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Registered Charity No. HS503872R

The Country Wife

a bawdy comedy by William Wycherley

designed and directed by Malcolm Brown



The Carriageworks

Millennium Square, Leeds, LS2 3AD



7.30 p.m. Wednesday 11th to Saturday 14th May, 2011

Tickets £10.00, concessions £7.00

Box Office: 0113 224 3801





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The notorious rake, Horner, spreads a rumour around London that he has been made impotent so that husbands will trust him alone with their wives, thus affording him the opportunity to seduce them.

The insanely jealous Pinchwife has married an innocent country wife, Margery, in the hope that she will not have the wit to deceive him, but her curiosity about town life soon leads her to the lascivious Horner. Contrasting with these two stories of deception is a plot involving Pinchwife's virtuous sister, Alithea, who falls in love with Horner's friend, Harcourt, but is determined to remain true to her previous engagement to the complacent Sparkish, until a misunderstanding reveals his true nature.

This play, written in 1675, was controversial even in its own time for its sexual explicitness, and was considered too outrageous to be performed at all between 1753 and 1924. Since then it has been regularly revived, and is now considered to be one of the wittiest and best of the Restoration comedies.

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