



Department of Greek and Latin

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

THE UCL CLASSICAL PLAY 1997

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW ...

First of all, a big 'thank you' to all of those who came to see last year's UCL classical play - Euripides' *Bacchae*: and if you didn't come to see it, you missed a splendid piece of theatre, our most successful production of a Greek tragedy so far, which drew large and enthusiastic audiences from all over the country. We're deeply grateful to you, our audiences, for your support and encouragement of our performances of Greek plays over the past decade, and we'd like to build on your confidence in us by trying something completely different in 1997.

We are going to put on a Roman comedy.

So far, we have concentrated exclusively on the Greek plays, tragedies and comedies, which have survived to us from Antiquity. But Roman plays survive also: the gutsy farces of Plautus, the elegant social dramas of Terence, and the barn-storming Marlovian heroics of Seneca. To neglect Roman drama is to neglect one of our most important inheritances from the ancient world.

So, in the last week of February 1997, at the Bloomsbury Theatre, we're going to put on Plautus' *Rudens*, 'The Rope'. The characters include several cunning slaves, a dirty old man, two delectable young ladies, and a pimp: but don't ask us to tell you the plot. It's funny, it's famous, it's fast-moving, it's great theatre. And it's on the set-book lists for Class Civ next year ...

We will of course keep you in touch with our plans, and a more formal circular will reach you in September, giving full dates, ticket prices, concessions, etcetera. Meanwhile, if you'd like to know more about our annual classical play in general or the *Rudens* in particular, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. You can write to 'The Play Production Team' at the Department (address above), or fax us at 0171-209 2324, or e-mail Robert Ireland at r.ireland@ucl.ac.uk.

Could we ask you a favour? You, obviously, are on our circulation list (and we hope we've got your address right); but there must be people who would be interested in our productions who aren't. If you know of any, could you let us have their address? Many thanks.

We hope to welcome you at the *Rudens* in February. Have a good summer.

The Team