

He followed this with a large number of appearances in TV plays and films, including a lead in the series KNIGHT ERRANT and a long run in EMERGENCY WARD TEN. His most recent appearance on the London stage was in the thriller WAIT UNTIL DARK, opposite Barbara Murray and later Lana Morris. At present he is devoting more and more time to writing and will probably be best known to our audiences as the creator of the successful TV series CATWEAZLE.

THE MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS

The Players form the Drama Section of the Mark Hall and Netteswell Community Association in the new town of Harlow. They have been in active existence since 1954, during which period they have given over 90 major productions in Harlow, including 15 of Shakespeare, in addition to many one act plays and recitals. This record includes several religious plays, both modern and mediaeval - their production of two East Anglian Mystery Plays was seen in Chelmsford Cathedral in 1967, where JONAH received its first performance on November 3rd 1971.

1971

*“Now the word of the
Lord came unto*

the son of Amittai...”

J

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H

Richard Carpenter and the Moot House Players
in

J O N A H

a new play by David Campton

Characters in order of their appearance:

JONAH	Richard Carpenter
A DRUNK	Robert Chittick
A BOY	David Kilkur
A GIRL	Isobel Cross
FIRST BUSINESSMAN	James Spall
SECOND BUSINESSMAN	Christopher Childs
A DOWDY WOMAN	Jill Williams
A GRAND LADY	Gillian Powell
A VIOLENT MAN	Antony Edwards
HIS OPPONENT	Jack Mitchley
A FIGURE IN GREY	David Schacht
MRS. JONAH	Yvonne Mitchley
FIRST CLEANER	Lyn Harris
SECOND CLEANER	Gladys Edwards
A SWEEPER	Harold Larner
YOUNG JONAH	Clive Gunn
MISS JONAH	Virginia Punter

The Play takes place in this Church

The play produced by Jack Mitchley

Stage management and lighting by Harry Edwards

Music and effects by Geoffrey Cowan

NOTES

DAVID CAMPTON AND HIS PLAY

JONAH is the outcome of a decision made some two years ago by the Cathedral Arts Council to sponsor an event which would help to foster the theatre arts. Following on this, David Campton, a writer best known for his work on TV and radio but who started his career writing plays for Stephen Joseph's Studio Theatre Company, was approached and accepted a commission to write a play specifically for performance in a church. Campton says of JONAH: "The play is about a man who feels let down by God. He looks at the state of the world and concludes that, if there is such a thing as divine justice, the wicked must be punished. However, a God's eye view of the world is not necessarily the same as Jonah's. I have tried to keep all the elements of the original story - even though they may not be immediately recognisable. The action is set in the Cathedral, which means that it takes place here and now, which in turn means that there will be no whale; the episode is, however, still there, giving, I hope, the feeling of being inside a whale, i.e. completely cut off from the rest of the world, alone in darkness. Although the basic idea is serious there is music, action, comedy and colour, in which I hope everyone will eventually feel involved so that the total experience will be what the best theatre should always be - a celebration.

RICHARD CARPENTER

A native of East Anglia, Richard Carpenter trained at the Old Vic School under Michael St. Denis, later returning to join the company after a spell in provincial repertory.

(P.T.O.)