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"As You Like It" as the University of Dayton

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DAYTON, Ohio, January 3, 1973 --- The University of Dayton's Arts Series will present the Oxford and Cambridge Shakespeare Company's performance of "As You Like It," in the Kennedy Boll Theater on January 11, at 3:30 and 8:15 p.m. This is the fifth presentation of Arts Series' 1972-73 season.

Conceived in 1967, the Company unites the best acting ability of students from Oxford and Cambridge, and places them under professional direction, to produce the highest possible artistic talents, and to provide opportunities of encounter between students of English and American universities. The Company tours United States colleges and universities between fall and winter terms. Their productions aim to clarify Shakespeare's works which so often become dull classroom readings.

Under professional director Jonathan Miller since 1969, the Company has performed on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, appearing in part on The David Frost Show and on the BBC2 arts program "Review." Past productions have appeared at Oxford, Cambridge, the Fortune Theatre in London, the Middle Temple (where Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mother attended the opening of "Twelfth Night"), and in many colleges and universities across the United States, including Yale, Harvard, Dartmouth, Princeton, and Columbia University.

Critics of last year's production of "Julius Caesar" gave praise and rave notices to the Company. Marilyn Spear of the Worcester Telegram in Massachusetts wrote: "The production emphasizes the 'whys' of this Shakespearean drama more than the 'whos.' The result is most satisfying theater." Ken Wallace of The Record in New Jersey remarked: "The Oxford and Cambridge based company, directed overseas by Jonathan Miller, has here an emotional and different package, reaching today's generation by giving each of the characters an identifiable personality, and while the text undeniably remains Shakespeare there seems to be a much more direct method in establishing not only motif but individual ego." Richard Coe of the Washington Post further noticed "...a decor has been realized by Bernard Culeshaw for modernity without rawness...The visual concepts are arresting...There are ideas here which work efficiently."