Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Littlehampton



Francis, the Holy Jester

On Tuesday 21 September the FMSL Sisters were very blessed in securing Mario Pirovano's performance of 'Francis, the Holy Jester'.

The play was written and directed by Dario Fo, recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1997. Mario is a great friend and collaborator of Dario Fo and has translated this one man play from Italian to English himself.

Engaging his audience from beginning to end the charismatic Mario acted out episodes in the life of St Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan orders. The result was a deeply entertaining and informative theatrical experience. He managed to transport his audience back to medieval Italy and bring to life stories of Popes, peasants, saints and sinners. Without the use of costumes or theatrical props his performance was extremely energetic, utterly uplifting and genuinely thought provoking. His ability to switch between characters in each tale, using simple and subtle gestures and voice tone was remarkable. All one hundred tickets were sold and the local press were in attendance.

As always the FMSL Sisters hospitality excelled and the audience were provided with a veritable feast during the interval. Sr Anastasia would like to thank all who made the evening such a success. A very special thank you must go to Mario, without his talent and generous spirit the event would not have taken place.

Mario has performed this play and many others around the world. Therefore, if you get the chance to see Mario Pirovano in action - don't miss it!

