

SALISBURY FESTIVAL

PRESENTS

WED 26 MAY ~ FRI 28 MAY
1999

DINING
WITH
ALICE



When Helen Marriage, Director of the Salisbury Festival, invited us to create a show based on Alice in Wonderland for the Larmer Tree Gardens, we were immediately impressed by the appropriateness of the site for the subject. One of the characteristics of 'site specific' work is an innate sympathy between content and location. The Larmer Tree is a Victorian creation with all the features particular to an age of colonial travel: the Indian House, the Roman Temple, ponds, peacocks and splendid gardens. The elements of the site are in some ways incongruous yet they have been made harmonious by General Pitt Rivers, the garden's designer. In the same way, Lewis Carroll's account of Alice's Adventures succeeds in creating a world wherein the most preposterous types do not seem out of place. Thus garden and story have much in common.

Given such a site we felt it was important to expose the audience to as much of the gardens as possible. A useful cue was to be found in the seating arrangements for the Mad Hatter's Tea Party.

In DINING WITH ALICE, characters from Wonderland are released from the moderating influence of the young Alice and are free to create mayhem. As they escort their guests around the grounds, they confound their guests' expectations of a sedate and elegant soiree.

The voice of common sense, however, is not entirely absent. The ever vigilant Alice lies in wait to restrain the impulsive and absurd characters should their behaviour become unseemly.

DINING WITH ALICE celebrates the power of the imagination in a battle between anarchy and order, reason and insanity.

HILARY WESTLAKE
Director



Conceived & Directed by
HILARY WESTLAKE

Text by
DAVID GALE

Original Music
FRANK MILLWARD

Lighting Design by
SIMON CORDER

Sound Design by
JOHN DEL'NERO

Costume Design
KATY MCPHEE

Conductor & Musical Director
HOWARD MOODY

Administration
JUDITH KNIGHT and
CHARLOTTE AIKEN at Artsadmin

Production Manager
ALISON RITCHIE

Stage Manager
PEA HORSLEY

Assistant Directors
TITANIA KRIMPAS
KIRSTY DAVIS
KATE SAXON

Assistant Stage Managers
HELEN DYER
JEMMA GRAY
SAM HOLDER
HELEN SCOTT

Sound Operator
MIKE FURNESS

Lighting technicians
ALISTAIR VILES
STEVE WALD

Press & Publicity
NICKY WEBB ASSOCIATES

Just what happened to all the characters in Alice's adventures when they were no longer needed in her dreams? The answer is many of them went into service, turning their eccentric skills to the task of entertaining diners in magical places that retain a flavour of Victorian times. Unfortunately Alice's companions have not completely mastered the arts of deference and decorum. Despite their valiant attempts to keep the peace, the characters are as opinionated as ever.

DINING WITH ALICE



The Hosts

The White Queen ANNABELLE CHEETHAM

The Duchess HEATHER KEENS

Tweedle Dum & Dee RALPH OSWICK

The White Knight ORLANDO SCHENK

The Queen of Hearts DIANE SHERLOCK

The White Rabbit GARY STEVENS

The Mad Hatter TREVOR STUART

The Red Queen FIONA TANNER

The King of Hearts KEVIN WEST

And

Mr Alastair RODDY MAUDE ROXBY

Alices

AMELIA KOSMINSKY and

EMILY HOUSTON · SASHA KOSMINSKY

The Musicians

1st Violin
RACHEL GOUGH

2nd Violin
SUSAN HIGGS

Double Bass
NATASHA HUGHES

Trumpet
MARTIN INGS

Horn
IAN LOWES

Cello
DAVID NORTON

Trombone
KEVIN SMITH

Viola
CATHY STEVENS

Percussion
RON VINT

Singers
DENNIS WHITEHEAD
ROWAN WRIGHT

The Turban Team
JUSTIN ADDLETON
SALLY ADAMS
KENT BARKER
ISABEL BAYLISS
JESS BLACKFORD
RHOS CHAPMAN
KATE CHERRY
REBECCA COLLINS
JOHN DONACHIE
ROBERT FORD
JOHN FRY
DEBORAH JAMES
JOSEPHINE HEALY
THEO HERDMAN
SUE MARTINDALE
JETHRO MATCHAM
JENNIFER MORGAN
BEN PARK
CHRISTINA RICHARDSON
ELPIE RAWLENCE
KATE ROSS
NAOMI SIMPSON
PETER SHAW
CAROLINE SMITH
LIAM THORNHILL
HANNAH WHITE

Additional waiters supplied by
WESTERN STAFF SERVICES
PERSONNEL SOLUTIONS
FESTIVAL CHORUS

Festival Chorus
MARGARET BARTER
HELEN BURGESS
LOUISE BURGESS
POLLY DICKINS
SALLY LEAVER
REBECCA LLOYD
PETER LUTON
KERRI PITCAIRN
JANE RASCH
JENNY ROBERT
SIMON SCUTT
GILL SWATRIDGE
PAUL TAYLOR
VERONICA VINCENT
SALLY WHITE



Consultant Chefs
RUPERT WILLCOCKS & STEVE HAMSON
01722 711411

drop off catering company
01722 410447

Festival Chorus Co-ordinator
SUE KENT

Volunteer Co-ordinator
TREVELYAN WRIGHT

Linen kindly supplied by
STALBRIDGE LINEN SERVICES

Wine supplied by
NADDER WINES

Catering equipment supplied by
ROCHESTER'S

Lighting equipment by
THEATRE VISION

Sound equipment by
DOBSON SOUND

Scaffolding by
MEDIA STRUCTURES

With thanks to
Tracey Hartles & the staff of the Larmer Tree Estate,
Jasmina Vanrintel, Anne Smith at South Wilts School
and Paul Whiteside at Salisbury College for
co-ordinating student performers, Fiesta Mei Ling,
Salisbury Arts Centre.

Additional Music & Words
"Come Into The Garden Maud"
words by Lord Tennyson, music by W.M. Balfe
"The Children's Home"
words by F.E. Weatherly, music by F.H. Cowen
"Love's Old Sweet Song"
words by G. Clifton Bingham, music by J.L. Molloy
"Roses Of Picardy"
words by Fred E. Weatherley, music by Haydn Wood
"The Spider And The Fly"
words by Mary Howitt
"Old Mother Hubbard"

Biographies

Annabelle Cheetham *The White Queen*
Annabelle was born in New Zealand and later studied at Trinity College of Music, she has appeared in many Opera Factory productions and performed many varied recital and concert engagements. Although her roles include Marcellina, *Le Nozze Di Figaro*, Olga, *Eugene Onegin* and Bianca, *Rape of Lucretia*, she also enjoys the less traditional platform, such as Station House Opera's performance of *The Salisbury Proverbs* at the 1997 Salisbury Festival.

Simon Corder *Lighting Designer*
On leaving school, Simon Corder joined the circus and later learned his craft as a technician in touring theatre and opera. His career includes over 100 lighting designs for opera, theatre, dance, in situations ranging from Europe's finest Opera Houses to studios at the cutting edge of the avant-garde.

John Del 'Nero *Sound Designer*
John has worked in sound for 27 years, during this time he has designed an extensive range of different productions, from musical theatre to large scale outdoor events, such as VE Day in Hyde Park. John is also designing a new sound system for Salisbury Cathedral. During this period he has tried to learn how to fish for trout using a fly and sail a dingy, he is still a poor novice at both. John lives with Alison Ritchie in Berwick St. John.

David Gale *Text*
David Gale co-founded Lumiere & Son Theatre Company with director Hilary Westlake in 1973 and for twenty years wrote most of the company's shows. He has published a novel, written an opera for Channel 4 and documentaries for TV and radio. In October 1999 his new performance 'I Am Dandy' opens in London.

Heather Keens *The Duchess*
Heather Keens trained at the Royal College of Music and has worked extensively in contemporary and classical opera and theatre in this country and in Australia. Her recent work ranges from performances with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra to solos with the Meryl Tankard Dance Company. She sings with a jazz trio Songlines, and has regularly collaborated with Hilary Westlake and Frank Millward.

Ralph Oswick *Tweedle Dum & Dec*
Ralph Oswick is a founder member of the Natural Theatre Company of Bath with whom he has performed since 1969. As Artistic Director he has had overall responsibility for the company's design, direction and policy, he has performed with the company worldwide. He has worked previously with Hilary Westlake including a project for Expo 88 in Australia.

Katy McPhee *Costume Designer*
Katy McPhee trained at Wimbledon School of Art gaining a BA Hons in Theatre Design. She works in film, TV and theatre. Most recently she has designed costumes for DV8 Physical Theatre.

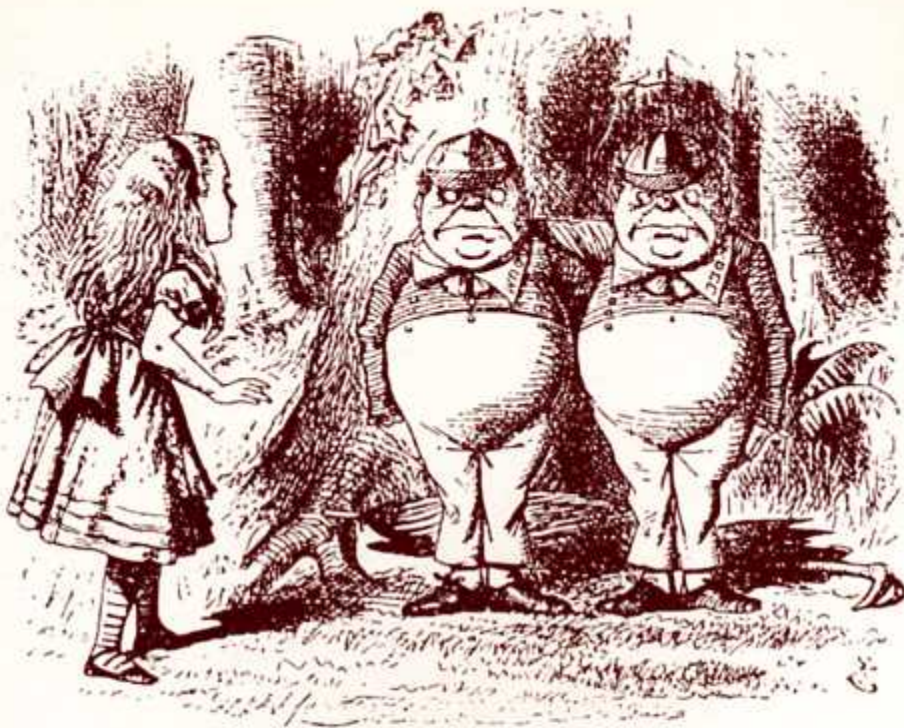
Roddy Maude Roxby *Mr. Alastair*
Roddy studied painting at the Royal College of Art, he was a founder member of Theatre Machine, Britain's first Theatre of Improvisation and Alice's Diner Theatre Company, which devised 8 shows between 1990 and 1998. Roddy has toured extensively in the UK and abroad, he also teaches masks and improvisation in London, Cambridge and the USA.

Frank Millward *Composer*
Frank is currently finishing PhD studies in music composition at the University of Queensland, Australia. In the eighties Frank worked with Hilary Westlake & David Gale on nine Lumiere & Son productions, the most notable, *Brightside* won the Pernier Pick of the Fringe Award in 1986. For the last 13 years Frank has written music for television, theatre as well as a number of pop albums (Michael Hutchence, Noiseworks & Eurogliders). Frank has also taught contemporary music at a number of Australian Universities.

Howard Moody *Musical Direction & Conductor*
Howard Moody is conductor of the Salisbury Festival Chorus and Sarum Chamber Orchestra. He has also conducted BBC Symphony Orchestra, Hallé, Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Orchestra of St. John's, Opera Factory, Icelandic Opera, Netherlands Radio Chorus. As a pianist and composer he has worked with classical, jazz, Indian and world musicians.

Orlando Schenk *The White Knight*
Orlando Schenk studied at Durham University and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Recent engagements include Papageno in *The Magic Flute* for British Youth Opera, Elviro in *Xerxes* for the Early Opera Company, Zuniga in *Carmen*, Jake Wallace in *La Fanciulla Del West* for Wexford Festival Opera, and Ensemble in *Don Giovanni* with Peter Brook and Claudio Abbado at the Aix-en Provence Festival. He studies with Robert Dean.

Diane Sherlock *The Queen of Hearts*
Di has worked extensively in repertory, touring & music theatre. Productions include *Gormenghast* for the David Glass Ensemble, *The Rose Tattoo* with The Peter Hall Company, *The Soldier's Tale* with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Lumiere & Son's *Brightside*. Her Musical Murder Mystery, *Who Killed Ramona Rhapsody* will premiere with the BBC Philharmonic at The Rippon Music Festival in September.



Gary Stevens *The White Rabbit*

Gary Stevens has created solo and group performances for gallery and theatre contexts since 1984, ranging from *If the caps fits*, *Different Ghosts*, and *Animal & Name*, which toured extensively. His recent work has included *AND*, presented at MOMA, his solo *Thread* presented in the UK & New York & a work for radio, *ROBIN HOOD: The Stuff*. Gary was a recipient of the 1998 Paul Hamlyn Award for visual arts.

Trevor Stuart *The Mad Hatter*

Trevor Stuart. Australian. Scientist. Studied mime in Paris. Worked with Lumiere & Son for fifteen years. Also Pip Simmons, Impact, The Fall, Django Bates, Natural Theatre of Bath, Directed National Youth Theatre, choreographed at Glyndebourne, taught in Finland. One man shows - *Taboo*, *At home with Ted Bunny*. Electronic installation - *The Information Tango*. Has been seen on BBC1, BBC2, ITV, Channel 4 & MTV.

Fiona Tanner *The Red Queen*

Fiona studied with late Gustav Sacher, whilst working with the Mayer-Lismann Opera Centre, Morley College Opera and London Music Theatre. In 1994 she received a BSc Hons from the City University and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where she studied with David Pollard. Recitals include: charity work for Save the Children at the Shawford Mill Theatre & concerts in Nice, France and in Italy at the Montalcino International Festival.

Kevin West *The King of Hearts*

Born in London, Kevin studied at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. He has worked extensively in classical opera in the UK and abroad, including roles with companies such as, the Royal Opera House, D'Oyly Carte, ENO, Opera Northern Ireland & Glyndebourne Touring Opera. Kevin has also been involved with baroque music and has recorded the works of the Regency composer Charles Dibdin for Hyperion Records.

Hilary Westlake *Director*

Hilary Westlake is the Artistic Director of Lumiere & Son Theatre Company, which she formed with David Gale in 1973, specialising in large scale site specific and music theatre productions. She also works as freelance writer/director both on the creation of new work and existing texts and operas. Recent work includes *The Secret Sign*, a promenade performance set in a gorge outside Glasgow, *A Midsummer Fire Festival* for EXPO 98 in Lisbon and *Il Mondo della Luna* by Haydn at the Buxton Festival.

