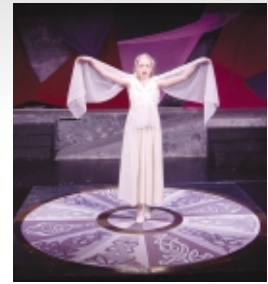


Drama 2003/4



# The Tales of King Arthur



The Christmas production of *The Tales of King Arthur* by John Chambers took the audience to the ancient world of King Arthur's court and wove for us the tales of magic and enchantment. The Celtic artwork of the Round Table set into the stage was a finishing touch that was inspired and the theatre still benefits from the play as the wall hangings produced by Year 7 art classes show. Years 7 and 8 pupils kept us spellbound, enhanced by the music and dance led by the ethereal Lady of the Lake (Molly Buchanan). Notable performances came from Charlotte Agran as 'Morgana' with her control over 'Mordred' (Claire Petzal). The inspired casting of Sophie Petzal as 'Kay' gave us a true insight into the evil that can lie hidden within us. The true love and unrequited passion between Guinevere (Sarah-Rose Ellis) and Lancelot (William Gage) was played with a maturity and restraint that belied the players' years and the audience felt a true empathy for their plight, yet sympathy with King Arthur (William Dunn)'s anger and disappointment.

Jo Dix



Drama 2003/4



# The Tales of King Arthur

Tales of King Arthur Michaelmas 2003

The Christmas production of "The Tales of King Arthur" by John Chambers took the audience to the ancient world of King Arthur's court and wove for us the tales of magic and enchantment that have survived the test of time. The play showed clearly how much Vinehall's productions owe to the team work of all elements of the school, not least by the beautiful and imaginative set which linked us to the past and yet kept us clearly in the modern era. The Celtic artwork of the Round Table set into the stage was a finishing touch that was inspired and the theatre still benefits from the play as the wall hangings produced by Year 7 art classes show.

The small cast of Years 7 & 8 pupils kept us spellbound as they conveyed a balance between the court formality and the mystical world of spells and myth, enhanced by the music and dance led by the ethereal Lady of the Lake (Molly Buchanan). Notable performances came from Charlotte Agran as "Morgana" with her control over "Mordred" (Claire Petzal). An added dimension was given by the inspired casting of Sophie Petzal as "Kay" which gave us a true insight into the evil that can lie hidden within us. The true love and unrequited passion between Guinevere (Sarah-Rose Ellis) and Lancelot (William Gage) was played with a maturity and restraint that belied the players' years and the audience felt a true empathy for their plight, yet sympathy with King Arthur (William Dunn)'s anger and disappointment. The Green Knight did not let us down and the loss of his head intrigued us all!

Yet another triumph for Mrs Gearey and all the cast and team of helpers. The end result looked so professional and it is hard to believe how much else all the contributors have done during the term. If you haven't seen a Vinehall production then go, even if your child isn't performing. You will not be disappointed!

JD