

NOTES ON THE PLAY

In presenting Shakespeare's MEASURE FOR MEASURE it is realised immediately that this vigorous comedy has a bitter tang of disillusionment. It's immediate predecessor was ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL and that TROILUS & CRESSID is soon to follow. The poet in all these plays reveals an anti-romantic insight into the life of the period. Gone are the "Cakes and Ale" of the great Elizabethan triumphs, Kenilworth Revels and the Defeat of the Armada. Gloriana is dead. Drunkenness, pestilence and vice are rampant.

The play reveals some remarkable modern equivalents—the campaign against vice—the reintroduction of ancient law with more severe punishments of flogging and death—the morality of the death penalty—the crime of adultery; all these subjects are newspaper headlines of our present day.

Against this background of moral observations the poet has used an Italianate story originally introduced into England by Whetstone. I have presented Mistress Overdone and Pompey with all their fun but with the piteous spectacle of the victims of a system which has created modern political debate. In doing so the comedy presents the moral question and perhaps the best comment is that of the French dramatist, Eugene Brieux, when he used the stage for this purpose "It may be witnessed by every one unless we must believe that folly and ignorance are necessary conditions of virtue."
G.W.W.

PROSCENIUM

Founded by George Woollands and Margaret Rendle

Season 1960-61 will open at this hall on October 27, 28 and 29, 1960. Anyone wishing to join the Society, or help us in any way, please write to the Hon. Secretary, Margaret Woollands, 7 Jubilee Drive, South Ruislip.

PROSCENIUM is affiliated to the BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE
and the HARROW ARTS COUNCIL

The Arts Council makes a grant of 25 per cent of Box Office receipts towards any loss incurred by these performances.

Measure

for

Measure

by

William Shakespeare

Presented by

PROSCENIUM

May, 19, 20 & 21, 1960

6d.

Measure for Measure

by

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Vincentio, the Duke	DENIS GRIST
Angelo, the Deputy	ROY JACKSON
Escalus, a counsellor	DEREK LEROY
Claudio	DENNIS BRIDGEMAN
Lucio	JOHN GOBEY
The Provost	NORMAN GEE
Froth	GORDON CUMMINGS
A Gentleman	LAWRENCE SMITH
Friar Thomas	PETER GEE
Pompey, servant to Mistress Overdone ..	BARRY BROWN
Abhorson, an Executioner ..	LAWRENCE SMITH
Barnardine	PETER GEE
Servant to Angelo	JAMES YOUNG
Friar Peter	GORDON CUMMINGS
Elbow, a foolish constable	SAM THORNTON
Boy to Mariana	PAUL FLOWER
Isabella, sister to Claudio	PATRICIA SMITH
Mariana	JEAN ABRAHAMS
Juliet	CHRISTINE LEE
Francisca, a Nun	JEANNE HAWKES
Mistress Overdone	RENEE PEARSON
Kate Keepdown	SUSANNE MOLLER
Women of the Town	JEANNE HAWKES, BARBARA SIDDALL and BRENDA HAWKES

Play produced by GEORGE W. WOOLLANDS

Part I

- Scene 1. The Council Chamber.
- Scene 2. A Public Place.
- Scene 3. A Monastic Cell.
- Scene 4. The Chapel of a Nunnery.
- Scene 5. The Council Chamber.
- Scene 6. A Prison.
- Scene 7. The Council Chamber.
- Scene 8. A Prison.

Part II

- Scene 1. The Grange of St. Luke's.
- Scene 2. A Prison.
- Scene 3. Angelo's House.
- Scene 4. The Gate of the City.

There will be an interval of fifteen minutes between Parts I and II.

Costumes by M. & J. LUXTON and PROSCENIUM under the direction of RENEE PEARSON and MARGARET RENDLE.

Wigs by BERT. Curtains by KING OF TABS.

Additional Lighting by STRAND ELECTRIC & ENGINEERING Co. Ltd.

Stained-glass Window, Urns and Prison Grills by KENNETH HAWKES.

Music arranged by DENIS GRIST assisted by KATHLEEN JONES.

Stage Managers GORDON CUMMINGS and
LAWRENCE SMITH

Assistant Stage Managers MARGARET RENDLE, PETER
GEE and RODERICK JONES

Lighting PETER GREAVES