

THE MOUNTAINEERS

Present

A Thousand Years Ago

By PERCY MacKAYE

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Their Twenty-Second Annual Spring Play

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June 6 and 13

at

2:00 o'clock
Daylight Saving

1948

FOREST THEATER

"Here in China, the world lies a-dream, like a thousand
Years ago, and the place of our dreams is eternal."

A THOUSAND YEARS AGO

A Romance of the Orient

By Percy MacKaye

Presented by the Mountaineer Players of Seattle in Their
Forest Theater at Kitsap

Directed by LOIS BEIL SANDALL

CAST OF CHARACTERS—IN ORDER OF SPEAKING

CAPOCOMICO, leader	} <i>Vagabond Players</i> from Italy	HARRIET WALKER
SCARAMOUCHE		BLANCHE HARGOOD
PANTALOON		MARION CASTOR
PUNCHINELLO		PHYLLIS CAVENDER
HARLEQUIN (silent)		MABEL FURRY
CALAF, PRINCE OF ASTRAKHAN.....		ROBERT NEUPERT
BARAK, SERVITOR.....		J. M. FULLER
ALTOUM, EMPEROR OF PEKIN.....		RONALD TODD
TURANDOT, his daughter, PRINCESS OF PEKIN.....		DOROTHY PETRICH
ZELIMA, her slave.....		OLA TODD
CHANG, HAREM GUARD.....		KENNETH TELLER
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LORDS OF ROYAL DIVAN.....		EMMA KMENT, ARLEE SNIDER
OLD MERCHANT AND WIFE.....		JOHN FINCKE, DOROTHY FULLER
SOLDIERS.....		RAYMOND PETRICH, THOMAS KITTLEMAN
PRIESTS.....		HELEN UNDERHILL, BARBARA MARTIN
PEASANTS.....		WILLIAM LAHR, DOROTHY LAHR
BEGGAR.....		TERRY TODD

DANCERS

Chinese Spear Dancers..... DAVID ADAMS, GORDON PFISTER

SLAVE MAIDENS

NANCY BICKFORD, BUNNY CASTOR, JOYCE MORGAN, VIOLA NEUPERT, JANE OSTERHAUT, NEDRA POLK, LOUAINÉ SHRUM, JANET SLAUSON, MARI SNIDER

SCENES

ACT I—City Gate at Peking.

ACT II—Scene 1: Balcony and garden, Imperial Harem.
Scene 2: Great Hall of the Emperor.

ACT III—Scene 1: Balcony and garden of Imperial Harem.
Scene 2: Bedchamber in the Men's Section of Palace.

ACT IV—Royal Divan of the Emperor's Palace.

Produced by Special Arrangement with Walter H. Baker Company.

Percy MacKaye has the following to say about his play "A Thousand Years Ago":

"The present play is an original comedy, of which certain elements in the plot have been suggested by the old Persian tale which is the theme of the 18th century Italian comedy 'Turandotte,' by Carlo Gozzi, translated into German by Friedrich Schiller."

SYNOPSIS

Act I: Here, of a morning outside a city gate of Pekin, are given the elements of the story that is to unfold. The four vagabond players from Italy, led by Capocomico, sense a mystery as they gaze at the heads on the city gateway. Calaf, whose father Timur has been killed by Altoum, and Barak his servitor, appear disguised as beggars. Altoum, the Emperor, tells Capocomico that he is desperate because of his daughter, Turandot. She forced from her father a promise that for a year and a day all suitors for her hand in marriage must first guess three riddles. "To him who answers right she shall be wed. But all who answer wrong shall straightway die and their dis severed heads be spiked in scorn high on the city's gate." Thus far none have answered right. Capocomico promises to solve the mystery of Turandot's strange behavior - on the condition that for one day he is to be emperor. Altoum consents. Turandot sees in the young beggar who swoons the one to whom she had tossed a rose one night a year ago.

Act II, Scene 1: Turandot confesses to Zelima her love for the beggar. Another day and she will be free. Capocomico tells her that he will find her beggar, that she will have joy in a perfect marriage of romance. He reminds her, however, that she has one final suitor. Calaf has come in the guise of Keedur, Khan of Beloochistan.

Scene 2: Barak is brought in by the four vagabonds. Calaf appears as Keedur. He guesses Turandot's three riddles, but refuses to claim the reward. Instead, he says that if she guesses who he really is, he will release all claim.

Act III: Capocomico gives Turandot a sleeping charm that will enable her to learn who Keedur is. She finds that he is Calaf, son of Timur; while strangely moved, she still does not realize that he is her beggar.

Act IV: Calaf charges that he has been betrayed. He believes also that Turandot loves another, "the noblest in all the world." Barak is brought in. Turandot recognizes him as her beggar's gaffer. Calaf, then, must be her noblest in all the world.

PRODUCTION

General Chairman, J. M. FULLER

Costume Design and Execution.....	Dorothy Lahr
Dance Choreography and Direction.....	Margaret Tapping
Incidental Music and Direction.....	Egil Smedvig
Stage-Design <i>Scenery?</i>	Norbert J. Schaal
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Auditor.....	Ellen Walsh
Make-up.....	Eulalie Little
Motion Picture..... <i>George Willner</i>	Bruce Matson
Motion Picture Script.....	Harriet Walker
Photographer.....	Lawrence McKinnis
Prompter..... <i>Harriet Bauer</i>	Meriel Atkinson
Properties..... <i>Jean Anderson</i>	Marion Roemer
Publicity..... <i>H. B. Nuepert</i>	Barbara Chandler
Theater Reconstruction.....	Arthur Winder
Tickets..... <i>Carol Vincent</i>	Helen Helland
Ushering..... <i>Mrs. Irving Garrett</i>	Helen Ball

FORMER PRODUCTIONS IN THE FOREST THEATER

- °1923 *Robin of Sherwood*, based on poem by Alfred Noyes
- °1924 *The Shepherd in the Distance*, pantomime, Holland Hudson
- °1925 *The Little Clay Cart*, ancient Hindu drama
- 1926 *Reinold and the Red Wolf*, Kenneth Sawyer Goodman and Thomas Wood Stevens
- 1927 *Alice in Wonderland*, Eva LeGallienne
- 1928 *Robin of Sherwood*, T. J. Crawford
- 1929 *Makebelieve*, A. A. Milne
- 1930 *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, Jessie Braham White
- 1931 *Alice Adventuring in Wonderland*, Lois Beil Sandall
- 1932 *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*, Harriet King Walker
- 1933 *The Reluctant Dragon*, Emma Gelders Sterne
- 1934 *The Rose and the Ring*, from Thackeray, Phyllis Jansen Young
- 1935 *Toad of Toad Hall*, A. A. Milne
- 1936 *Under Richard's Banner*, Harriet King Walker
- 1937 *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, Jessie Braham White
- 1938 *The Sleeping Beauty of Loreland*, Frances Homer
- 1939 *Rip Van Winkle and the Silver Flagon*, Tom Herbert
- 1940 *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*, Harriet King Walker
- 1941 *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare
- 1942 *The Princess and Mr. Parker*, Gwendolen Seiler
- 1947 *The Sleeping Beauty of Loreland*, Frances Homer

*Not produced in the present Forest Theater.

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The Mountaineer Players have staged numerous productions during fall and winter months in Seattle.