

## THE AUTHOR

"Up to 300 words on the author by the week-end; the usual thing—when he was born, how many plays he's written, what he does, etc., etc."

It sounded reasonable enough—until I had put the receiver back and taken stock of just how much I did know about Rodney Diak, which didn't seem much then and seems even less now. Date of birth? No idea—try 1930 as a rough guess. Number of plays written? Very few, I believe: he has a high standard of self-criticism and only counts the ones which have passed his own censorship, consigning to oblivion those which do not come up to expectations. Of the successful ones, this is the second to be produced; another having had its premiere performance in Bromley, Kent, a year or so ago.

As for what he does—now we are on more fruitful ground. He acts—professionally. You will find his name on the Old Vic programmes in 1949 for *Love's Labour's Lost* and *She Stoops to Conquer*; the season when Michael Redgrave played Hamlet, Marlowe and Berowne. More recently he was at Edinburgh, playing in the last festival; and this was followed by a brief London appearance at St. Thomas's Church, in Regent Street. Latterly he has been in Coventry with the Midland Theatre Company playing, once again, in *She Stoops to Conquer*; only this time—graduation—he is the Marlowe, a performance which earned him a pleasant notice in "The Stage"—and also in "The Listener", following a broadcast of the production on March 26th.

Soon he will be off again. But it is our pleasure and privilege to welcome him to The Questors on the first night and again on the second Saturday of the run of his play. We hope he will enjoy it—we hope you will enjoy it—we know that we do.

B. M. H.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**May 11th.** Launching of New Theatre Scheme; Ealing Town Hall at 8 p.m.

**May 13th.** Club Dance; Park Hotel, Church Road, Hanwell. Dancing from 8 p.m. till midnight. Usual bar facilities. Tickets, 4s. each, from Frank Smith or from the Stewards in the theatre this evening.

**June 1st.** Club Night; the play-reading originally scheduled for May 24th has been unavoidably postponed for one week. The play to be read is *Next Stop Paradise*, a comedy by Ronald Claydon.

**June 11th.** First Night of the sixth new play of our Silver Jubilee season. This will be *The Night Before Spring* by Richard Whitehall.

Full details of forthcoming events and club activities are given in the Club Magazine, *FORE-STAGE*, which is distributed free to all members.

## A SPECIAL WORD TO OUR GUESTS

To our guests during the run of the play we extend a warm welcome. If you feel you would like to see more of our work, may we suggest that you ask the Steward for particulars of Club membership, which costs only £1 per annum and entitles you to a free seat for every production during the year.

## THE NEW THEATRE FUND PERFORMANCE

If you have enjoyed the performance this evening why not come again and bring a friend? Members may obtain two seats for the price of one on the New Theatre Fund Night during the Silver Jubilee Season; one for yourself, and one for your friend. New Theatre Fund Night for *Fanfaronade* is Wednesday, May 4th.

## "AFTER THE SHOW" PARTY

It is customary for us to have an informal party on the discussion night. If you would care to come along, please see the Chief Steward before you leave tonight. He will take your name and give you details.

The discussion of "Fanfaronade" will take place in the theatre on Thursday, May 5th, at 7.30 p.m. All members and friends welcome.



present

# A SILVER JUBILEE SEASON OF NEW PLAYS

*The World première of*

*Fanfaronade*

by

RODNEY DIAK

AT THE QUESTORS THEATRE  
MATTOCK LANE, EALING, W. 5  
APRIL 23RD TO MAY 4TH, 1955

FIFTH PRODUCTION  
SILVER JUBILEE SEASON  
1954-55

PROGRAMME  
SIXPENCE

# Fanfaronade

BY

RODNEY DIAK



Characters:—

The King	...	...	...	...	...	ROBERT JONES
The Philosopher	...	...	...	...	...	WILFRID SHARP
The Princess Undine	...	...	...	...	...	JO ARUNDEL
Maria	} twins—her waiting women	...	...	...	...	SHIRLEY SIMMONDS
Mathilde		...	...	...	...	SYLVIA ESTOP
The Magician	...	...	...	...	...	EDWARD PITT
Gareth, a swineherd	...	...	...	...	...	PATRICK BOWLEY
1st Courtier	...	...	...	...	...	JOHN BOUD
2nd Courtier	...	...	...	...	...	RALPH ALDER
3rd Courtier	...	...	...	...	...	JOHN HINES
The Royal Physician	...	...	...	...	...	HARRY IVES
The Court Official	...	...	...	...	...	HENRY G. IRVING
Lackeys	...	...	...	...	...	SALLY BUCKLEY
	...	...	...	...	...	CAROLE PECK
	...	...	...	...	...	HEATHER RAWLINS
	...	...	...	...	...	LEE IVES

The play produced by ... .. BARBARA HUTCHINS  
 Décor by ... .. JULIETTE HOWARD

ACT ONE

Scene i ... .. The King's Bedroom.  
 Scene ii ... .. Outside the Magician's Cave.  
 Scene iii ... .. The Princess's Bedroom.

INTERVAL OF FIVE MINUTES

ACT TWO

Scene i ... .. Inside the Magician's Cave.  
 Scene ii ... .. The King's Withdrawing Room.

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

ACT THREE

Scene i ... .. Somewhere in the Palace.  
 Scene ii ... .. Outside the Magician's Cave.  
 Scene iii ... .. The Throne Room in the Palace.

SPRINGTIME

*During the second interval you may remain in your seats and be served with tea and biscuits, or cross to the Lounge where coffee and light snacks may also be obtained*



Stage Managers ... .. JOHN BOUD and PAT DIGBY  
 assisted by ... .. MARY COLLINS and JO ARCHER

Scenery constructed in the workshop under the direction of  
 DAVID WEDMORE

Costumes made in the wardrobe under the direction of  
 SALLY GREENFIELD and ELISABETH WELLMAN

Lighting ... .. GERALD ISENTHAL  
 assisted by ... .. d'ARCY CARR

Sound ... .. ELSA and ALBERT GIBBS and  
 MICHAEL GAMBLE  
 advised and assisted by ... .. GERALD ISENTHAL and  
 DOUGLAS WEARE

Properties ... .. NANCY NICHOLAS  
 assisted by ... .. JOHN IRELAND and  
 BRYAN EVANS



Theatre Manager ... .. RENA RICE  
 House Manager ... .. ARCHIE COWAN  
 Press Representative ... .. BASIL HULL

BOX OFFICE (6.30—7.30 p.m.) ... .. EALing 5184

MEMBERS ARE RESPECTFULLY REMINDED THAT SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE THEATRE WHILE THE PLAY IS IN PROGRESS.