

#### **Directors Note**

For twenty long years Greeks and Trojans alike have fought and died for Helen, "the face that launched a thousand ships". The only problem - it was just that, a façade, a farce. For years the real Helen has been sitting on a rock in Egypt, hearing tales filled with hate for the traitor she is meant to be.

Euripedes takes us through Helen's own war, the war to clear her name. As she fights to keep chaste, moral and devoted to her husband, she unwittingly triggers the death of hundreds, the betrayal of those who love her, and a desperate sea-bound escape.

Is this all too much of a co-incidence? Are we nothing more than what others say we are? And if only the Gods know, do they give a damn? People ask where the tragedy in Euripedes' play lies, but then again - people <u>ask</u> for beauty.

Catherine Stevens

SLAVE

Make - up

#### Questors Youth Theatre

Questors Youth Theatre have presented an eclectic range of plays since the first youth production; "Gregory's Girl" by Bill Forsyth, ten years ago. Other productions have included "The Gut Girls" by Sarah Daniels, Brecht's "Caucasian Chalk Circle", and the musicals; "Godspell" and "Runaways". So a greek tragedy marks an exciting addition to this collection.

All the young people in this production are drawn from the Questors Youth Theatre, which currently comprises sixteen drama groups. These drama groups provide a programme of hour long classes held weekly over three terms, culminating in a workshop performance in our studio theatre at the end of the summer term. These sessions focus on developing ideas and imagination rather than teaching people "how to act".

Every so often there is the chance to audition for youth productions or roles in other Questors plays. The majority of young people that you have seen in Questors productions this season have been drawn from the Youth Theatre

So if you are between 6 and 17 and want to give theatre a go, fill in an orange form from the foyer or enquire for details at the office on 020 8567 0011, during office hours. No previous experience necessary.

Alex Marker

Questors Youth Theatre.

# HELEN OF TROY

## by Euripedes

Translated by Adonis Galleus, Catherine Stevens and Toni Brown

First performance of this production on the 24th February 2001

# Cast

HELEN Annie Ruddlesden TEUCER / SLAVE Dominic O'Connor **METER** Clare O'Connor KORE / SLAVE Jenny Parker **MENELAUS** Theo Garman Carli Harris DOOR KEEPER SAILOR / SLAVE Aisling Wall THEONE / GUIDE Claire Hurley Laverne Pereira THEOKLYMENUS Patrick Murray HIS SERVANT / SLAVE Eamon Ali GOD - CHILDREN / SLAVES Helen Burgess Alex Barry Rhiannon Rees Tessa Shrubsall

THE PLAY LASTS APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR 20 MINUTES WITH NO INTERVAL

# Production

Niall Tatchley

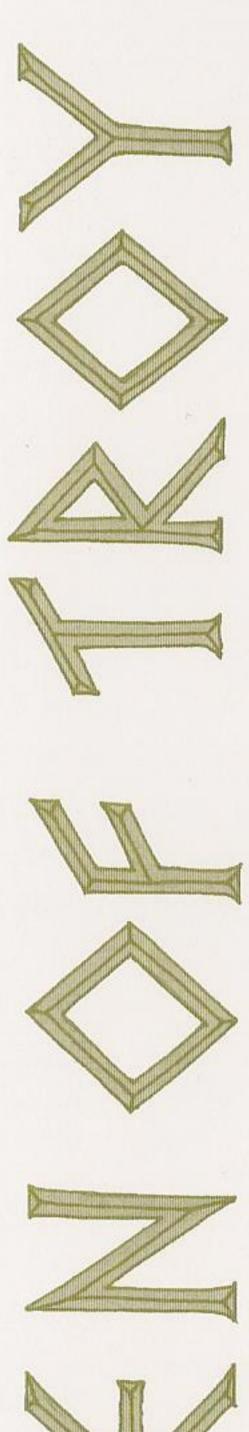
Director Catherine Stevens Designer Alex Marker Lighting Designer Damien Lazell **Lighting Operator** Tim Edwards Sound Operators Woody Hughes Simon Wright Stage Manager Siobhan Hyams Assistant Stage Managers Jo Seager Lucy Osborne Ian Khoo Constructors Colin Horne Alex Marker Painters Tim Edwards Woody Hughes Siobhan Hyams Barbara Marker

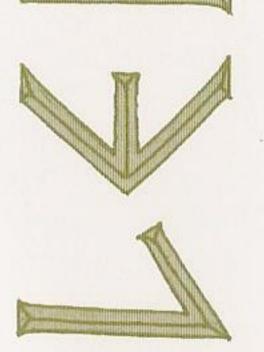
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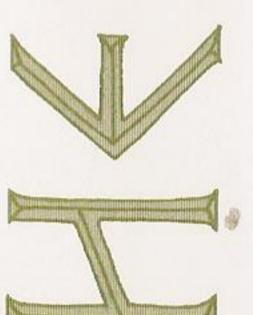
Teresa Dickinson

Clare Gilgallon

Richard Lewis, Liz Prior, Christopher Tomlins, Joel Schrire, Terry Mummery, Bernard Brady, Mark Lucek, Richard Mead and anyone else who contributed knowingly or unknowingly.







# FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

### TWELFTH NIGHT by William Shakespeare

In the Playhouse, 10th - 24th March

Immerse yourself in the fun and frolics of the Feast of Fools in one of Shakespeare's lightest and most successful comedies. Masques and Jesters, Clowns and Courtly Love, this promises to be an enjoyable evening for everyone.

Voices from Ambridge in

### COME RAIN COME SHINE by Gareth Armstrong and Malcolm McKee

Sunday 18th March at 8.00pm

Featuring cast members of THE ARCHERS in the 50th year of this popular radio drama.

Have you ever wanted to see what Joe Grundy looks like? Would you like to meet Linda Snell in the flesh?

Well this is your chance, as they will be appearing <u>live</u> on the Playhouse stage along with other well-loved Archers characters.

The show is a light-hearted celebration, in words and music of the British countryside, and features material from a wealth of famous authors and newly commissioned material from the cream of British comedy writers.

So don't risk missing out on this amazing opportunity...book your tickets now!

### THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR by Nikolai Gogol

In the Studio, 21st - 31st March

This unsentimental comedy is a masterpiece of Gogol's art and was regarded by Nabokov as the greatest play in the Russian language.

It is a satire of a corrupt society, so devastating that the resultant furore drove Gogol into exile.

On one level it is straightforwardly funny, on another level, however, it draws us into an absurd, grotesque universe, the product of a richly surreal imagination.

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