



LITTLE THEATRE

A
SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
PRESENTATION



Mary Stuart

By Freidrich Schiller
adapted by Peter Oswald
Directed by Alistair Hewitt

16th - 24th
February 2007
7.45pm



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Director's Notes



History plays tend to fall in to one of two camps in my experience. Those that provide us with a faithful retelling of that which we already know and those which illuminate an old story with a fresh and exciting perspective. I hope, very much, that Peter Oswald's new translation of Schiller's *Mary Stuart* falls into the latter category, relying, as it does, on an entirely fictitious meeting between Mary and Elizabeth, in order to really explore the main characters and the dilemmas with which they were faced.

We have tried very hard, in this production, to follow the emotional journey that these two Queens took, as well as those of the men that surrounded and tried to influence them. This has not been an easy task, but when one is surrounded by ten actors with the talent and commitment that my cast possess, then you know that anything that is good is possible.

I hope that you enjoy the play.

Alistair Hewitt
Director



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Freidrich Schiller

Freidrich Schiller was born in 1759, in Wurtenburg, Germany and is considered by most Germans to be Germany's most important classical playwright and poet. He wrote *Mary Stuart* in 1800, depicting a fictitious meeting between Mary, the Queen of Scots and Elizabeth I, Queen of England.

His life was very productive, writing many plays and poems, but he died in May 1805, at the age of 46.

Peter Oswald

Peter Oswald is a playwright, poet and author and he was born in England in 1965. His plays include *Augustine's Oak*, *Odysseus* and a translation of *Mary Stuart* and *The Storm*.

Peter is currently under commission to the Barbican Theatre in Plymouth and he is working on a new play for Mark Rylance of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.





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Mary Stuart





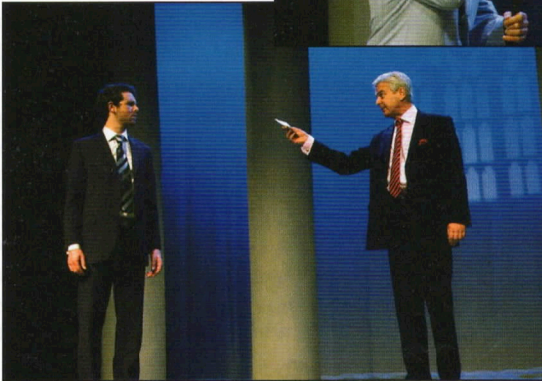
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Mary Stuart



Mary Stuart

By Freidrich Schiller

adapted by Peter Oswald

Directed by Alistair Hewitt

Cast

Elizabeth, Queen of England..... MARIANNE HARDY

Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland..... LIANNE NAUGHTON

Hannah Kennedy, Mary's Lady in Waiting..... MICHELLE PAPPINI

Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester..... MIKE YATES

George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury..... RAY MANN

William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, High Treasurer..... DAVID DAVIES

Sir Amias Paulet, Guardian of Mary..... MIKE STOWELL

Mortimer, his nephew..... ANDREW KAYE

William Davison, Secretary of State/

O'Kelly, Mortimer's Friend..... ERIC CHADWICK

Count Aubespine, French Ambassador/Melvil..... PETER HESLIN

Act I - Castle of Fotheringhay, a room

Act II - The Palace of Westminster

Act III - A park

Act IV Scene 1 - An ante-chamber

Act IV Scene 2 - The Queen's apartment

Act V Scene 1 - Fotheringhay

Act V Scene 2 - The Queen's apartment

The play is continuous there will be an interval of 20 minutes in the middle of Act III.

Why not beat the rush and pre-order your interval drinks in the bar?



Staging

Stage Manager	Pete Beswick
Assistant Stage Manager (Book)	Jean Watkinson
Properties	Gay Stowell
.....	Michele Martin
Costumes	SDC Wardrobe & Cast
.....	Margaret Horne
Lighting Design	Tony Berry
Lighting Operator	Phil Hutchinson
Sound Design	Brian Hodge
Sound Operator	Chris Ratcliffe
Set Design	Syd Coley
Set Constructed by	SDC Production Team
Scenic Artist	Bob Jessamine
Photography by	Neil Hickson

The Little Theatre - Home of the Southport Dramatic Club.

The SDC wishes to ensure that all our patrons enjoy a comfortable, enjoyable and safe visit to our theatre. We should be grateful for your cooperation in helping us to achieve this. Please note the following:

- Should you arrive after the performance has started, you will be guided to your seats when a suitable opportunity occurs.
- At the end of the performance, exits will be open at both the front and back of the auditorium.
- First Aid assistance is regularly provided by volunteers from the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. Should you require help, please advise our stewards on duty in the Foyer.
- Patrons with hearing impairments should note that the auditorium has an Induction Loop System for your assistance. Hearing wands are also available from our stewards.
- For the comfort of all our patrons, smoking in the theatre complex is only permitted at designated tables in the Bar Lounge.
- Cameras and recording equipment may not be operated during performances
- **KINDLY ENSURE THAT YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS SWITCHED OFF.**

Thank you.

DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR, ALAN NEWPORT





LITTLE THEATRE

HOME OF

SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB

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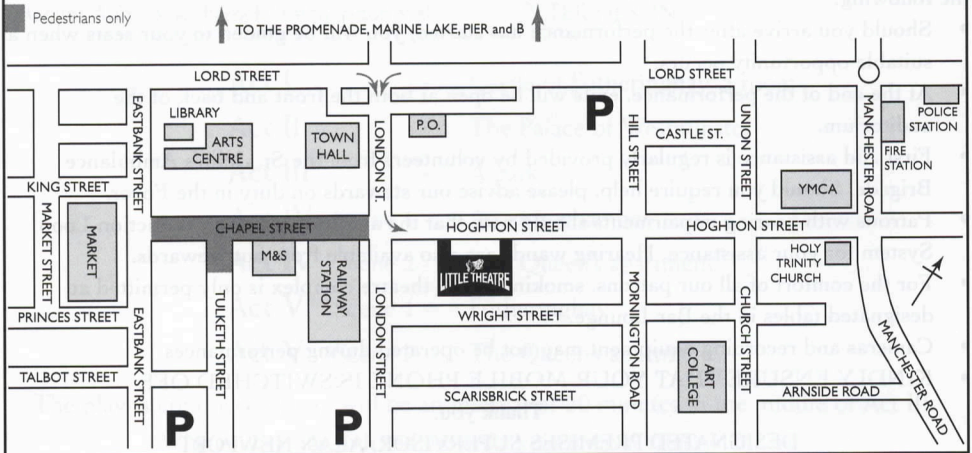
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SUGGESTED PARKING FOR THE LITTLE THEATRE



Mary Stuart

Cast

David Davies *William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, High Treasurer*

David's career in theatre spans a lifetime, awakened in his school years in Children's Theatre in Yorkshire. In younger years he played for Merseyside Unity Theatre, appearing in Shakespeare and other classics at the old Everyman Theatre, and later, with a friend, founded Sefton Theatre Company. A member of the SDC since the 1980's, he has both directed, or appeared in, many comedies, dramas and who-dunnits for the company. He now spends much time with his other hobbies – fishing, reading, some writing, walking in Snowdonia and dabbling in water-colours.



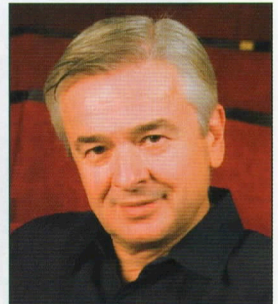
Marianne Hardy *Elizabeth, Queen of England*

Marianne says that having been seen just nine months ago in *The Gingerbread Lady*, playing a loud mouthed alcoholic New Yorker, the transition to Elizabeth, Queen of England, has been a real experience, with the added bonus of getting to wear, "the big frock". She says it is a privilege to work in one of Alistair's productions alongwith such a talented cast.

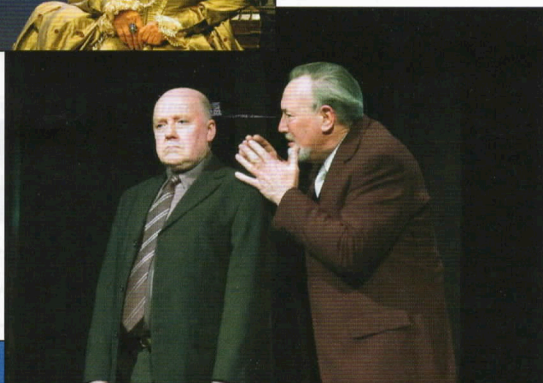


Mike Yates *Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester*

Mike was last seen on the Little Stage last season under his stage name of Fredrick Fellowes in *Noises Off*, however he is very pleased to be playing The Earl of Leicester in this historical production directed by Alistair Hewitt, alongwith this very talented cast.



Mary Stuart



Mary Stuart

Cast

Mike Stowell *Sir Amias Paulet, Guardian of Mary*

It is almost four years since Mike last appeared at the Little Theatre, playing Mr McLeavy in the Bar Production of Joe Orton's *Loot* (directed, incidentally, by one Alistair Hewitt – sounds familiar?), but he hopes that he might be back again before 2011! (Welcome back Mike) Ed.



Lianne Naughton *Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland*

This is not the first time Lianne has played an ill-fated Queen having taken the role of *Katherine Howard*.

She was most recently seen albeit at short notice in the 2006 bar production of *The Gingerbread Lady*, playing Polly, daughter of Evy (Marianne Hardy, Elizabeth I). Other plays have included *The Anniversary*, *Mrs Warren's Profession*, *The Herbal Bed* and *Amy's View*.

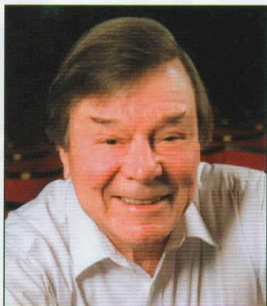
She is delighted to have been given the opportunity to bring Mary Stuart to life, in this intriguing fictional play.



Ray Mann *George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury*

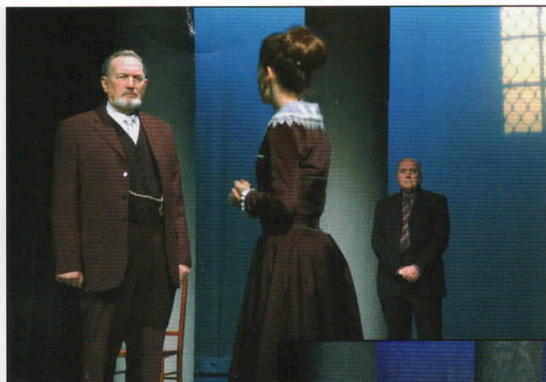
Ray is enjoying playing minor roles in interesting plays this season. So far he has been seen as the retired detective in *Strangers on a Train* and tonight he can be seen playing an elderly advisor to the two Queens.

Ray wonders what are his prospects for getting a major role? (Keep on trying Ray, your talent might be rewarded one of these days) Ed.



Mary Stuart

Cast



Mary Stuart

Cast

Andrew Kaye *Mortimer, Nephew of Sir Amias Paulet*

Andrew has recently appeared in *Strangers on a Train* as Guy Haines and is really pleased to be back on the stage as Mortimer in *Mary Stuart*.

He has really enjoyed the rehearsal process and has picked up many interesting historical facts on the way.



Michelle Pappini *Hannah Kennedy, Mary's Lady in Waiting*

Michelle trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and has played a wide variety of roles.

However her first performance for the SDC was in *Strangers on a Train*, last November, and she is very pleased to be directed by Alistair, in this historical play.



Peter Heslin *Count Aubespine, French Ambassador / Melvil*

Peter has been involved both on stage and backstage for a number of years. He has taken both large and small roles at the Little Theatre including *Shadowlands*, *Business Affairs*, *The Perfect Murder* and *Star Quality*.

He has also appeared in musicals for local operatic societies and has happy memories of *Kiss Me Kate* and *South Pacific*. He enjoys serious productions as well as comedy. He was last seen on the Little Stage, earlier in this season, playing the Brigadier, in *The Darling Buds of May*.



Eric Chadwick

William Davison, Secretary of State / O'Kelly, Mortimer's friend

Enticed by the prospect of high office Eric thanks his friends Lord Hewitt and Burleigh for their continued support and the opportunity to serve in such an esteemed position. He is confident that it will go well. Eric's last appearance for SDC was in *Dick Whittington* but he has appeared for Sefton Theatre Company, in *Cause Celebre*, *As you like it* and *The Male of the Species*.





LITTLE THEATRE
SOUTHPORT
DRAMATIC CLUB

Dates for your Diary

7th March - 10th March 2007

PYGMALION

By Bernard Shaw, directed by James Hughes-Alty.



An SDC Youth Production

23rd March - 31st March 2007

A PASSIONATE WOMAN

By Kay Mellor, directed by David Charters.

Sponsored by The Royal Bank of Scotland.



An SDC Production

20th April - 28th April 2007

DAD'S ARMY

By Jimmy Perry and David Croft, directed by Margaret Mann.

Sponsored by Davies Maintenance.



An SDC Production

12th May - 19th May

BRIGADOON

By Lerna & Lowe, directed by Hilary Thomson.

A Birkdale Orpheus Production

22nd - 26th May 2007

SITTING PRETTY

By Amy Rosenthal, directed by Ray Mann.



An SDC Bar Production

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LITTLE THEATRE

A
SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
YOUTH PRESENTATION



Pygmalion

By Bernard Shaw

Directed by James Hughes-Alty

**7th - 10th
March 2007**

7.30pm



Tickets: £7.00 & 5.50

Box Office from: Wednesday 28th February, 11am

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LITTLE THEATRE

A
SOUTHPORT DRAMATIC CLUB
PRESENTATION

Sponsored by
The Royal Bank
of Scotland



a Passionate Woman

By Kay Mellor

Directed by David Charters

23rd - 31st March 2007

7.45pm



Tickets: £8.25 & 7.00

Box Office from: Friday 16th March 11am

Box Office: Tel: (01704) 530521/530460 • Fax: (01704) 546782 • www.littletheatresouthport.co.uk

Some everyday expletive
language is used in this play