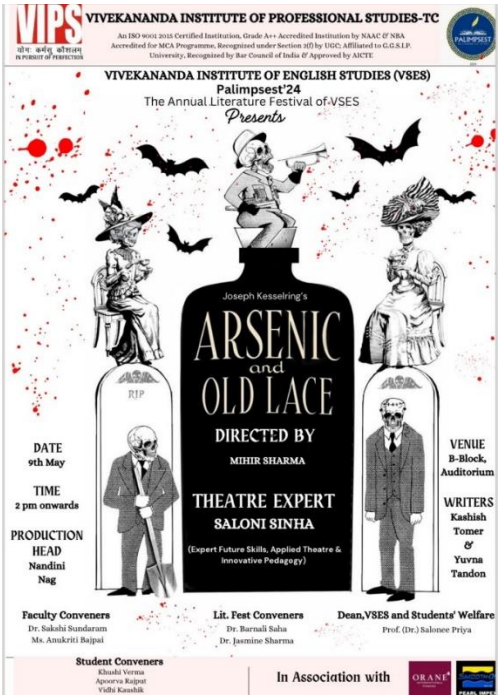
Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies - Technical Campus

Affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi, Recognised by Bar Council of India and AICTE
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Vivekananda School of English Studies (VSES)

PALIMPSEST 2024: The ANNUAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL OF VSES

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE BY JOSEPH KESSELRING



1. **Overview:**

Name of the Committee: Vivekananda School of English Studies (VSES)
Faculty Conveners: Dr. Sakshi Sundaram, and Ms. Anukriti Bajpai

2. **Description:**

On 9th May 2024, the Vivekananda Institute of English Studies (VSES) proudly presented ***Arsenic and Old Lace*** by Joseph Kesselring as part of Palimpsest 2024, their annual literary festival. This highly anticipated play was performed before the esteemed theatre expert Saloni Sinha, renowned for her work in Future Skills, Applied Theatre, and Innovative Pedagogy.

The production, a delightful comic murder mystery, was entirely directed, written, designed, and performed by the talented students of VSES. Their scintillating performance added an

unforgettable charm to the festival, leaving a lasting impression on all attendees. Saloni Sinha shared her insightful opinions on the play and actively engaged with the students, fostering a deeper appreciation for the art of theatre. This memorable event has set a high standard for future productions and cultural endeavors at VSES.

Purpose of the Event:

The objective of the play was to underscore and disseminate the significance of theatre, transcending the boundaries of literature students to embrace every student, regardless of their field of study. This initiative offered a unique platform for students to immerse themselves in the world of drama and theatrical elements, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the art form.

Moreover, it enabled students to analyze the play from a visual perspective, enhancing their interpretative skills. The production also provided an invaluable opportunity for the student director, writers, stage producers, and actors to receive constructive feedback from the esteemed theatre expert, Saloni Sinha. Her insights and guidance were instrumental in refining their craft and igniting a passion for theatre within the academic community. This endeavor not only celebrated the talents of the students but also reinforced the enduring relevance of theatre as a powerful educational tool.

Outcomes:

The performance of the play was met with resounding applause from both the audience and the esteemed theatre expert. The spectators felt a profound connection with the actors, who brought the characters to life with their compelling performances. This event provided a splendid platform for students to showcase their artistic expressions through acting, writing, direction, and stage production.

The experience not only bolstered the students' confidence in public speaking but also ensured that theatre enthusiasts were thoroughly satisfied with the quality and authenticity of the performance. The actors' nuanced portrayals and the directors' creative vision combined to create a mesmerizing theatrical experience. The entire production was a testament to the students' dedication and passion, leaving an indelible mark on all who attended. This celebration of talent and creativity reaffirmed the vital role of theatre in education, inspiring both participants and spectators alike.

Challenges and Lessons Learned:

The play performance witnessed certain unavoidable technical glitches as well as problems related to dialogue delivery. There were minor ups and downs regarding the stage design due to unavoidable circumstances but the theatre expert provided her valuable feedback that would be worked upon for future performances.

Future Plans:

VSES hopes to hold more such engaging dramatic performances for the audience in upcoming annual literary fests.

1. **List of volunteers:**

Director: Mihir Sharma (6th semester)
Writer: Kashish Tomer (6th semester)
Yuvna Tandon (4th semester)
Production Head: Nandini Nag (6th semester)
Actors:
(6th Semester)
Shivam Sethi as Mortimer Brewster
Shrishtika Naudiyal as Aunt Abby
Mehak Chauhan as Aunt Martha
Aman Bisht as Officer O'Hara
Saraansh Sharma as Officer Klein
Ishita Jain as Mrs. Harper
Shreyash Bhardwaj as Teddy Brewster
Lakshay Kashyap as Mr. Gibbs
Anushka Ananda as Dr. Hermen Einstein
(4th Semester)
Tanvi Grover as Elaine Harper
Somya Aggarwal as Lieutenant Rooney
Pankaj Singh as Jonathan Brewster
Mahika Rao as Officer Brophy
(2nd semester)
Vibhor Verma as Superintendent Witherspoon

Production Team:
Nandini Nag (6th semester)
Deepanshu Gautam (6th semester)
Nishtha Gupta (6th semester)
Kashish Jain (6th semester)
Ridhima Sharma (4th semester)
Aadya Gupta (4th semester)
Mehak Aneja (4th semester)
Mehkasha Parveen (4th semester)
Soni Jain (4th semester)
Vriti Midha (4th semester)
Urve Chakrabarty (4th semester)
Muskan Bhatia (2nd semester)
Anushka Singh Songra (2nd semester)

Dance Team:
Shrishty Pandey (6th semester)
Aishwarya Raiswal (6th semester)
Mehak Chauhan (6th semester)
Riya Gupta (6th semester)
Shrishtika Naudiyal (6th semester)
Radhika Garg (6th semester)
Khushi Gupta (6th semester)
Shreyash Bhardway (6th semester)

Lakshay Kashyap (6th semester)
Nikita Sharma (4th semester)
Aarti (4th semester)
Avantika (4th semester)

Pictures of the Event:











