



SHAKESPEARE

The purpose of playing was and is to hold as 'twere the mirror up to nature, to show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure.

Hamlet Illii
On April 23, William Shakespeare will be 423. In commemoration, a guide to what's happening around the world's most famous plays.

The Oxford Shakespeare
Stanley Wells and Gary Taylor have produced an entirely new edition of the *Complete Works* which looks set to become standard. It includes two versions of *King Lear* and contains *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. There are revised versions of *Hamlet*, *Othello*, and *Troilus and Cressida*. The edition is well laid out and available in either the original or modern spellings.

The *Complete Works* (OUP £19.95).

Critical Shakespeare
The Left has always been interested in our national heritage and in recent years a body of radical criticism of Shakespeare has developed. Germaine Greer's *Shakespeare* (OUP £2.95) has a feminist viewpoint whereas Terry Eagleton's *William Shakespeare* (Blackwell £3.95) tries to make the theories of post-structuralism accessible to the general reader. For a view of Shakespeare's own day, see R H Wells *Shakespeare, Politics and the State* (Macmillan £5.95).

The Bard Live
The traditional companies are out in force in April. At Stratford, a strong cast headed by Anthony Sher and Deborah Findley appear in *The Merchant of Venice*. Also a new production of *Julius Caesar* with Roger Allum. The RSC at the Barbican is dominated by the Cusack family. Sinead Cusack appears with Jonathan Pryce in *Macbeth* whilst her daughter Niamh is in the title role in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Barbican 01-628 8795; Stratford 0789 295623.

NEWS

Sporting Image Graphics Competition
Over £1000 in prizes is being offered for the best graphic images that reflect the whole community, actively involved in sport. Men and women of all ages and backgrounds should be depicted.

WDetails and entries
Interchange Books, 15 Wilkin St, London NW5. Tel: 01-267 9421.

Legislating for the Media

A pre-election conference organised by the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom to discuss extending democratic rights in respect of the media. 10-5, Apr 4, University of London Union, MaletSt, WC1.
••"Details CPBF, 9 Poland St, London W1V. Tel: 01-437 2795.

Popular Socialism, Unpopular Capitalism

A *Marxism Today* meeting with speakers Joan Ruddock and Martin Jacques.
••"MTUCURC, 24 Hardman St, Liverpool 1. Mar 26,7.30.

HT Readers Liverpool Tea Party

Come and discuss the magazine

over a cup of tea with a member of the editorial board. Childcare provided.

••"Apr 4,3pm. Details 051-708 5572.

Cramsci '87

After Greenwich, before the general election - now is the time to sharpen up on your theory with the best of the Left.
••"Apr 11. We also need stewards. Details 01-608 0265.

Club Sandino

The Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign presents the best in modern dance music from top DJs as part of the campaign against contra funding. Party atmosphere, Latin food and Nicaraguan cocktails!
••"144 Upper St, London N1. Mar 26, Apr 2, Apr 9. Details 01-253 0246.

Marxism Today

We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped in March. But we still need help in all areas from subscriptions to merchandising, events and research.
••"Details from Jane or Mark 01-608 0265.

GALLERIES

Soaps
Photographers present their views on soap operas using photo collage, slides, video and tv to create an exhibition which you can put your feet up in front of for half an hour.
•VMar 11-Apr 11, Camerawork, 121 Roman Rd, Bethnal Green, London E2. Tel: 01-980 6256.

Current Affairs

An exhibition of British painting and sculpture in the 1980s featuring works by Francis Bacon - and the *MT* merchandising department.
••"Mar 1-29, Museum of Modern Art, Oxford.

Flying Colours

An exhibition of quiltwork which highlights the role played by quilts as a testament of resistance from Soweto to Chile and British mining villages. Trade unions and CND banners also represented. Touring nationally from Mar 24 to Sen 27.
••"Details 01-263 9710.

The Clore Gallery

One hundred and thirty years after the greatest British artist, Joseph Mallard Turner, left all his work to the nation, the public will finally be able to see all his work in one building.
••"Opens April 6. The Clore Gallery, Millbank, London SW1.

Art Around Merseyside

The latest issue of this quarterly 'what's on' poster is now available detailing all visual arts events on Merseyside and in Chester.
••"Available from: The Bluecoat Gallery, School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BX.

PUBLICATIONS

Fires
The third issue of this radical arts and cultural quarterly has a cover story on Richard Coles of the Communards and also features an article on women painters Eileen Cooper and May Stevens. Plus opera, knitting and film.
••"Details Jim Endersby 0923 31711.

New Formations

The highly-regarded *Formations* will now appear three times a year as *New Formations*. It will tackle questions of culture, politics and ideology both in theory and in practice. The place to follow the post-modernism debate-authors include Dick Hebdige, Mary Kelly and Peter Wollen.
••"£6.95 from Methuen, 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P.

Westuff

Bilingual Italian art, fashion and music magazine shows the would-be style leaders in this country how to do it. Articles on men's fashion and Derek Jarman in the latest issue.
WE3.50 per issue or £20 subscription from EDIFIR, via Fiume 8,50123 Firenze, Italy.

Scotland's Future

A new pamphlet published by the Scottish Committee of the Communist Party, is a major contribution to the debate on Thatcherism and the dialogue around an alternative economic and political strategy.
••"60p from Scottish Committee of the Communist Party, 44 Carlton Place, Glasgow 5.

FILM AND VIDEO

8th Norwich Women's Film Weekend
A weekend of films from around the world and from the independent sector in Britain. Highlights include Chantal Akerman's musical comedy *Golden Eighties* and Lizzie Borden's documentary on New York prostitution *Working Girls*.

CONTRIBUTORS

This month's contributors include: Bill Schwarz teaches at North East London Polytechnic. David Butter works for the Middle *East Economic Digest*. Jackie Willis is a freelance journalist. Martin Linton writes for *The Guardian*. Robert Taylor is labour editor of *The Observer*. Max Wallis is a researcher in astronomy at University College, Cardiff and a member of the Communist Party. Beatrix Campbell is a journalist on *City Limits* magazine and a member of *Marxism Today's* editorial board. Sarah Benton is a journalist on the *New Statesman*. Charlie Leadbeater is co-author of *In Search of Work* (Penguin, forthcoming). Melissa Benn is a journalist. Ernesto Laclau is the author, with Chantal Mouffe, of *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*. Brian McNair lectures in media studies at the University of Ulster. Martin Jacques is the editor of *Marxism Today*. Roger Simon is the editor of *Gramsci's Political Thought: An Introduction* and is a member of the CP Economic Committee. Gino Bedani is a lecturer in Italian at University College, Cardiff and a member of the CP. David Forgacs is co-editor of *Gramsci, Selections from Cultural Writings* and a member of the CP Sussex District Committee. Anne Showstack Sassoon is author of *Gramsci's Politics* published by Hutchinson. Stuart Hall is professor of

Accommodation and creche available.

••"May 8-10, Cinema City, Norwich. Details Cinewomen 0603 622047.

Living Dangerously

The return of the Piccadilly Film and Video Festival which is set to celebrate the of f-beat, the barrier-breaking and even the out-to-lunch.
••"May 27-June 4. Details Kate Hughes 01-381 6398.

Black Women and Invisibility

Circles Women's Film and Video distribution presents a package of four films from Black American film-makers, Ayoka Chenzira and Julie Dash. Accessible and humorous, they examine the cultural, racial and sexual issues which surround black women's invisibility in the media. Touring nationally in April.
••"Details circles 01-240 2216.

Entries for Update should be sent to the office. For information: tel Nick Mirzoeff on 01-673 3450. Please try to ensure you give details of disabled access.

sociology at the Open University and a member of *Marxism Today's* editorial board. Bob Woffinden is a regular contributor to *The Listener*. Richard Sabin is a freelance writer. Richard Dyer is author of *Heavenly Bodies* which was published by Macmillan in February. Kate Hoey is prospective parliamentary Labour candidate for Dulwich and works as educational adviser to Arsenal and Tottenham Football Clubs. Martin Sutton is a freelance film writer. Karim Alrawi is a playwright present under commission to the Royal Court theatre. Tom Conlon is a lecturer in computing in Morayhouse College of Education and is a member of the CP. Simon Booth is guitarist with the band Working Week. Malcolm Rutherford is assistant editor and political analyst of the *Financial Times*. Gareth Rees is a lecturer in sociology at the University of Cardiff and a member of the CP. Anita Desai is the author of *In Custody* published by Penguin. Andrew Graham-Yooll is an Argentine citizen and editor of *South* magazine. Janice Winship is currently writing a book on women and sexuality. Catherine Belsey is author of *The Subject of Tragedy: Identity and Difference in Renaissance Drama*. Sarah Lefanu is an editor and critic and a member of the CP. Peter Wilby is education editor of *The Independent*.

Apology: February issue, page2: the photograph of students in Paris was a rightwing demonstration.