



Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare Newsletter



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Garrick and Johan Zoffany

David Garrick (1717-1779) bought his country house overlooking the Thames at Hampton in 1754. The following year, Horace Walpole (who lived nearby in Twickenham) reported that his neighbour Garrick was building in his riverside garden "a grateful Temple to Shakespeare". In 1758, the French Huguenot sculptor Roubiliac carved the magnificent statue of Shakespeare, a copy of which is now in the Temple (see page 3).

Johan Zoffany, an artist from Germany, came to England two years later (1760). Like Garrick, he came penniless to London in search of fame and fortune. Garrick discovered him the following year (he had been decorating clocks for a clock-maker and assisting Benjamin Wilson). They soon became close friends, and Garrick became Zoffany's first major British sponsor.

In 1762 Garrick invited him down to Hampton where he painted three conversation pieces (of which two are reproduced on pages 2 and 3 (overleaf). After



Self-portrait by Johan Zoffany c.1759
COURTESY OF MAINFRÄNKISCHES MUSEUM, WURZBURG

this, Zoffany began to get regular major commissions from the English aristocracy, and some from the Royal family. Queen Charlotte was a fellow German, and he painted her with her children in 1764. In 1769 King George III nominated Zoffany as a founder-member of the Royal Academy where he first exhibited in 1770.

After the initial paintings of the Garrick's outside the Shakespeare Temple, Zoffany painted Garrick as Hamlet and King Lear. In the 1770's, he spent much time painting in Italy, where he became an Academician in Florence, Bologna, Parma and Cortona. He also painted for a time in India. In 1772, he was due to join Captain Cook as artist on an expedition to the South Seas, but withdrew at the last minute. In 1776 the German Emperor made him a Baron of the Holy Roman Empire. He last exhibited at the Royal academy in 1800. He died in 1810 at his house at Strand-on-the-Green, which he had bought in 1780. He is buried in Kew churchyard.

The originals of the two great portraits (see overleaf) of Garrick with Eva Maria his wife, friends, relatives and dogs have recently been sold by Sotheby's on behalf of the Earl of Durham to the Garrick Club - (see page 2).

A major exhibition of Zoffany's work is being held at the Royal Academy from March 10th to June 10th 2012 (see below).☺

Zoffany exhibition comes to The Royal Academy

A major exhibition of Johan Zoffany's work *Johan Zoffany RA: Society Observed* (previously shown at the Yale Center for British Art) is being held from 10th March until 10th June 2012. It will be the greatest display of his work in London since the National Portrait Gallery exhibition in 1976.☺

Come to the Temple exhibition

The exhibition in Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare at Hampton consists of over 60 original prints and full size copies of paintings illustrating Garrick's life and work. In addition to the two great Zoffanys (see overleaf), there are works by Reynolds, Gainsborough, Hogarth, Hayman, Batoni, and other major contemporary artists who combine to illustrate how dominant a personality Garrick was in the social and cultural life of London in the

thirty or so years before his death in 1779.

In particular, the exhibition illustrates the prominent part Garrick played in reviving the reputation of Shakespeare (to whom the Temple is dedicated). There are portraits of Garrick performing Richard III, Macbeth, King Lear, Hamlet, Romeo etc. and many parts by other major playwrights. The exhibition is open Sunday afternoon from April to October inclusive. Admission free.☺

Mr & Mrs Garrick in the Temple garden

by Johan Zoffany (1762)

David and Eva Maria Garrick sit at the table having tea. To the left is their friend Colonel George Bodens (a noted wit). Behind them stands the butler Charles Hart. Around them are their three much loved Cavalier King Charles spaniels. On the right Garrick's brother George (1723-1779) is fishing in the Thames. Behind the trees on the left runs the tunnel built by Garrick beneath the busy road which connected the two palaces of Windsor and Hampton Court. Hampton Court Palace can be seen on the horizon. The garden is now smaller but still beautiful.

Shakespeare Year in the Cultural Olympiad

The nationwide Shakespeare Festival forms an important part of the 2012 Cultural Olympiad. There will be wall-to-wall Shakespeare across the media with the BBC, the National and the Globe Theatres mounting major new productions. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight Garrick's unique Temple to Shakespeare, and it is hoped that visitors will flock to see the Temple and Roubiliac's great statue of Shakespeare depicted in a moment of inspiration. The permanent exhibition, dominated by the Hogarth painting of Garrick as Richard III, illustrates the central role of Shakespeare in Garrick's life. This picture is widely regarded as one of the finest action portraits of a Shakespeare character. To quote *Discovering Art News*, "Hogarth has captured the 'spectacle of horror' for which Garrick's performance of this scene was famous. He has also added a portrait painter's insight into the ambiguous character of Shakespeare's Richard, who remains noble for all his villainy".



Johan Zoffany R.A., *The Garden at Hampton House, with Mr and Mrs David Garrick Taking Tea*
COURTESY OF THE GARRICK CLUB, LONDON

Shakespeare will be pivotal to the Trust's Education and Events programmes in the 2012 season. For local primary schools, the Trust is presenting *The Haunting of Richard III*, in which both drama and art activities take their inspiration from the Hogarth painting. During the August holiday there will be a special Children's Shakespeare Day linked both to the pictures in the Temple and the outdoor environment.

Among the programme of events (see separate sheet) will be several related to Garrick's hero Shakespeare. The Orange Tree Education and Community team will present scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Regular visitors, Richmond Actors Centre - ARC - and Richmond Shakespeare Society are planning to link their production to the Shakespeare Festival. New this year will be a series of concerts by William Summers, an early music specialist, who will devote one evening to music from Shakespeare's plays.

It is an enchanting experience to spend a sunlit afternoon in the beautiful Temple gardens. Do come during this special year.

Zoffany paintings sold for £6,000,000

On 7th December 2011 Sotheby's sold at auction the two great Zoffany paintings illustrated above and opposite. They had been in the family of the Earl of Durham since 1823 when Eva Maria Garrick's possessions were sold off after her death in 1822 at the age of ninety-eight. They were bought by the Garrick Club for £6,000,000 (plus commission) and now hang among its magnificent collection of paintings. That the Garrick Club bought them was a great relief to Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare Trust, as permission of the owners was obtained for all reproductions in the Temple, and it was feared that the Earl of Durham's great pictures might have gone to a private collector abroad. The Garrick Club will be only the third owner in the 250 years since Zoffany first painted them for the Garrick's at their riverside house in Hampton in 1762.

Mr & Mrs Garrick on the Temple steps

by Johan Zoffany (1762)

This - the most famous portrait of David Garrick and Eva Maria - shows them on the steps of the Temple with one of their nephews, the butler and one of their Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. The Roubiliac statue of Shakespeare can just be glimpsed through the open door, Zoffany exaggerated the height of the building (compare it with the photograph below).

While the Temple is on the bank of the Thames, it is separated from the house and the main garden by a road. Garrick considered building a bridge but was unable to. Dr Samuel Johnson, his school-master in Lichfield, said "It doesn't matter, what can't be overdone must be underdone!" So a tunnel was built.

Dr Johnson and Garrick had left Lichfield with only one horse between them. They came to London, like Zoffany, in search of fame (which they both achieved). ∞



Johan Zoffany R.A., *The Shakespeare Temple at Hampton House, with Mr and Mrs David Garrick*
COURTESY OF THE GARRICK CLUB, LONDON

Children's Day May 1st, 2011

While the Garricks had none of their own, they both loved children. On May 1st each year at Hampton they held a party for them in the Temple gardens. Last year, on May 1st the Trust did the same, offering light refreshments, games and masks and clothes for dressing up. Rupert Nichol (of the Temple Management Committee) and Jenni Wilson copied the stance of the Garricks in the picture above (together with a child a butler and two borrowed dogs). The children loved it.

The Trust now intends to hold a "Children's Day" every year (though not necessarily on 1st May). As has been said opposite, in 2012 a special Children's Shakespeare Day will be held in the gardens during the August holiday. If you have any children between 6 and 13, please-bring them along. ∞



Children's Day re-creation of the Zoffany painting above
PHOTOGRAPH BY LEWIS LLOYD

Education at the Temple 2011-2012

In the autumn term of 2011 visits included two classes from the Oriol primary school for the popular "Maths with Palladio" programme. This is inspired by the architecture of the Temple, which is believed to be based on a similar building by Chiswick House, where David Garrick and Eva Maria spent their honeymoon in 1749.

The children study the geometric shapes and proportions of both the exterior and inside of the Temple. To reinforce the idea of symmetry and proportion there are different activities such as designing a classical building.

The two reproductions of paintings by Zoffany in the Temple (see pages 2 and 3) were the inspiration behind the latest programme for schools. This will be repeated in 2012 ("Tea with the Garrick's" recreates the scene of the garden Tea Party on page 2). The session uses drama to adapt the



scene and - in the Loggia - children will be introduced to the fashion for tea drinking in Garrick's day, using an 18th century tea set.

This is also the year of the Cultural Olympics with the emphasis on Shakespeare (see page 2).

A new educational programme - 'The Haunting of Richard III' is inspired by the copy in the Temple of Hogarth's magnificent painting of Garrick in his most

famous part - Richard III on the eve of the Battle of Bosworth. The dramatic scene where Richard is tormented by ghosts of people allegedly murdered will be acted with appropriate props. There will be accompanying activities in the Loggia with the creation of ghostly scenes and designing armour.

It is hoped that these programmes will be enjoyed by primary schools. The Trust also plans to expand education work to encourage secondary schools and colleges to use this beautiful Temple and its riverside garden as a resource for teaching drama, historical studies and design.

The Trust is grateful for the work of the Educational Group, and the support of Rachel Tranter and her team at Orleans House, (who are responsible for the Temple on behalf of the Council of Richmond-upon-Thames, (who own the Temple and its garden).☺

Hiring the Temple for events

The Temple, which will easily accommodate 40 guests, is available for hire for events such as A.G.M.s, business meetings, post wedding receptions, ticketed concerts, recitals, amateur dramatics etc. It has a fine wooden floor, and is centrally heated all year round. While normal access is via the 18th Century steps, to the side of the building is a horizontal ramp providing safe and easy access for the elderly or disabled. Facilities include a toilet (suitable for disabled), kitchen, bar, exhibition area and room for a large marquee in the beautiful riverside garden.

For further information and costs please contact Colin Hunter, Tel. 0208 941 3207. Email: colinahunter@easynet.co.uk ☺

Richmond Council versus vandals

As reported in the 2011 newsletter, regular damage was caused to the Temple by local vandals. Things have greatly improved since the council installed all round lighting and a highly effective camera.☺

Charitable contributions needed

The Trust needs help towards the cost of Conservation, Education and Cultural events. Contributions to John Sheaf, Assistant Treasurer at 4, Thames St., Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2EA ☺

Volunteers always needed

The Trust needs and welcomes volunteers as Temple guides, or to help with cultural events, education or garden maintenance. Please contact Aileen Dekker by phone (020) 8977 0992, or email: aileen.dekker@btinternet.com ☺

Open House London Weekend 2012

The temple will be open on Sunday
September 22nd 2012
from 11am - 5pm



Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare Trust

www.garrickstemple.org.uk ☺ Charity no. 1107200

