ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
THEATRE GUILD

Alexander and Campaspe

By JOHN LYLY

AT THE HUT
Wednesday  -  9th August
Thursday   -  10th August
Friday     -  11th August
Saturday   -  12th August
1950
JOHN LYLY was the first of the dramatists of Queen Elizabeth's time to succeed in making comedies which could compare for grace and beauty with the comedy of ancient times. He was the first to bring comedy out of the wind and the rain, to a home within comfortable walls; the first to set his wit by candledight, and create an intimate, polished and courtly audience. He was also an innovator in two important technical matters: in the achievement of distinction of style not only in the language, but the manner and spirit of his presentation.

Alexander and Campaspe, which is a very free treatment of an incident in the life of Alexander the Great, thus stands at the threshold of Elizabethan comedy. It was the play with which Lyly opened his indoor Blackfriars Theatre, a little theatre in the precincts of the former Blackfriars Priory. His players were the boys of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal; they were talented children, carefully trained in both singing and the art of acting. Partly, perhaps, because of the immaturity of his actors, who could be trained to expressed a mannered style, but not perhaps very effectively to convey subtle or powerful emotions, he wrote his comedy in a curiously neat, antithetical language which to the reader often seems highly artificial and unnatural. But we have discovered, in rehearsal, how effective it can be as an aid to dramatic expression. The general tone of the comedy is elegant for its subject-matter, which is lightly classical and scholarly — suitable to a courtly or aristocratic audience; and romantic for its treatment, consisting as it does of a generous and humane gesture on the part of Alexander who, though the world lies in his power, resigns the captive Campaspe to the humble artist Apelles because during the painting of her portrait at his order, they have fallen in love.

The production of Campaspe has been a temerarious venture, I feel, but in spite of many difficulties and setbacks (and they were inevitably many in consideration of the size of the cast), we have had the very great pleasure of feeling it grow and take shape. We offer it now very imperfect, but as perfect as enthusiasm, coupled with inexperience, can make it. We hope that both knowledge and skill will come to us, and that our next attempt at a play from the English syllabus will profit by the preliminary work we have done with this.

BRIAN ELLIOTT.

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Scene

Athens, in the time of Alexander the Great, immediately after the Conquest of Thebes

PROLOGUE
PART I
INTERVAL
PART II
EPILOGUE
"ALEXANDER AND CAMPASPE"

Cast in Order of Appearance

CLYTUS
PARMENIO
TIMOCLEA
CAMPASPE
ALEXANDER, King of Macedonia
HEPHAESTION, His General
MANES, Servant to Diogenes
PSYLlius, Servant to Apelles
GRANICHUS, Servant to Plato
MELIPPUS, Chamberlain to Alexander
PLATO
ARISTOTLE
CLEANTHUS
ANAXARCHUS
CRYSSIPUS
CRATES
DIOGENES
PAGE TO ALEXANDER
APELLES, An Artist
CRYSSUS, A Beggar
SOLINUS, A Citizen
MILECTUS
PHRYGIIUS
LAIS, A Courtesan
THEBAN CAPTIVES
CITIZENS OF ATHENS
PROLOGUE and EPILOGUE
SONG: "Cupid and Campaspe"
GROUP OF MUSICIANS

John Haden
John Taylor
Violet Taylor
Leila Geisler
Peter Shekleton
John Markham
Warren Woods
Neil Lovett
Don Trebilcock
Ernest Kelly
Leon Atkinson
Nicholas Wilson
John Cross
John Rohde
Gordon Reid
John Cousins
James Giles
Barbara Williams
Donald Rosie
John Cousins
John Rohde
John Cross
Murray Haddrick
Judith Wibberley
LUCY PARKES, LUCY OLIVER, JULIA BESWICK
KATHARINE TIMCKE, DAVID TREBILCOCK
LEON ATKINSON, JOHN ROHDE, JOHN CROSS

Directed by PATRICIA ELLIOTT

Songs and Catches by BRIAN ELLIOTT
Instrumental Music arranged by PROF. JOHN BISHOP from Elizabethan originals

Director: BRIAN ELLIOTT
Producer: ENID LEWIS
Producer: ENID LEWIS
Stage Manager: JILL WEBBER

Setting and Lighting - CHARLES BANNON
Scenery Construction - GUILD STAGE GROUP
Electricians - HERBERT KOLLOSCH, JOHN HANTKEN
Costume Design - CHARLES BANNON
Costumes - GUILD COSTUME GROUP

Directed by THELMA BAULDERSTONE
UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

Patrons

Dr. T. D. Campbell
Professor John Bishop
Mr. Frank S. Johnston

Professor J. G. Cornell
Dr. C. E. Fenner

Committee

Miss T. Baulderstone
Miss Enid Brown
Miss S. Davies
Miss Rosemary Fitch
Miss Patricia Hackett

Mr. Roy Leaney
Mr. H. W. Piper
Mrs. I. Thomas
Miss G. D. Walsh
Miss D. Maund

Mr. B. Marsden

Miss Enid Lewis (Theatre Guild Manager)

Mr. Charles Bannon (Theatre Guild Art Director)

NOTICES

Enquiries regarding Membership and Subscriptions may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Miss E. Wedd, Harvard Chambers, North Terrace (W 3065) or care of the University

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