

Forgotten Oberon Modern Plays by David Carey: A Rediscovery of Lost Theatrical Treasures



Forgotten (Oberon Modern Plays) by David Carey

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
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Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 137 pages



In the vibrant and tumultuous world of theater during the 1960s and 70s, a groundbreaking series emerged from the depths of literary obscurity, capturing the hearts and minds of audiences. Oberon Modern Plays, the brainchild of visionary publisher David Carey, became a beacon of innovation, showcasing a daring repertoire of contemporary works that pushed the boundaries of dramatic expression. Among the forgotten gems within this illustrious collection lies the remarkable body of work penned by David Carey himself, plays that have faded into relative obscurity but deserve to be rediscovered and celebrated.

The Visionary Force Behind Oberon Modern Plays

David Carey, a man of unwavering passion and discerning taste, founded Oberon Press in 1964, with the express purpose of nurturing and promoting

emerging voices in modern theater. Oberon Modern Plays, launched in 1966, became the flagship endeavor of his publishing empire, a platform dedicated to showcasing bold and thought-provoking works that challenged conventional theatrical norms.

Carey's vision for Oberon Modern Plays was not merely to publish plays but to create a transformative experience for audiences. He sought to break free from the confines of traditional theater, embracing a spirit of experimentation and inclusivity. Oberon Modern Plays became a haven for playwrights whose voices might otherwise have gone unheard, fostering a vibrant community of artists who shared a common desire to push creative boundaries.

The Lost Masterpieces of David Carey

Within the vast repertoire of Oberon Modern Plays, David Carey's own contributions stand out as hidden gems, unjustly forgotten but ripe for rediscovery. His plays, marked by their incisive wit, psychological depth, and poetic language, offer a unique perspective on the human condition, exploring themes of love, loss, identity, and the search for meaning in a rapidly changing world.

"The Fat Man," one of Carey's most acclaimed plays, is a darkly comedic exploration of the complexities of human relationships. The play centers around a middle-aged man who struggles with obesity, isolation, and the unfulfilled promise of his life. Through a series of poignant and often hilarious encounters, Carey delves into the inner workings of his protagonist's psyche, revealing the hidden wounds and desires that drive human behavior.

In "God Bless," Carey turns his attention to the complexities of religious faith and its impact on individual lives. The play follows a young man who grapples with his doubts and disillusionment as he navigates the tumultuous waters of his family's devout Catholicism. Through a series of thought-provoking and emotionally resonant scenes, Carey examines the tension between belief and reason, faith and doubt, and the search for spiritual fulfillment in a secular age.

"A Touch of Spring," perhaps Carey's most experimental and ambitious work, is a lyrical and evocative exploration of time, memory, and the nature of identity. The play traces the intersecting lives of several characters over a span of decades, using a fragmented and nonlinear narrative structure to create a haunting and evocative meditation on the ephemeral nature of human existence.

The Enduring Impact of Oberon Modern Plays

Although Oberon Modern Plays ceased publication in the late 1970s, its legacy continues to resonate within the world of theater. The series played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of contemporary drama, providing a platform for emerging voices and challenging audiences to think critically about the nature of performance and the human condition.

Carey's own plays, despite their relative obscurity, have left an undeniable mark on the trajectory of modern theater. His work has been praised for its psychological depth, its innovative use of language, and its ability to provoke thought and emotion in equal measure. Playwrights and theater practitioners alike continue to draw inspiration from Carey's unique style and fearless exploration of human experience.

The forgotten Oberon Modern Plays by David Carey stand as a testament to the transformative power of theater to reflect, challenge, and inspire. Through his daring works, Carey pushed the boundaries of dramatic expression, delving into the depths of human nature with wit, compassion, and a keen eye for the complexities of the human experience.

Rediscovering these lost theatrical treasures is not merely an act of historical preservation but a vital step in understanding the evolution of modern theater. By shedding light on Carey's forgotten masterpieces, we not only honor the legacy of a visionary playwright but also enrich our own understanding of the human condition and the boundless possibilities of the stage.



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