

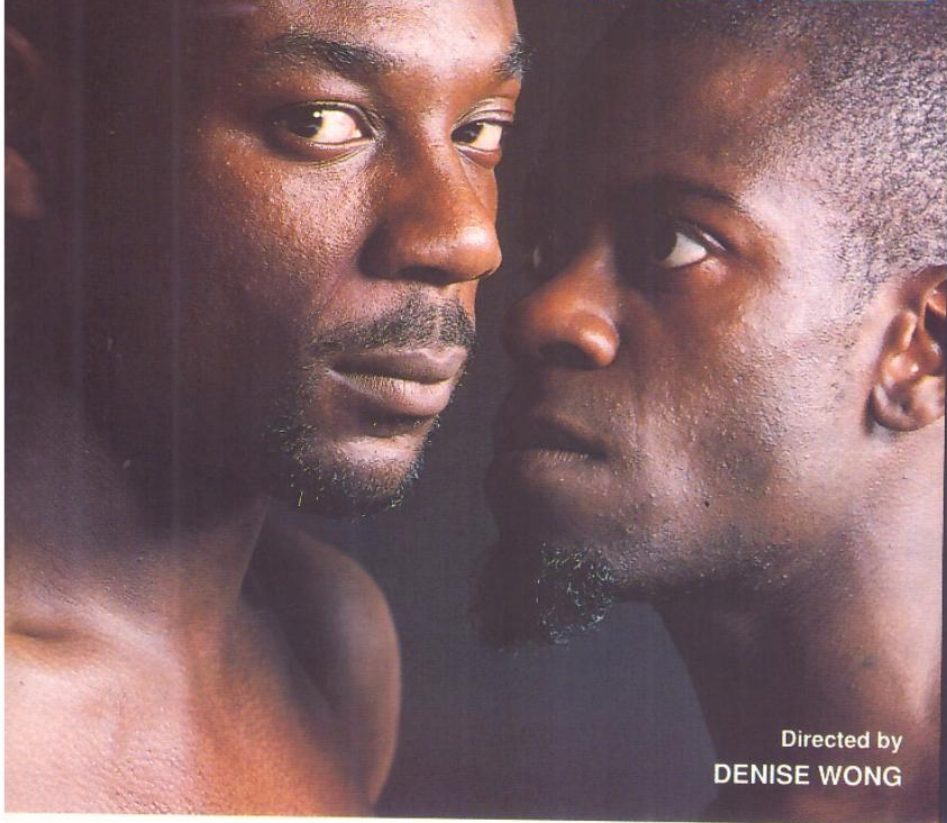
BLACK MIME THEATRE

THE ENSEMBLE

"FIRST HEART and NOW..."

EDR

EARLIEST DATE of RELEASE



Directed by
DENISE WONG

Lilian Baylis Theatre
SADLER'S WELLS
ARLINGTON WAY (off ROSEBERY AVE) LONDON EC1
BOX OFFICE: 071-837 4104 MINICOM: 071-713 0093
Sadler's Wells Trust Ltd is a registered charity
FUNDED BY THE LONDON BOROUGH GRANTS COMMITTEE
HACTON COUNCIL

By Association With The London International Mime Festival
10 - 29 th January (except sundays) 7.45pm
(press night 11th January 7pm)
£8.50 (concessions £4.50)
one ticket free with every ten
BOX OFFICE:
071- 837 4104



MIME

Black Mime Theatre

Unity theatre, Liverpool

Bill Harpe

LAUGHTER and violence make a heady cocktail. But it's a cocktail which Black Mime Theatre exploits to startling effect in their latest production *E.D.R.* (which stands for Earliest Date of Release) which focusses on the theme of prisons, and the lives of prisoners.

The eager teenagers seated next to me at Liverpool's Unity Theatre rocked in their seats with laughter as little children rebelled determinedly against their parents — they were helpless with laughter as youths ventured on dangerous escapades with bikes — and tears virtually trickled down their cheeks as they watched adult prisoners fight like kids on a school playground.

But this was more than entertainment and this was more than energetic farce. For, seconds later, the same group of teenagers would be silent and attentive as the five performers (Tracey Anderson, Michael Mannash-Daniels, Carol Moses, Bengi Reid, Cassi Pool) — as agile and sensitive with the muscles of their bodies as with the muscles of their tongues — sang gently together in close harmony, or lay still in their rectangular cells etched in white tape on the black stage.

For this production, directed by Denise Wong, is all about making connections. About making the seemingly irreversible and negative connections between childhood abuse and adult violence, and between childhood neglect and youthful rebellion. But also about making the warm and positive human connections which can support us through pain and suffering.

The teenagers seated next to me were clearly getting the message. For the style which Black Mime Theatre have made very much their own — incidentally re-discovering a brave theatrical tradition where every performer will tackle any part of any age and of either sex — is simultaneously highly physical, deeply emotional, and wonderfully accessible.

The Black Mime Theatre is on tour. For details of the tour itinerary, bookings and other information, telephone 071-928-1311

4th November 1993

The Guardian

E.D.R.

Earliest Date of Release

Directed by **Denise Wong**
Performed by **The Ensemble**

"The six actors are adroit, athletic and attractive... a highly creative partnership." Michael Arditti, The Evening Standard.

First there was **HEART** a sell out production.

"Compulsive viewing." Robin Thornber, The Guardian.

Now there is **E.D.R.** an explosive piece of theatre that uncans the prisons and the life of crime.

One man in three has a criminal conviction by the age of thirty.

E.D.R. looks at prison life, the criminals and the victims in a physically demanding piece of theatre that uses BMT's winning formula of animated cartoons, lashings of humour, dance and songs.

E.D.R. - a show which is rich in wit and vitality with acapella music and vigorous acrobatics.

E.D.R. - poignant, acutely painful and humorous.

"Spangled with gems of theatrical brilliance."
Kate Bassett. City Limits on Heart.

A BLACK MIME THEATRE PRODUCTION
Black Mime Theatre 22 Colombo Street London SE1 8DP
(071) 928 1311

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