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### Macbeth, 1952

Montana State University (Missoula, Mont.). Montana Masquers (Theater group)

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# MACBETH

SIMPKINS LITTLE THEATRE Montana State University JANUARY 29-30-31, FEBRUARY 1-2, 1952

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE

AND

# MONTANA MASQUERS

PRESENT

# MACBETH

BY

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

LeROY W. HINZE, Director

SETTINGS DESIGNED BY DAVID W. WEISS AND DEAN JOHNSON

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY

## CAST

(in the order of their appearance)

THIRD WITCH CAPTAIN DUNCAN MALCOLM DONALBAIN ROSS. ANGUS MACBETH BANQUO LADY MACBETH SERVANT FLEANCE	TUTTI BACH ALICE ANN BULS CAROL MURRAY DICK BARSNESS ART LUNDELL OTIS PACKWOOD JAMES WHITE TOM SHERLOCK ALLEN ROSE GLENN REZNOR JACK SHAPIRA MARJORIE LOVBERG JOHN PECARICH TOM KILPATRICK JACK SHAPIRA
	DICK BARSNESS SALLY STAMM
CIDCT AN IDDEDED	
SECOND MURDERER	DONNA MURRAY
DOCTOD	ARILUNDE
	DOROTTI ROOT
MACDUFF'S SON	SANDY DEMMONS BOB PETERS
SIWARD	JACK SHAPIRA
YOUNG SIWARD	DALE HARVEY

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

MACBETH is set in Scotland and England in the Eleventh Century. In this production the action is divided into three acts, each composed of several scenes.

> ACT I Intermission — Ten Minutes ACT II Intermission — Ten Minutes ACT III

### ORCHESTRA

Flute — Judy Harden Viola — Stella Critelli Cello — Carol Critelli Monroe C. DeJarnette, Conductor Violins — French Virginia Balkovetz Dona Betty Rumph Trumper Clarinets — Rolan Erwin Bruscletten Tympan Richard Eichholz Dona

or French Horn — Donald Isbell Trumpet — Roland Grotte Tympani — Donald Hardisty

### **PRODUCTION STAFF**

Assistant to the DirectorMaxine Taylor
Stage Manager Larry Kadlec
Assistant Stage ManagerSandy Demmons
Master CarpenterTom Sherlock
Stage CrewLarry Kadlec, EDr. 16 Class
Master ElectricianJean Linscheid
Assistant ElectricianBob Haight
Costume MistressTutti Bach
Assisted by Donna Murray
Property MistressJoan Ward
Assisted by Donna Mithun, Joan Helmer
Makeup ArtistLarry Kadlec
Assisted by Virginia Gripple, Eileen Polk, Donna Murray, Cecelia Twilde
Sword PlayCyrus Noe
Program CoverJerry Huhn
box Office Manager
Box Office Staff Pat Koob, Beverly Praetz, Joan Ward
Theatre SecretaryMaxine Taylor
Costumes by Western Costume Company, Hollywood, California

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS

PAPA IS ALL — Minnesota Touring TheatreFebrua	ary 13
ARSENIC AND OLD LACE - Community TheatreMarch 12, 13,	14, 15
Simpkins Little Theatre April 15, 16, 17, 16, 17,	18, 19
Simpkins Little Theatre SUEST IN THE HOUSE - Community TheatreApril 30, May	1, 2, 3
A BOHEME — All School ShowMay 10, 11,	
Student Union Theatre	

### MACBETH

When in 1606 Shakespeare was called upon to write a play for his acting company (the King's Men) to present before their royal patron, not long since come from Scotland, he chose historical material from Holinshed's **Chronicles** and dramatized the story of a Scottish king who ruled in the Eleventh Century. The play paid delicate compliment to King James, who was directly descended from Banquo's Fleance — a "good" person in the drama and one wbo, in contrast to Macbeth, received his royal heritage through conventional channels; several flattering allusions in the play, moreover, enhanced the personal tribute to James.

As in King Lear, Shakespeare attempted in Macbeth a dissection of objective evil; he sought again the answer to a question posed in the earlier play: "Is there any cause in nature which makes these hard hearts?" For his presentation of the evils caused by vaunting ambition, he used the general framework of Senecan tragedy (with its revenge theme, deeds of horror, ghost); but like Kyd in the Spanish Tragedy he introduced much additional excitement of a gruesome nature: elements of the supernatural (several recently published books on witchcraft and several notable trials of witches created great stir about this time); butchery of women and children on the stage; startling psychological aberrations. An analysis of the poetic imagery of the play reveals a predominance of figures of speech based on blood, darkness, ill-fitting garments (Macbeth's assumption of a role not meant for him) — all these creating an unseen background of horror for the physical horrors on the stage with strong cumulative effect upon the audience.

Specifically, Macbeth is a play about two people - the hero-villain and his wife - each of whom, in a subtle and tragically ironic way, becomes the victim of the other. Macbeth may indulge in dreams of glory, but his nature is too full of the milk of human kindness, his imagination too keen, to allow him to do harm. Lady Macbeth is at once his inspiration and his nemesis. Completely lacking in imagination, she goads him on with no idea of what a murder implies: one need only wash one's hands to be rid of all traces of blood. With Duncan's assassination, Macbeth's imagination dies and he realizes that life has no further meaning ("There's nothing serious in mortality. / All is but toys"): hence his utter lack of sensibility as he becomes Scotland's butcher. His wife's imagination, on the other hand, awakens and wreaks a terrible vengeance shown on the stage, paradoxically enough, as the lady sleeps. At her death, the once-noble thane can only reiterate in dreadful soliloguy his ideas on the complete futility of existence - "Life's but a walking shadow — a tale told by an idiot — full of sound and fury — signifying nothing."