

MONSTROUS REGIMENT

PRESENTS

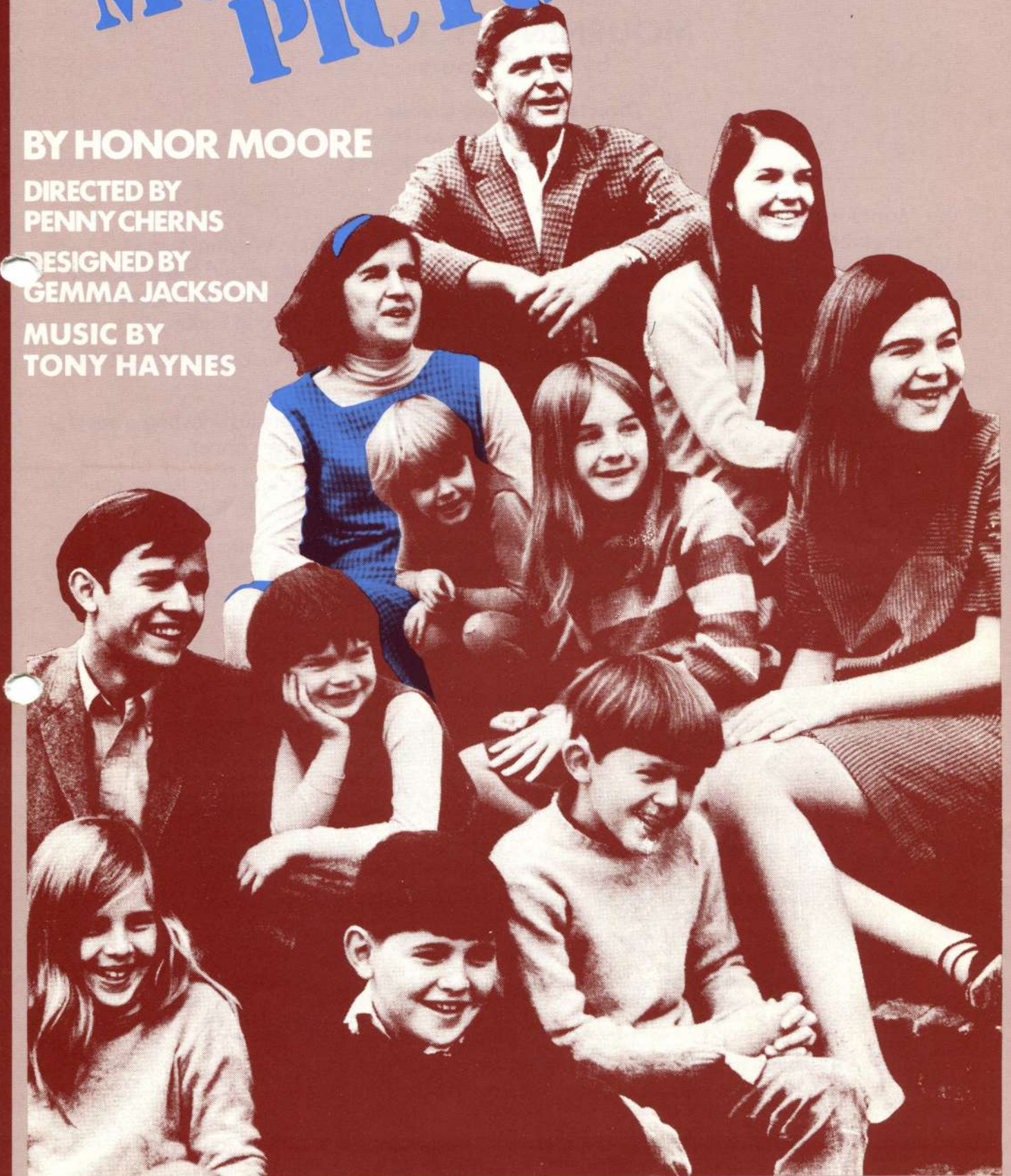
MOURNING PICTURES

BY HONOR MOORE

DIRECTED BY
PENNY CHERNS

DESIGNED BY
GEMMA JACKSON

MUSIC BY
TONY HAYNES



MONSTROUS REGIMENT

presents

MOURNING PICTURES by Honor Moore

Directed by Penny Cherns
Designed by Gemma Jackson
Music Composed by Tony Haynes

Honor Moore is an American poet;

"I remember being on the Eastern Shuttle going to visit my mother in Washington, D.C. I was just sitting there, and none of the other passengers knew, or, I thought, would have wanted to know, what I was feeling. So I opened my journal and wrote, "Ladies and Gentlemen, my mother is dying . . ." because I couldn't say it — that was the first part of "Mourning Pictures".

"Mourning Pictures" is Honor Moore's first play, and enjoyed great success on the American fringe and on Broadway.

It spans six months in the life of Maggie, a fifty year old mother of nine just starting a new life of independence from her children when she learns she has terminal liver cancer.

Her daughter, Margaret, tells the story of how she and Maggie come to terms with the disease, and of how the family turns to alternative, homeopathic medicine to fight against it.

"Mourning Pictures" is an exciting and startling blend of poetry, prose, music and visual imagery, a powerful affirmation of life out of the experience of a death. This production is the British Premiere of the play, the third such in Monstrous Regiment's current series.

BRITISH PREMIERES

MONSTROUS REGIMENT is an ensemble company comprising feminist theatre workers. Since 1976 they have performed a wide variety of shows exploring the role of women in society — past, present and future. They have shown that feminist theatre can be challenging, entertaining and well-suited to the main stages of our major playhouses. Their work has been hall-marked with a vigour and a commitment to theatrecraft that has gained them critical acclaim and endeared them to audiences throughout Britain — not least for the quality of the music which has formed an essential part of most of their work.

BRITISH PREMIERES marks a new departure for the company, which has up until now performed specially commissioned plays and cabarets, in that they will be presenting for the first time in the UK three radically different but unanimously successful foreign productions:

DIALOGUE BETWEEN A PROSTITUTE AND ONE OF HER CLIENTS by Dacia Maraini (ITALY): (Autumn tour, 1980 and Spring tour 1981) A provocative two hander with audience discussion. "...extremely poetic...using a skilful and very relaxed translation by Gillian Hanna of MONSTROUS REGIMENT, the actors give alert intelligent performances...informed by a dry ironic wit"...SPARE RIB.

SHAKESPEARE'S SISTER based on the original production by Theatre De L'Aquarium (FRANCE): (ICA, London December 1980). A bizarre trip through the kitchens of Europe. "Superb. It is a joy to see how MONSTROUS REGIMENT exploit surrealist and expressionistic techniques and give them a blazing theatrical life and function. Devastating". THE GUARDIAN. "Stunning theatrical punch". THE NEW STANDARD.

MOURNING PICTURES by Honor Moore (AMERICA): (Spring tour 1981).

For further details about the above plays and MONSTROUS REGIMENT contact:
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