

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

HENRY
THE FOURTH
PART ONE

BY
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM
JANUARY 23 - 26, 1963

SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY

Act I

England in 1403 -- the uneasy reign of Henry IV. The King's concern for the brawling of his wastrel son, Prince Hal, is interrupted by news of the disaffection of the northern barons who had helped him to supplant Richard II on the English throne. Harry Percy (known as Hotspur) refuses to surrender to the King the Scottish prisoners whom he has captured at the battle of Holmedon, unless Henry will ransom Lady Percy's brother, Edmund Mortimer, who has been captured by Owen Glendower while leading an English force against that renowned Welsh warrior and magician. Because Mortimer is the rightful heir to the English throne after Richard II, Henry fearfully condemns him as a traitor, refuses his ransom and repeats his own demands for the Scottish prisoners. Hotspur, with his father, the Earl of Northumberland, and his malcontent uncle, the Earl of Worcester, returns home in great anger, simmering with plans for a rebellion against King Henry. These plans, already formulated by Worcester and waiting an appropriate moment to be broached, involve union with Glendower and with Douglas, a valiant leader of the Scots.

Other less political plans are afoot. Prince Hal, the madcap Prince of Wales, is wildly plotting with his favourite companion, Sir John Falstaff, and other rioters to rob a group of rich travellers on their way to London. After Falstaff and some of his low companions have robbed the travellers they are themselves attacked and put to ridiculous flight by Prince Hal and Ned Poins whom they do not recognize. In Hal's favourite haunt, the Boar's Head Tavern in Eastcheap, Falstaff later tells a wildly exaggerated account of how he lost the spoils of the robbery, but he is exposed as a liar by the Prince. Upon news of Hotspur's planned rebellion reaching the revellers both Falstaff and Hal, in a mock interview, take turns at impersonating the King who has summoned Hal to help in putting down the rebels. This merriment is interrupted by the entrance of the Sheriff, looking for the robbers. Falstaff hides, Hal guarantees repayment and leaves to face his father's wrath.

ACT II

In conference with Glendower at his castle in Wales the rebels (Hotspur, Worcester, Mortimer) plan both their campaign against the King and the subsequent tripartite division of the England they have not yet won. Thereupon Hotspur and Mortimer bid farewell to their wives who are apprehensive of the outcome of the rebellion.

Prince Hal, in an interview with his father, is brought to see some of the follies of his tavern life and vows to redeem his lost reputation on Hotspur's head.

Falstaff is interrupted at the tavern in his baiting of Mistress Quickly, the hostess, by the arrival of Hal who announces he has procured Falstaff a commission in charge of a group of foot soldiers. And so the tavern follows the court to Shrewsbury where the confrontation with the rebels will take place.

In the rebel camp Hotspur and his Scottish ally Douglas find themselves deserted by Northumberland who pleads illness, and by Glendower who cannot join the rebellion until his "omens" are favourable. The King sends as emissary Sir Walter Blunt who offers royal pardon. Stripped of much of their anticipated strength the rebels are, in spite of Hotspur's eagerness to do battle, prepared to listen.

ACT III

The day of the Battle of Shrewsbury dawns. The King offers, through Worcester and Vernon, complete pardon for the rebels. But Worcester's suspicions of the King are so great that, instead of delivering the gracious terms of the monarch, he delivers to his associates a challenge to immediate battle. Hotspur accepts. In the conflict that follows Douglas kills Blunt who is disguised as King Henry. But when Douglas finally confronts the real King, Prince Hal rescues his father from the Scot's sword and then encounters and kills his spirited rival Hotspur. Worcester and Vernon are captured and executed, Douglas is taken prisoner but released by the generous Crown Prince, and the rebel forces are utterly defeated and scattered. The first part of the rebellion has been successfully put down.

PRODUCTION

Director	John Brockington
Settings, Costumes & Lighting	Aristides Gazetas
Stage Manager & Technical Director	Norman Young
Costume Execution	Jessie Richardson Geraldine Richardson
	Stratford Shakespearean Festival (Military costumes & armour)
Fencing Instruction	Antony Holland
Make up	Myra Kelsey
Falstaff's Wig & Beard	Robert Clothier
Irish Harp Accompaniment	Margaret Malough
Recording of Music	Doug Gyseman
Assistants to the Director	Katherine Robertson Jim Scollon Larry Kent Larry Carlson
Assistant Stage Managers	Rae Ackerman Robert Dubberley
Lighting Execution	Brian Bueckert Peter Laight Marilyn White
Technical Assistants	Ian Pratt John Madill Morrie Archibald
Sound Operator	Sandra Walton
Ushers and Committees	Students of the Department of Theatre

HENRY THE FOURTH, PART ONE

by William Shakespeare

Cast of Characters

The King's Party

KING HENRY THE FOURTH	John Hooper
HENRY (Hal), Prince of Wales	} Sons to the King John Wright
PRINCE JOHN of Lancaster	
EARL OF WESTMORELAND	} Loyal to the King Richard Donat
SIR WALTER BLUNT	

The Rebel Party

HENRY PERCY, surnamed Hotspur, a Fiery Rebel	Karl Wylie
EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND, Hotspur's father	Michael Matthews
EARL OF WORCESTER, Hotspur's uncle	Lee MacKenzie
EDMUND MORTIMER, Brother-in-law to Hotspur	Scott Douglas
SIR RICHARD VERNON, a Rebel Lord	Dallas Selmon
OWEN GLENDOWER, Leader of the Welsh, a Magician	Alan Scarfe
EARL OF DOUGLAS, Leader of the Scots	Derek Allen
LADY PERCY, Wife to Hotspur and sister to Mortimer	Moira Nevin
LADY MORTIMER, Daughter to Glendower and wife to Mortimer	Gail Hill
SERVANT TO HOTSPUR	David Hille

The Tavern

SIR JOHN FALSTAFF	John Brighton
NED POINS, attending on Prince Hal	Leo Burdak
BARDOLPH	} Thieves Ken MacLeod
PETO	
FRANCIS, a Drawer	Bill Palmer
SHERIFF	Rod Cooper
MISTRESS QUICKLY, Hostess of Boar's Head Tavern	Nora Wright
TWO TRAVELLERS	Larry Kent
	Ernie Yacub
LORDS, DRAWERS, WENCHES, SOLDIERS, ETC.	Jim Blake,
	Roger Callow, Jon Carrodus, Liz Carson, Lynn Dickson,
	Hubert Foulds, Laurent Goulet, Doug Haddow, Edward Horne,
	Charlotte Inglis, George Kyle, Bill Palmer, April Pugsley,
	James Reid, Dave Rutherford, Eric Sager, Jim Scollon, Mary
	Spilsbury, Lyn Stewart, Garry Svisdahl, Richard White,
	Ted Whittaker, Ernie Yacub

The Scene is laid in England in 1403

There will be two Intermissions of ten minutes each

THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

offers a major and an honours programme in theatre leading to the B.A. degree. In addition it is responsible for the Frederic Wood Theatre Programme and the annual January student production.

DOROTHY SOMERSET	Acting Head, Department of Theatre
DONALD E. SOULE	Associate Professor
JOHN BROCKINGTON	Assistant Professor
JANIE STEVENSON	Instructor
ARISTIDES GAZETAS	Instructor
NORMAN YOUNG	Technical Director & Lecturer

COMING FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE EVENTS

February 15 - March 2

A TASTE OF HONEY
by Shelagh Delaney
Directed by Sydney Risk

April 5 - 20

MISALLIANCE
by George Bernard Shaw
Directed by John Brockington

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Department of Theatre wishes to express its sincere appreciation for the generous assistance it has received in the production of "Henry the Fourth".

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