Bethell (1947)

We began to gain our present understanding of The Winter's Tale when it was realized that its theme of "death" or suffering and rebirth is very old. It is represented in many prehistoric vegetation-ceremonies which marked the seasonal turn from winter to spring. Easter and Passover are both related to such ceremonies. Perdita's sheep-shearing is a remote descendant of such festivals, whose purpose was to assure the renewal of animal and vegetable life . . . Shakespeare uses winter's withering and spring's new life to provide images of the death and rebirth of the human spirit, as it loses and finds again its sense of freedom and innocence. He shows the process recurring through the changes of youth and age.

Francis Fergusson (1959)

Shakespeare arrived in his last period at the bedrock of drama, the romantic spectacle out of which all the more specialized forms of drama, such as tragedy and social comedy, have come, and to which they recurrently return.

Northrop Frye (1963)

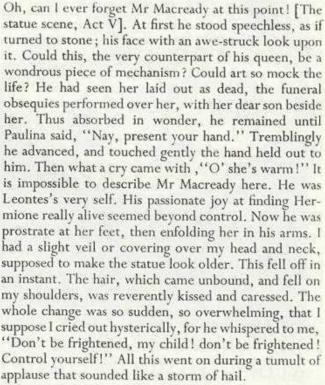
other productions

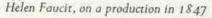
















1: 1948 Stratford-upon-Avon:
John Justin (Florizel) Claire Bloom (Perdita)
2: 1960 Stratford-upon-Avon:
Elizabeth Sellars (Hermione) Peggy Ashcroft
(Paulina) Patrick Allen (Polixenes) Eric
Porter (Leontes) Dinsdale Landen (Florizel)
Paul Hardwick (Camillo) Susan Maryott
(Perdita)

3: 1906 His Majesty's Theatre London; Ellen Terry as Hermione

4: 1856 Princess's Theatre London: Ellen Terry as Mamillius Charles Kean as Leontes

5 and 6: 1887 Lyceum Theatre London: Mary Anderson as Hermione and Perdita 7: 1937 Stratford-upon-Avon: Donald Wolfit as Autolycus Nobody believes any more that Shakespeare's late plays, the romances, are the work of a tired mind or genius gone senile. But the fact remains that with the exception of *The Tempest* they are rarely performed. The RSC are presenting three of the late plays — *Pericles, The Winter's Tale,* and *Henry VIII* — during the 1969 Stratford season.

It is fanciful to imagine that all Shakespeare's plays are relevant and meaningful to a contemporary audience all the time. Shakespeare's humanism dominates, the plays will always be accessible, they don't require a specific political or religious climate in which to function, but our sense of humanist values, our moral sense, changes almost imperceptibly from age to age, from generation to generation (as of course Shakespeare's values changed), so that a neglected area of the canon can suddenly become sharply relevant. At a time of cynicism, hope is sentimental, at a time of hope, cynicism amounts to immorality.

The drama has always performed a double function, of interpreting society to its audience but challenging that society at the same time, the job of glorifying and satirising, reassuring and reviling. The theatre must communicate, it must also be ahead of its audience. It cannot offer solutions, but must suggest directions. Our world has endured two global wars, the invention of a weapon capable of destroying all life, and consequently a period of cynicism as profound as Shakespeare's cynicism in Troilus and Cressida and Hamlet. But Shakespeare saw that total pessimism becomes a kind of optimism; the enactment of tragedy testifies to the belief that life endures. We must be patient. "Thou knowest we came crying hither" . . . "We must endure our going hence even as our coming hither. Ripeness is all". Our world has become sickened by its own despair. In another age, we would be waiting for the Messiah, a saviour, to awake our faith.

"What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties, in form and moving, how express and admirable, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god - the beauty of the world; the paragon of animals. And yet, to me, what is this quintessence of dust?" I think that speech in Hamlet is the fulcrum of Shakespeare's thought. The late plays reconcile the paradox of man; they do not idealise the human condition, the beast is there alright, so also is the angel. Man is in search of ripeness or grace, or to use our own language, of self knowledge. In the late plays, grace is achieved, through love. They are not naturalistic plays, their imagery is dream-like and fantastic. They are parables, they work both as fables and allegories. Pericles is on a journey, from the bestiality of Antiochus's court to the temple of Diana. It is a metaphysical journey, rest only comes with self knowledge. Leontes is in a destructive nightmare, "performed" in a "wide gap of time". Spring breaks through the grip of winter, love returns, enabling Leontes to awake his faith and be redeemed. Shakespeare absolves the gods of our failures; the responsibility is in us, the faith demanded is faith in ourselves.

It's not possible to summarise Shakespeare in a few sentences. The late plays are packed and complex, stylistically they constantly break new ground, and old rules: like the greatest of poems, they defy precis and demand effort. They speak to a time in need of moral certainty, but the direction they suggest is not easy; in no sense was Shakespeare exhausted by his tragedies and turning to escapism. As always he was interpreting life to his audience and at the same time offering a challenge.

Allegorical works seek, with one kind of meat and one dish, to feed diverse tastes. For the weaker capacities will feed themselves with the pleasantness of the history and the sweetness of the verse; some that have stronger stomachs will, as it were, take a further taste of the moral sense; a third sort more high-conceited than they, will digest the Allegory.

Sir John Harington (1591)

The programme note [on the late plays of Shakespeare] by Trevor Nunn pompously interprets this popular nonsense as some profound allegory about a search for love through suffering and ultimate redemption. I suggest the Bard would have had hilarious hysterics at such an interpretation.

Milton Shulman reviewing in the Evening Standard this season's production of Pericles



TEVOR Num.



These pages do not change from programme to programme. They are planned to show the composition of a theatre system new to this country on the scale provided by the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

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Associate Artists under long-term contract to the RSC can accept outside television, film, or theatre engagements from time to time

(Councillor Malcolm Ray)

THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY are divided between the country and the capital, playing concurrently at two theatres for most of each year. They appear at their Stratford-upon-Avon home, the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, from April to December; and at their London home, the Aldwych Theatre, from June to April. Each spring at the Aldwych the RSC present ensembles from other countries in the World Theatre Season directed by Peter Daubeny.

The RSC are formed round a core of artists under long-term contract. By working constantly together in a varied repertoire the company aim to be a flexible ensemble with a distinctive character.

Shakespeare is the RSC's central concern; the company are responsible for most of the major Shakespeare productions seen in this country. Five or six Shakespeare plays (with occasionally a non-Shakespeare) compose each year's Stratford season.

The RSC's annual Aldwych season complements the company's Shakespeare work by consisting of some modern plays as well as Shakespeare and other classics. This bridge between Shakespeare and the contemporary theatre keeps the RSC's Shakespeare productions in touch with modern thought.

Theatregoround takes actors and directors from the RSC out to audiences, playing in theatres, schools, colleges, and community centres throughout Great Britain (performances are also given in the company's Stratford and London theatres).

The RSC occasionally give short experimental seasons in which they challenge accepted forms of acting, writing, and directing.

Last year a total of well over one million people visited the RSC's two theatres and saw their productions on tour. This figure is believed to be a record. But no theatre company working in repertoire can recoup expenditure. Giving the public a wide choice of plays, staged concurrently and continually changing, is an expensive system. Even with year-round full houses, subsidy is necessary. This year's Arts Council subsidy is £180,000: less than one quarter of the company's costs, the rest being met from the box office.

The Corporation of the City of London is building the RSC a new London theatre in the Barbican Arts Centre. This will be ready by 1972/3 and the company move there from the Aldwych.

The RSC are making Shakespeare films in colour for world-wide distribution as motion pictures following television premieres on CBS in America. The first was A Midsummer Night's Dream, and King Lear will be seen soon.

RSC policy is formulated by a group of directors (Peggy Ashcroft, Peter Brook, Peter Hall, Trevor Nunn) with Trevor Nunn in the top post of Artistic Director. The directors are responsible to the Board of Governors of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, whose President is the Earl of Harewood, Chairman Sir George Farmer, and Vice-Chairman Dennis L Flower.

Of the RSC's two theatres the parent is the Royal Shakespeare Theatre which was called the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre from 1879, when twas founded, to 1961. Its founder was Charles Flower whose family – notably Sir Archibald and more recently, Sir Fordham – have supported and goded the theatre throughout its long history. It was gutted by fire in 1926 to be replaced six years at by the present building. Incorporated under Royal Charter and state-subsidised, with the Green as Patron, it virtually belongs to the nation.

RSC Awards since 1960

- 1960 Evening Standard Drama Awards BEST ACTRESS: Dorothy Tutin as Viola in Twelfth Night
- 1961 Evening Standard Drama Awards
 BEST PLAY: Becket by Jean Anouilh
 BEST ACTOR: Christopher Plummer as Henry II in Becket
 BEST ACTRESS: Vanessa Redgrave as Katharina in The Taming of the Shrew
- 1962 Evening Standard Drama Awards
 BEST PLAY: The Caucasian Chalk Circle by Bertolt Brecht
 BEST ACTOR: Paul Scofield as King Lear
 MOST PROMISING NEW PLAYWRIGHT: David Rudkin for Afore Night Come
 Paris Festival Theatre des Nations Awards
 BEST ACTRESS: Dame Peggy Ashcroft in The Hollow Crown
- 1963 Paris Festival Theatre des Nations Awards
 GRAND PRIX FOR BEST PRODUCTION: Peter Brook's King Lear
 French Critics' Circle Awards
 BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Brook for King Lear
 Plays and Players London Theatre Critics' Awards
 BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Hall for The Wars of the Roses
 BEST NEW ACTOR: David Warner as Henry VI in The Wars of the Roses
- 1964 Evening Standard Drama Awards
 BEST ACTRESS: Dame Peggy Ashcroft as Queen Margaret in The Wars of the Roses
 Variety Club of Great Britain Awards
 BEST STAGE ACTRESS: Dame Peggy Ashcroft as Queen Margaret in The Wars of the Roses
 Plays and Players London Theatre Critics' Awards
 BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Brook for The Marat/Sade
- BEST ACTOR: Ian Holm as Henry V, and as Lenny in The Homecoming
 MOST PROMISING NEW PLAYWRIGHT: David Mercer for Ride a Cock Horse
 (not an RSC production) and The Governor's Lady
 New York Drama Critics' Awards
 BEST PLAY: The Marat/Sade by Peter Weiss
 Variety's New York Drama Critics' Awards
 BEST DIRECTOR. Peter Proof for The Marat/Sade
- BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Brook for The Marat/Sade
 MOST PROMISING NEW ACTRESS: Glenda Jackson as Charlotte Corday in The
 Marat/Sade

 1966 New York Tony Awards
- BEST PLAY: The Marat/Sade by Peter Weiss
 BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Brook for The Marat/Sade
 BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: Patrick Magee as de Sade in The Marat/Sade
 BEST COSTUME DESIGNER: Gunilla Palmstierna Weiss for The Marat/Sade
 Plays and Players London Theatre Critics' Awards
 BEST ACTOR: Paul Scofield as Timon of Athens
 BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Hall for Hamlet and The Homecoming
- 1967 Variety Club of Great Britain Awards
 BEST STAGE ACTOR: David Warner as Hamlet
 Plays and Players London Theatre Critics' Awards
 BEST ACTOR: Paul Scofield as Khlestakov in The Government Inspector and as
 Charles Dyer in Staircase
 BEST PRODUCTION: Peter Brook's US

New York Tony Awards
BEST PLAY: The Homecoming by Harold Pinter
BEST DIRECTOR: Peter Hall for The Homecoming
BEST DRAMATIC ACTOR: Paul Rogers as Max in The Homecoming
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: lan Holm as Lenny in The Homecoming

New York Drama Critics' Awards
BEST PLAY: The Homecoming by Harold Pinter

- 1968 Plays and Players London Theatre Critics' Awards
 BEST NEW ACTRESS: Estelle Kohler as Juliet
 BEST DESIGNER: Ralph Koltai for As You Like It (a National Theatre, not an RSC production) and Little Murders
 FVS Foundation (Hamburg University) Award
 SHAKESPEARE PRIZE: Peter Hall
- 1969 Clarence Derwent Awards
 BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS: Elizabeth Spriggs as Claire in A Delicate Balance

Company Director 1969 Stratford season, Royal Shakespeare Theatre: John Barton
Company Director 1969/70 London season, Aldwych Theatre: David Jones

Books quoted or consulted for the programme: Shakespeare: The Winter's Tale, essays, ed Muir (Macmillan): The Common Pursuit by F.R. Leavis (Peregrine); Shakespeare in a Changing World, essays, ed. Kettle (Lawrence & Wisher): The Last Phase by D.A. Traversi (Hollis & Carter); The Winter's Tale: A Study by S.L. Bethell (Staples Press): Character and Society in Shakespeare by Arthur Sewell (Oxford): Essays on Shakespeare and Elizabethan Drama in Honour of Hardin Craig, ed. Hosley (Routledge); Shakespeare's Last Plays by E.M. W. Tillyard (Chatto & Windus): Life in Shakespeare's England by John Dover Wilson (Cambridge): editions of the play—Arden, ed. Palford (Methuen); Signet Classic, ed. Kermode (New English Library); Laurel, ed. Fergusson (Dell); The Autobiography of Bertrand Russell, vol. 2 (Allen & Unwin); Four Quartets by T.S. Eliot (Faber); The Collected Pigems of Louis MacNeice (Faber/Oxford).

Programme by John Goodwin with George Mayhew and A C H Smith

Printed by Herald Press Stratford-upon-Avon under the supervision of John Chilton

DAVID BAILLE Florizel. Worked for a bank and an airline in Rhodesia before coming to England to train at RADA, and then went to Everyman Theatre, Liverpool. In 1966 joined the National Theatre Company, playing Horatio in Tom Stoppard's Rosencrantz and Guildenssen Are Dead. Has appeared on BBC TV. Last season at Stratford played Lucilier and Valdes in Matlove's Doctor Faustos and the Prologue in Troilus and Cressida, as well as Leslie Bright in Lanford Wilson's The Madness of Lady Bright (Theatregoround). This Stratford season, as well as Florizel, plays Lysimachus in Percles, Rugby in The Menry Wives, and Valentine in The Two Gentlemen of Verone (Theatregoround). Is an RSC associate artist.

of Verone (Theatregoround). Is an RSC associate artist. SYDNEY BROMLEY. Old Shepherd. First stage appearance was in 1921 at the Haymarket in Barne's Quality Street. Since then has acted in many films, plays and revues. Was in Samuel Beckett's endgame in Paris. Films include Brief Encounter. The Way Ahead, and Half s Sixpence At Stratford and the Aldwych last season, as well as on the regional tour, played the Soothsayer in Julius Caesar and Shallow in The Merry Wives, and at the Aldwych also played Lord Throgmorton and Of Timer in Kopit's Indians. This Stratford season, as well as the Old Shepherd, plays Certimon in Paricles, and, again, Shallow in The Merry Wives.

BRENDA BRUCE Paulins, Started as a ballet dancer.

Shallow in The Merry Wives.

BRENDA BRUCE. Paulina. Started as a ballet dancer, and has since acted many leading roles in West End plays, including Anoulth's The Waltz of the Toreadors (directed by Peter Hall). Has acted in New York and twice toured South America. Since 1964 has played for the RSC in Henry Livings's Eh 7. Roger Vitrac's Victor, Faiffer's Little Murders, Triana's The Criminals. The Merry Wives (in 1964 at the Aldwych) and Tourneut's The Revenger's Tragedy. Last year at Stratford, the Aldwych, and on the regional tour played Mistress Page in The Merry Wives. This Stratford season, as well as Paulina, plays Dionyza and the Bawd in Pericles, and, again, Mistress Page in The Merry Wives. Is an RSC associate artist.

JUDI DENCH. Hermione Perdita. Trained at Central School and then went straight to the Old Vio in 1957 to play Ophelia; toured America with the company, and played such parts as Kate Hardcastle in Goldsmith's She Stoops to Conquer, and Juliet in the Zeffirelli production of Romeo and Juliet. Then joined the RSC in 1961/62 when she acted Anya in Chekhov's The Cherry Orchard, and Titania in A Midsummer Night's Dream, Was at Nottingham Playhouse in 1965/66 where her parts included St Joan in Shaws play, Marjoria Pinchwife in Wycherley's The Country Wife, and Amanda in Noël Coward's Private Lives. At the Oxford Playhouse has played Irina in Chekhov's The Thine Sisters (1964) and Lika in Arbuzov's The Promise (1966), which later transferred to London. Last year she was Sally Bowles in the West End run of Hatold Prince's musical Cabarer, and followed that by a tour of West Africa. Her films, She has also appeared on television, most notably in the John Hopkins quartet for the BBC, Talking to a Stranger. This Stratford sesson, as well as Hermione and Perdita, plays Blanca in Middleton's Women Bewere Women and Viola in Twelfth Night, Is an RSC associate artist.

MYLES HOYLE. First Lord, Trained at the Rose Brutord College, Joined Bristol Old Vic in 1987 where his parts included Bontemps in John Whiting's The Devils, and Lotty in Bill Naughton's Allie. Was in the film The Battle of Britain. This Stratford season, as well as taking over the part of the First Lord, plays Valentine in Twelfth Nicht.

Night.

GEOFFREY HUTCHINGS. Young Shepherd. Studied physical education at Birmingham University. Has played in repertory at Nottingham, Liverpool, Coichester. At the Aldwych last sesson played Gesonimo in Kopit's Indians and Dr Serringe in Vanbrugh's The Relapse, as well as Octavius in Julius Caeser and Simple in The Merry Wives, parts he asso played at Stratford and on the regional tour. This Stratford season, as well as the Young Shepherd, plays Cleon and Pandar in Pericles, Cromwell in Henry VIII, Launce in The Two Gentlemen of Varona (Theategoreund), and, again, Simple in The Merry Wives. Is an RSC associate artist.

RSC associate artist.

BARRIE INGHAM. Leanies. After working at Manchester Library Treasis was with Old Vic for two years in many productions. Then played Claudio in Much Ado with John Gielgud and Margaret Leighton in New York-Has since acted the lead in many West End productions, including the Waterbouse/Hall revue England Our England. Arden's The Happy Haven, Dostoievsky's The Possessed, and Euripides's The Bacchae. Was Young Fashion in Virtue in Danger (musical version of The Reliapse) in 1963, Jingle to Harry Secombe's Pickwick in 1965, and the lead in the Ronald Millar/Ron Grainer musical On the Level in 1968. His latest film role is Robin Hood in Challenge for Robin Hood. First appeared with the RSC in Triana's The Criminals at the Aldwych in 1967. Lest year played Brutos in Julius Ceesar at Stratford, on the regional tour, and at the Aldwych, where he also played Bill Cody in Kopit's Indiens, and Lord Foppington in Vanbrugh's The Relepse. Earlief this year appeared as Garfield Kahe in ATV's The Power Game. This Stratford season, as well as Leontes, plays Sir Andrew Aguscheek in Twelfth Night.

Andrew Aguscheek in Twelfth Night.

RICHARD PASCO Polivenes Trained at Central School, then with Old Vic 1950-52. At Birmingham Rep under Sir Barry Jackson 1952-55, In 1955 played Fortinbras in the Brook/Scoheld Hamler in London and Moscow, Joined Royal Court playing in Osborne's Look Back in Anger and The Entertainer. Subsequently in the West End, most notably in Ibsen's The Lady from the Sea, Ketty Fring's Look Homeward. Angel, and the Chekhov/Gielgud Ivanov. Joined Bristol Old Vic in 1964 and led this company on two world tours, visiting Europe, USA and Israel; his parts included Hamlet, Henry V. Angelo in Measure for Measure. Berowne in Love's Labour's Last. Peer Gynt in Ibsen's play and Jack Tanner in Shaw's Man and Superman. Most recently seen in London in Iris Murdoch and James Saundery's The Italian Girl and at the Ambience Lunchtime Theatre Club in Frank Marcus's

The Window. In over fifty TV appearances he has most recently been seen as Cardinal Richelleu in the BBC adaptation of Dumas's The Three Musketeers, and as Von Bulow in the BBC2 The Siegfried Idyll. This Stratford season, as well as Polixenes, plays Leantio in Middleton's Women Beware Women, Buckingham in Henry VIII, and Proteus in The Two Gentlemen of Verane (Theatregoround).

round).

NICHOLAS SELBY. Camillo. After army trained at Central School. Then had wide repertory experience, appearing in London in plays by Pinter. Arden and Chekhov at the Royal Court. Joined RSC for 1963/64 Stratford seasons. Has also acted at the Aldwych in Henry V. The Wars of the Roses, Livings's Eh?. Durenmatt's The Mereor, and Robert Boll's children's play The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew. In 1967 at Stratford played Junius Brutus in Conclanus. Capulet in Romeo and Junius Brutus in Conclanus. Capulet in Romeo and Julier, the Duke in Tourneur's The Revenger's Tragedy, as well as Ross in Macbeth, which later visited Helsinki, Leningrad and Moscow, before moving to the Aldwych. Has since made many appearances on TV. This Stratford season, as well as Camillo, plays Hippolito in Middleton's Women Beware Women, and Lord Chamberlain in Henry VIII. Is an RSC associate attist.

MORGAN SHEPPARD. Antigonus. Gained scholar-

VIII. Is an RSC associate artist.

MORGAN SHEPPARD. Antigonus. Gained scholarship to RADA then acted in repertory at Nottingham, and in the Waterhouse/Hall play Celebration in London. Since 1963 has played many parts for the RSC at the Aldwych. Appeared in Weise's The Marat/Sade in London, New York, and in the film. At Stratford in 1967 played Duke Frederick in As You Like It and Sty in The Shrew, parts he continued at the Aldwych, on the regional tour, and in Los Angeles. At the Aldwych last season played Wild Bill Hickok and Colonel Forsyth in Kopit's Indians and Lory in The Relapse, as well as Manillus in Julius Ceesar and Pistol in The Merry Wives, parts he also played at Stratford and on the regional tour. This Stratford season, as well as Antigonus, plays Antiochus and Boult in Pericles, Antonio in Twelfth Night, and again, Pistol in The Merry Wives. Is an RSC associate artist.

DEREK SMITH. Autolycus. Trained at RADA, Then

DEREK SMITH. Autolycus. Trained at RADA. Then appeared with Bristol and London Old Vic companies and Birmingham Repertory Theatre. In 1863 with the RSC played in The Wars of the Roses and The Comedy of Enors. In 1966 was in Miller's Incident at Vichy, and the following year returned to the RSC to appear in Feiffer's Little Murders at the Aldwych, where, last season, he played Ol' Time President in Kopit's Indians and Bull in Vanbrugh's The Relapse, as well as Casca in Julius Caesar and Calus in The Merry Wives, parts he also played at Stratford and on the regional tour. This Stratford season, as well as Autolycus, plays Simonides in Pencles, Guardiano in Middleton's Women Beware Women, the Duke in The Two Gentlemen of Vercha (Theatreporound) and, again, Caius in The Merry Wives. Is an RSC associate artist.

TREVOR NUNN. Director of The Winter's Tale and Artistic Director of the RSC. Studied under Dr Leavis at Cambridge, where he acted and directed many plays for Merlowe Society and ADC, and a Footlights revue. In 1962 went on ABC Scholarship to Beigrade Theatre, Coventry, as a trainee director, later becoming resident producer and directing plays by Shakespeare, Brecht, Arden, Miller, Ibsen, etc. In 1965 became an associate director of BSC, and that year at the Aldwych directed Henry V (with John Barton) and Bolfs The Thiwarning of Baron Boffgrew. At Stratford in 1966 co-directed both parts of Henry IV, and directed Tourneil is The Revenger's Tragedy which returned to Stratford in 1967. At the Aldwych in 1966 directed Mrozek's Tango (playing lead part in opening performances when actor fell ill at last minute) and, again, Beron Bolfigrew. In 1967 at Stratford directed The Shrew which was later seen at the Aldwych, on a regional tour, and in Los Angeles; ar the Aldwych, directed Vanbrugh's The Relagae, Issived there lest year. At Stratford last season directed King Lear, and also Much Ago About Nothing, which toured America satiler this year. This Stratford season, as well as The Winter's Tale, directs Henry VIII.

directs Henry VIII.

CHRISTOPHER MORLEY. Designer of The Winter's Tale and Head of RSC Design Studied painting under Cerl Cheek. At twenty worked as designer, stage director, and actor in Hep. 1960–63 designed for the Belgrade Theatre. Coventry, 1964/85 head of design for New Phoenix Theatre, Leicester. In London has designed Marlowe's Edward II, Wosker's Their Very Own and Golden City David Cregan's Three Men for Colverton, and the Royal Court Macbeth. In 1967 at Stratford designed Tourneur's The Revenger's Tragedy (also seen during the 1966 season) and The Strew which was also seen at the Aidwych, on the regional tour, and in Los Angeles. 1967 at the Aidwych designed The Relapse (revived last year). At Stratford last season designed King Leer, and also Much Ado About Nothing, which toured the USA earlier this year. This Stratford season, as well as The Winter's Tale: designs Twelfth Night, and Henry VIII.

GUY WOOLFENDEN. Composer for The Winter's Tale. Since his appointment as Music Director of the RSC in 1962, has composed music for over thirty stage productions, and the film of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Assisted Peter Hall in the direction of Schoenberg's Moses and Aaron at Covent Garden. Wrote music for the British Paylion at Exon 57 and the Chamber of Horrors at Madame Tussaud's 1967 at the Aldwych scored Vanbrugh's The Relapse, tevived last year when he also scored Kopit's Indians. Last Stratford season wrote music for King Lear The Menry Wives, also seen at the Aldwych and on the regional tour, and Trollus and Cressida, as well as Marlowe's Doctor Faustus and Much Ado About Nothing, which toured America this year. Has brought out a record of some of his music for feerent RSC productions. This Stratford sealon, as well as The Winter's Tale, composes the music for Pericles. Middleton's Women Beware Women, Henry VIII, and, again, The Menry Wives. At the Aldwych this season, composes the music for Prolius and Cresside and Much Ado.



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