The Alchemist

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THE ALCHEMIST
by Ben Jonson

Directed by
JOHN BROCKINGTON

Setting and Lighting Designed By
RICHARD KENT WILCOX

Costume Design By
DAVID L. LOVETT

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Subtle, the alchemist . . . . . **JOHN BRIGHTON***
Face, really Jeremy, butler to Lovewit . . . . . **WAYNE ROBSON***
Dol Common, accomplice of Face and Subtle . . . . . **MARIGOLD SEMPLE**
Dapper, a lawyer's clerk . . . . . **COLIN THOMAS**
Abel Drugger, a seller of tobacco . . . . . **MICHAEL PUTTONEN**
Sir Epicure Mammon, a knight . . . . . **LEE TAYLOR***
Pertinax Surly, a gambler . . . . . **FRANK GLASSEN**
Ananias, a deacon) exiled Puritans **DEREK KEURVORST**
Tribulation Wholesome, a pastor) from Amsterdam **TONY DAWSON**
Kastril, an angry country boy . . . . . **ROSS DOUGLAS**
Dame Pliant, his sister: a widow . . . . . **MICHELLE FISK**
Lovewit, master of the house . . . . . **JERRY WASSERMAN**
Neighbours, Officers, etc. **PHILLIPPE O. BOURBONNAIS, LAWRENCE S. DAY**
BARBARA DUNCAN, PAMELA HALPERN
GORDON IMLACH, GORDON R. McINNIS
CHRIS MOSS, PAM THIRD, CLIFF WILLIAMS

* Appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

The action of the play takes place in and around Lovewit's house in the Blackfriar's district of London, Autumn, 1610.

[There will be two intermissions of twelve minutes each]

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director and Production Stage Manager . . . . . **MATT YOUNG**
Associate Technical Director . . . . . **IAN PRATT**
Costume Execution . . . . . **LILIANE JOHNSON**
MARY JANE WERISHORA
DIANE WALLACE
Lighting Execution . . . . . **MIKE McQUEEN**
Stage Carpenters . . . . . **RICHARD FAHLMAN**
JOHN WOODS
MIKE McQUEEN
JAN POLLAK
Properties . . . . . **SHERRY DARCUS**
Design Assistant . . . . . **BRIAN HAIGH**
Wigs . . . . . **JANET SALA**
Assistants To The Director . . . . . **BETH COLEMAN, SAM MANCUSO**
NICK RICE, BRUCE RUDDELL, RITA WATSON
Stage Crew . . . . . **STUDENTS OF THEATRE 350**
Box Office . . . . . **VICKI BRUNO**
SHARRON DYKE
MARIGOLD SEMPLE
Business Manager . . . . . **MARJORIE FORDHAM**
Production . . . . . **JOHN BROCKINGTON**

A NOTE ON ALCHEMY

Alchemy was a medieval science and cult which depended on the belief that gold could be produced from baser metals, if the right formula could be discovered. The Alchemists were chemist–philosophers devoted to the search for the secret. Their quest was for a universal substance called 'the elixir', or 'philosopher's stone' (frequently mentioned in the play) which they believed had the mystic power to give perfection to whatever it touched. He who could find the secret of 'the stone' would have immense power, and since gold was considered the perfect metal, he would be able to transform any baser (or imperfect) metal into pure gold. By its power (so the belief was held) a man could be given perfect health as well as wealth.

It was not unnatural then that belief in Alchemy should give rise to much chicanery and trickery on the part of unscrupulous chemists, who claimed to possess the secret–at a price. And faked experiments were convincing enough to make rich clients feel that success was just round the corner, even though proceedings seemed to drag on for months and there was so much to pay out for materials and equipment. Men were as gullible then as now, and many were left poorer after the confidence tricks of charlatans.

COMING EVENTS

November 14 - 17

THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA

by Federico Garcia Lorca

an M.A. Thesis Production

Directed by **Svetlana Smith**

– DOROTHY SOMERSET STUDIO –

January 16 - 26

THE MISANTHROPE

by Molière

Directed by **Donald Soule**

– FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE –