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ROYAL**

KING STREET, BRISTOL
Founded 1766

OTHELLO

by
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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COMPANY

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THIS PRODUCTION . . .

OTHELLO

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

In "Othello" the ideas are those that inspire nearly all Shakespeare's plays, that life seeks to preserve a balance, and that obsessions, which upset the balance, betray life to evil. In this play the obsession is that of jealous suspicion. It is displayed at work in a mean mind and in a generous mind.

The chief character is a man of intellect who has been warped out of humanity by the world's injustice. Iago is a man of fine natural intellect who has not been trained in the personal qualities that bring preferment. An educated man is advanced above him, as in life it happens. He broods over the injustice and schemes to be revenged. Othello has too much passion to be anything but blind under a passionate influence like love or jealousy. The mean man's want of emotion keeps always the conduct of the vengeance precise and clear.

Shakespeare brooded much upon all the tragedies of intellect. In this play, as in "Richard III" and "The Merchant of Venice", he brooded upon the power of a warped intellect to destroy generous life.

When he created Iago he wrote in a cooler spirit than when he created the earlier characters. Iago is therefore much more perfectly a living being but much less passionately alive than the soul burnt out at Bosworth, or the soul flouted in the Duke's Court. Like all sinister men, he tells nothing of himself. We see only his intellect. What he is in himself is as mysterious as life. Shakespeare found in Iago an image like life itself, a power and an activity, prompted by something secret and silent.

From "William Shakespeare".—JOHN MASEFIELD,
Poet Laureate.

Tuesday, 27th November, 1956

For Three Weeks

OTHELLO

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

The cast in the order of their appearance:

RODERIGO EDWARD HARDWICKE
IAGO, Ancient to Othello ALAN DOBIE
BRABANTIO, Father to Desdemona ... NICHOLAS BRADY
OTHELLO, a noble Moor JOSEPH O'CONNOR
CASSIO, Lieutenant to Othello MICHAEL MEACHAM
DUKE OF VENICE ROBERT LANG
LODOVICO PETER O' TOOLE
SENATOR ARTHUR BLAKE
OFFICER, to the Senate TREVOR WILLIAMS
SAILOR RASHID CARRAPIETT
MESSENGER, to the Senate TERRY SCULLY
DESDEMONA, wife to Othello WENDY WILLIAMS
MONTANO, Governor of Cyprus ALEX SCOTT
1st GENTLEMAN TREVOR WILLIAMS
2nd GENTLEMAN JOHN FLOYD
3rd GENTLEMAN ARTHUR BLAKE
EMILIA, wife to Iago RACHEL ROBERTS
A HERALD NICHOLAS BRADY
CLOWN ROBERT LANG
BIANCA, a Courtesan WENDY HUTCHINSON
GRATIANO ARTHUR BLAKE
OFFICERS, SAILORS, MUSICIANS, SERVANTS, etc.—
RASHID CARRAPIETT, TERRY SCULLY, TREVOR WILLIAMS

Produced by JOHN MOODY

Setting designed by PATRICK ROBERTSON

Costumes from the Old Vic production of "Othello" designed
by LOUDAN SAINTHILL

There will be Two Intervals
of Twelve Minutes

Fights arranged by Alex Scott

Scenery built in the Bristol Old Vic Workshops and painted by Rita Taylor.
Wigs by Nathanwigs. Swords by Bapty.
Photographs of the production by Desmond Tripp, 36, Whiteladies Road.

Evenings at 7.0 except Friday evenings at 7.30.

Matinees: Wednesdays 2.30. Saturdays 3.0

PRICES OF ADMISSION

ORCHESTRA STALLS—8/6 & 7/6. DRESS CIRCLE—8/6, 7/- & 5/6.
UPPER CIRCLE—5/6, 4/6 & 3/6. GALLERY—3/-.

Director JOHN MOODY
General Manager CHARLES LANDSTONE
Resident Manager T. C. P. HICKSON
Production Manager NAT BRENNER
Stage Director ANN SPIERS
Assistant Stage Managers { JOHN FLOYD
WENDY HUTCHINSON

THE BRISTOL OLD VIC SCHOOL (Principal: Duncan Ross) is run in
conjunction with the Company. Full details of the School can be obtained
from the Principal at 1 and 2 Downside Road, Clifton, Bristol 8.

THE BRISTOL OLD VIC THEATRE CLUB was formed in 1946 with the
object of helping the Theatre to build up a regular and well-informed
audience; it continues to do this by arranging lectures, visits and other func-
tions. Details from Hon. Membership Secretary, c/o. Theatre Royal, Bristol.

The next meeting of the Bristol Old Vic Theatre Club will be held at
the Theatre on Sunday, 9th December, at 7.0 p.m. Lecture by
Raphael Shelly on "The Modern German Theatre—Brecht and his back-
ground."

NEXT PRODUCTION . . . Thurs., Dec. 20th to Feb. 16th

SLEEPING BEAUTY

By V. C. CLINTON-BADDELEY

With music by JULIAN LEIGH

A specially commissioned Christmas entertainment following the success of "Dick Whittington" last year.

The Company will include:

LALLY BOWERS	JOSEPH O'CONNOR	RACHEL ROBERTS
ALAN DOBIE	WENDY WILLIAMS	MICHAEL MEACHAM
PHYLLIDA LAW	PETER O'TOOLE	WENDY HUTCHINSON
ROBERT LANG	ALEX SCOTT	ERIC THOMPSON
GEOFFREY WRIGHT	and	PATRICK BLACKWELL
ARTHUR BLAKE	CHORUS	JOHN FLOYD

Produced by WARREN JENKINS

Scenery by PATRICK ROBERTSON Costumes by ROSEMARY VERCOE
Dances by PETER DARRELL Musical Direction by COURTNEY KENNY

EVENINGS AT 7.0 MATINEES AT 2.30

MATINEES:—

FIRST MATINEE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22nd

WEEK COMMENCING DEC. 24th:—WED. Dec. 26th, THURS. Dec. 27th,
FRI. Dec. 28th, SAT. Dec. 29th.

WEEK COMMENCING DEC. 31st:—TUES. Jan. 1st, WED. Jan. 2nd,
THURS. Jan. 3rd, SAT. Jan. 5th.

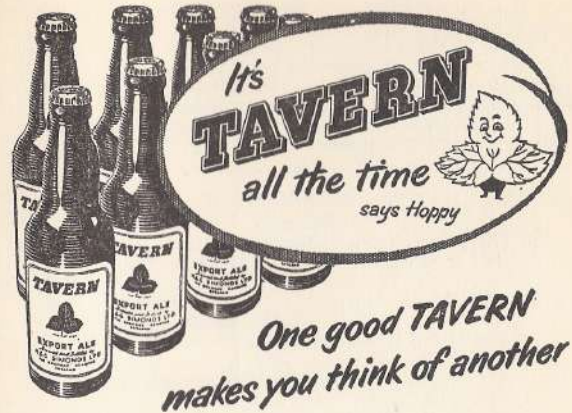
WEEK COMMENCING JAN. 7th:—
WED. Jan. 9th, THURS. Jan. 10th, SAT. Jan. 12th.
THEREAFTER EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN 9.30 to 8.30.

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SPECIAL NOTICE TO TYPE "A" SEASON TICKET HOLDERS.

Will Type "A" season ticket holders who have seats for the first WEDNESDAY of each play, kindly inform the Box Office if they will require them for the FIRST WEDNESDAY of Pantomime which is BOXING NIGHT.



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This historic theatre — the oldest in the country — was purchased for the citizens of Bristol by the Trustees in 1942 and leased by them to the Arts Council of Great Britain, who have since that date expended large sums of money on the maintenance of the building. The Bristol City Council have also contributed funds towards this purpose.

In addition both the Arts Council and the Bristol City Council give financial support to the Bristol Old Vic Company.

THE THEATRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Sir Philip Morris (Vice-Chancellor, Bristol University)

For the Arts Council:

Mr. J. L. Hodgkinson

Mr. M. J. McRobert

For the Old Vic Trust:

Mr. Alfred Francis

Mr. George Chamberlain

For the Bristol City Council: Ald. G. A. Watson Allan

Ald. F. G. W. Chamberlain

Mr. Michael Benthall, Mr. Charles Landstone,

Mr. John Moody, Mr. T. C. P. Hickson and

Mr. Nat Brenner attend meetings in an

advisory capacity.

Before the Theatre . . .

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