

CENTRE

FOR PERFORMING ARTS

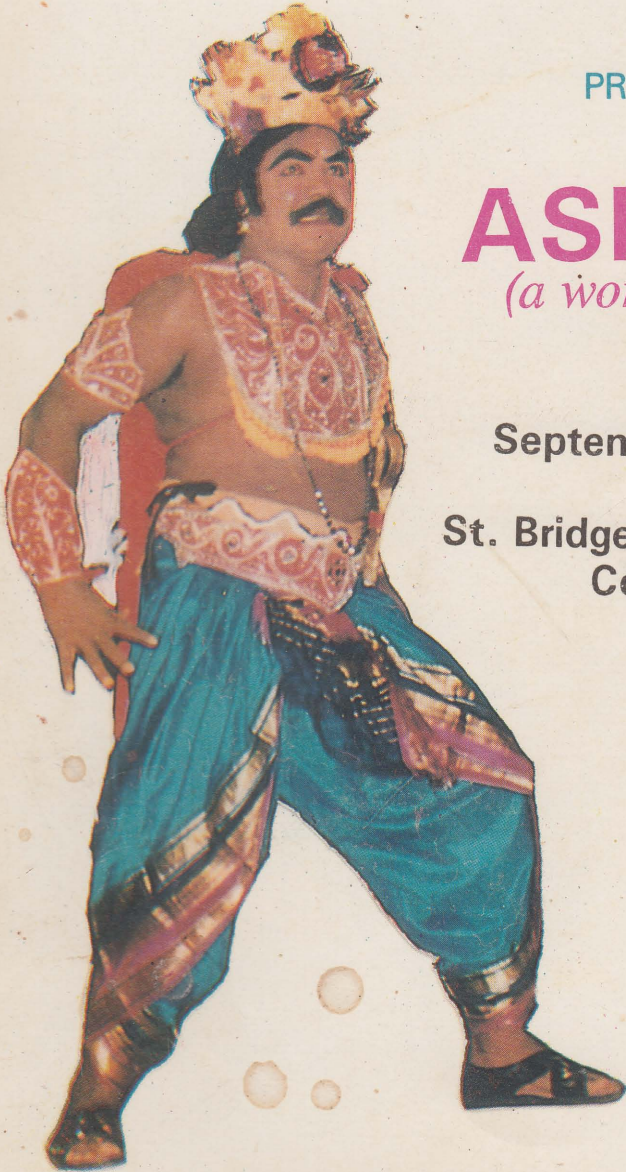
PRESENTS

ASHOKA

(a wordless play)

September 20, 1992

St. Bridget's Convent Hall
Colombo 7



வணக்கம்

The Centre for Performing Arts strives to foster, develop and propagate the arts and culture of the people of this Island. It is perhaps the only cultural body which is very active in diverse ways in the war-torn regions of this land.

The Centre holds seminars, exhibitions and workshops and conducts daily classes on subjects related to culture and the arts. It's public performances at its dilapidated open-air theater are watched by more than five thousand spectators at a time.

The Centre has in all thirty-two functional units, each headed by a specialist in that particular field. Through its activities, it helps the people who are suffering immensely due to the ravages of war to keep their spirits alive. Besides, it inculcates in the hearts and minds of the youth certain basic human and humane values of love, respect, understanding, forbearance and moral courage.

The wordless play ASHOKA is an example of the Centre's standing in the field of drama. The play is also a symbol of its dream of *dharma*.

Rev. Prof. N.M. Saveri

ASHOKA



Birth of *Ashoka*, grandson of king Chandragupta, at Pataliputra in 272 B.C. Sooth-sayers predict a bright future.



Ashoka grows up. Education is imparted especially in the martial arts.



His father makes him the Viceroy of Ujjain. After the death of his father, *Ashoka* gets his brother killed and ascends the throne.



Since the King of Kalinga fails to pay tribute, *Ashoka* declares war on Kalinga. 100,000 are killed and 150,000 are deported; thousands are injured.



At the battlefield an encounter takes place between the military conqueror *Ashoka* and the mother of a fallen "enemy."



Ashoka undergoes a change of heart. He realizes the futility of war and is converted to Buddhism.



He becomes an ardent propagator of *dharma*.

Death of Emperor Ashoka, the conqueror of hearts, in 231 B.C. .

PERFORMERS

F. Jules Collin

G.P. Ferminus

G.V.J. Nathan

S. Amirthanathar

V.T. Rajendra

A.S.M. Felix

M. Thairiyanathan

J. Kalaichelvan

T. Arulampalam

S. Victor

J.K. Francis

A. Temsy

V.E. Ranjith

Julius C. Santhio

Malini Weerakoon

S. Angela

Mathy Malar Selladurai

Mary Rosita Peter

Niyomi

Niroshi Rodrigo

Sivamalar Kanagarajah

Mary Ceril

Daisy Madona Francis

Elilarasi Lingavelautam

Consala Amirthan

Administration :

V.J. Constantine

Co-ordinators :

X.R. Francis

S. Suganthi

T. Arulampalam

B. J. Manuelpillai

Setting :

A. Joseph

Assistance :

Trend Arts

Music composed & directed

by Isai Thenral M. Jesudas.

Orchestra :

Organ - Isai Thenral M. Jesudas

Veena - S. Nirmala

- A. E. Noela &

SLBC (Sinhala, Tamil) Artists

Costumes :

G.P. Ferminus

Make-up :

M. Thairiyathan

Lighting :

V. J. Constantine

Associate Dance director :

Maria Poovarasi Selladurai

Dance Director :

Nattiya Tharakai R. Nalayini

Associate directors :

R. Nalayini

G.P. Ferminus

Created & Directed

by Rev. Professor N.M. Saveri

Production :

Thirumarai Kalamanram

(Centre for Performing Arts)

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