

CARL TOMS OBE FRSA 1927 - 1999

+ *CREDITS: All work what & where indicated.*

+ C&C – Cast & Crew details on web site of *Theatricalia* where there are currently 104 references to be found.

<https://theatricalia.com/person/43x/carl-toms/past>

+ *Red related notes.*

+ *Film credits;*

<http://www.filmreference.com/film/2/Carl-Toms.html#ixzz4wppJE9U2>

+ *Television credits and other work where indicated.*

+ *Denotes local references, other work and awards.*

1927: May 29th Born - Kirkby in Ashfield 22 Kingsway.

Local Schools / Colleges:

Diamond Avenue Boys School Kirkby.

High Oakham. Mansfield.

Mansfield Collage of Art. (14 years old).

Lived in the 1940's with his Uncle and Aunt who ran a grocery business on Station St Kirkby. *In 1950 his home was reported as being 66 Nottingham Rd Mansfield

*(*Nottm Journal Aug 1950*)

Conscripted into Service joining the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Royal College of Art. London.

Old Vic Theatre School London

1945 - Paintings of stage designs exhibited at the County School of Art Mansfield. *Nottingham Journal 21st Feb*

1949 Dec – Set designer for the Penson Players Production of 'She Passed Through

Lorraine' Parish Church Hall. Mansfield

Nottingham Journal review 16th Dec

1950 August/ Sept - Exhibited 48 designs for stage settings and costumes at Mansfield Art Gallery. *Nottm Eve Post 12/08/50 and also in Nottm Journal 12/08/50*

1952

52 - 59 Engaged as assistant to Oliver Messel

1953

Designer for the penthouse suite at the Dorchester Hotel. London

1957:

May - *Apollo de Bellac* -

Royal Court Theatre, London,

57/58 - *Beth* - The Apollo, Shaftesbury Ave London C&C

1958

March 3rd for one week 'A Breath of Spring.

Theatre Royal Nottingham. Designed by

Oliver Messel. Assisted by Carl Toms.

Programme. Review - The Stage March 6th

58/59 - *No Bed for Bacon* Bristol Old Vic.

C&C

1959

June - *The Complaisant Lover* Globe

Theatre, London. C&C

The Seashell, Edinburgh, C&C in files.

59/60 - *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Old Vic,

London. C&C. (*Pics of Costumes*)

59/60 – *Cinderella*, Bristol Hippodrome C&C.

(*Production of the musical play by Jacopo Ferretti a Sadler's Wells Production*)

1960

The Barber of Seville ?

New Cranks London, ?

September – Decorated Royal Opera House Covent Garden for the Royal Gala.

Designed World Premiere of Benjamin Britten's *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Aldeburgh Festival.

6, 7 & 9 July - *RADAMISTO* - George Frideric Handel (Sadler's Wells) Handel Opera Society, (*Information from a Prog Adv for sale*)

60/61 - *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Old Vic, London. C&C.

1961

Alas Poor Fred Theatre Royal Nottm. *Press release The Stage 12/10/61*

Iphigenie en Tauride (opera), Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Ldn,

61/62 - *The Lady of the Camellias* Old Vic, Australian/Latin American Tour. C&C.

61/62 Refurbished 1 Kensington Palace. Residence of Princes Margaret and Anthony Armstrong Jones.

1962

Write Me a Murder and A Time to Laugh, London,

1963

Our Man in Havana,?

April: *Who'll Save the Plowboy?* Haymarket Theatre, London. C&C. *Review & cast in Theatre World - May*

Ballet Imperial, Royal Opera House,

The Importance of Being Earnest, Nottingham Playhouse. *Programme*

December *Swan Lake*, Royal Opera House,

1964

The Merchant of Venice and A Midsummer Night's Dream, both British Council of the Arts, British cities.

1964/65 - *The Barber of Seville*. Bristol Hippodrome. C&C.

1965

April - *A Public Mischief* by Martin Landau for Marlan Productions. Theatre Royal, Newcastle upon Tyne. C&C.

June - Opening of refurbished Theatre Royal Windsor.

FILM: *She*, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer,

1966

The Trojan Women, Pop Theatre, London,

The Winter's Tale, Pop Theatre,

1967

The Burglar and Fallen Angels, London.

The Tricks of Scapin, Pop Theatre, Edinburgh Festival.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Pop Theatre, Edinburgh Festival

The Soldier's Tale, Pop Theatre, Edinburgh Festival? *Press cutting*.

Die Frau ohne Schatten, Royal Opera House,

Film: *One Million Years, B.C.*, Twentieth Century-Fox.

Film: *Prehistoric Women (also known as Slave Girls)*, Twentieth Century-Fox.

Film: *Those Fantastic Flying Fools (also known as Jules Verne's Rocket to the Moon and Blast Off)*, American International,

1968

April - *Edward II*, (NT) Old Vic, London. C&C

Dec - *Love's Labour's Lost*, Old Vic. London. C&C

1968 - Film: *The Lost Continent*, Twentieth Century

Film: *The Vengeance of She (also known as The Return of She)*, Twentieth Century-Fox.

Film: Production designer for *The Winter's Tale*.

1969

Awarded an OBE in recognition of his accomplishments.

Chosen as design consultant for the ceremony for investiture of Prince of Wales at Carnarvon Castle.

Wedgwood -Tankard for investiture of Prince Charles Prince of Wales.

The Magistrate, Chichester Festival Theatre, C&C in file

Antony and Cleopatra, Chichester Festival Theatre, C&C in file.

1970

Became resident designer with the Young Vic [1970-1983]

May - *Vivat! Vivat Regina!* Chichester Festival Theatre, & The Piccadilly London – October. C&C and also in file.

The Alchemist, Chichester Festival Theatre, C&C in file.

Oct - *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Cambridge Theatre & Old Vic C&C *Featured in 'Plays & Players' Dec 1970.*

Sleuth, Music Box Theatre, New York City,

Sept - *The Cheats of Scapin*. (NT) Young Vic. London. C&C

Sept - *The Soldier's Tale*. (NT) Young Vic London. C&C.

Nov - *The Taming of the Shrew* (NT) Young Vic. C&C.

Dec - *Wakefield Nativity Plays* (NT) Young Vic.. C&C.

Dec - *Interview featured in 'Plays & Players' Dec 1970*

Film: *Moon Zero Two*, Warner Bros.,

1971

April - *Measure for Measure* (NT) Young Vic. C&C.

Oct - *Much Ado About Nothing* (NT) Young Vic. C&C.

The Rivals, Chichester Festival Theatre,

Caesar and Cleopatra, Chichester Festival Theatre,

Reunion in Vienna, Chichester Festival Theatre,

Dec - *Falstaff*. Bristol Hippodrome C&C.

71/72 - *The Beheading*. Apollo London. C&C.

Film: *When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth*, Warner Bros.

1972

February *She Stoops to Conquer*. National Theatre at the Young Vic. C&C

Won the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award – Distinguished Set Design for 'Sluth'.

1973

July. *French Without Tears*, National Theatre at the Young Vic C&C

Fanfare for Europe, Royal Opera House,

Peter Grimes, San Francisco Opera, San Francisco, CA,

Oct. *Section Nine*. R Shakespeare Co.
Palace Theatre Ldn. 11th Oct – 6th Dec &
Aldwych 23rd Jan 1974 C&C

1974

The Waltz of the Torreadors, London,?

Sherlock Holmes, Broadhurst Theatre, New
York City, & 1st Jan Aldwych Ldn. C&C

Travesties RSC Aldwych Ldn.C&C

Aug *Sherlock Holmes* Bristol Hipp Aug 27th –
31st C&C

Oct *Sherlock Holmes* RSC Tour C&C

Won a Drama Desk Award for theatre design
for '*Sherlock Holmes*'.

74/75 - *Sherlock Holmes* Aldwych Ldn. C&C

74/75 - *Sherlock Holmes* Bristol Hipp.C&C

1975

1975 Murderer. London ?

May, *Travesties* Royal Shakespeare
Company. Aldwych Theatre. August - Noel
Coward Theatre and Tour Oct 75 – March 76
C&C

Winner of a Tony Award in America. *Press
report Notts Free Press June 20th.*

Die Meistersinger von Nuernburg, New York
City Opera, New York City,

Travesties and Habeas Corpus, New York
City

Writing's: Author of *Winter's Tale* and
Scapino, books of stage designs, both
published in 1975.

75/76 – *Sleuth* Theatre Royal Bath C&C

1976

Norma, San Diego Opera Company, San
Diego, CA,

La Traviata, San Diego Opera Company,

Thais, San Francisco Opera,

1977

May - *Man and Superman*. Royal
Shakespeare Company Tour and August
Savoy Theatre Ldn. C&C

Long Day's Journey into Night, Los Angeles,

The Merry Widow, San Diego Opera
Company,

The Marriage of Figaro, New York City
Opera,

The Voice of Ariadne, New York City Opera,

Man and Superman, Malvern Theatre
Festival,

The Queen's Silver Jubilee Gala, Royal
Opera House,

Travesties, Vienna Burgtheater, Vienna,
Austria,

1978

She Stoops to Conquer, Vienna Burgtheater,

Betrayal, Vienna Burgtheater,

Look after Lulu, Chichester Festival Theatre,

The Devil's Disciple, Los Angeles,

Thais, Metropolitan Opera, New York City,

Hamlet, San Diego Opera Company,

Nov - *Night and Day*, Phoenix Theatre,
London, C&C and 1980 Vienna Burgtheater,

1979

Night and Day, New York City,

May - *For Services Rendered*, Lyttleton
Theatre National Theatre, C&C

The Guardsman, Vienna Burgtheater,

79/80 Nov - *Stage Struck*, Richmond Theatre & Vaudeville Theatre, London, C&C

1980

April – Double Bill – *Harlequinade & The Browning Version*. National Theatre Co. Empire Sunderland and Lyttelton Theatre National C&C *Between Sunderland and the National*, the show also performed in Norwich. After finishing at the National, it transferred to The International Arts Festival in Baltimore, USA in 1981

Playbill, National Theatre,

Oct - *The Provok'd Wife*, Lyttelton Theatre, National. & 1981 Bristol Hippodrome. C&C

1981

With Wedgwood he designed a Tankard in collaboration with Lord Snowdon for the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer July 29th.

April 5th - *Noel and Gertie* - one night only. MayFair Theatre Ldn. *Flyer*

The Second Mrs. Tanqueray, Lyttelton Theatr. National. C&C

Der Freischutz, New York City Opera,

1981/82 - *On the Razzle*, Lyttelton Theatre, National. & Bristol Hippodrome C&C

1981/82 – *Windy City*. Bristol Hippodrome & July, Victoria Palace Ldn. C&C

1982

Nov- Opening of refurbished auditorium Theatre Royal Bath.

Awarded the Laurence Olivier Theatre Award for Best Designer (1981 Season) for 'The Provoked Wife'

May – World Premiere of new production - *Swan Lake*, London Festival Ballet, Bristol Hippodrome C&C

Macbeth, Vienna State Opera, Vienna,

Romeo and Juliet, San Diego Opera Company,

1982/83 - *The Real Thing*, Strand Theatre, London, C&C

1982/83 – *The Rehearsal*. Theatre Royal Bath. C&C

1982/83 – *Star Quality* Theatre Royal Bath C&C

1983

The Winslow Boy, Lyric Theatre, London,

Jeeves Takes Charge, City Center Theatre, then Roundabout Theatre, both New York City,

The Hothouse, Vienna Burgtheatre,

A Patriot for Me, Chichester Festival Theatre & Haymarket Theatre, London, *then Center Theatre Group, Ahmanson Theatre, Los Angeles, 1985.*

1983/84 - *Hay Fever*, Queen's Theatre, London, C&C

1984

March – *The Aspern Papers* Theatre Royal Haymarket C&C & *Oberon, Frankfurt, Germany*

July - *The Happiest Days of Your Life*, Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) Barbican Theatre,

Costume designer for *The Italian Girl* in Algiers, Geneva, Switzerland,

Oct - *Rough Crossing*, Lyttelton Theatre, National C&C

1984/85 – *Jumpers*. Aldwych Theatre Ldn. C&C

1985

Faust, Vienna State Opera,

Lucia di Lammermoor, Cologne Opera,
Cologne, Germany,

1985 /86 - *The Dragon's Tale*, Apollo
Theatre, London, C&C

1986

Feb-Brighton *Beach Memoirs*, Lyttelton
Theatre. National Theatre C&C,

May - *Dalliance*, Lyttelton Theatre National
Theatre, C&C

September - *The Magistrate*, Lyttelton
Theatre. National Theatre, C&C

Jeeves Takes Charge, Ford's Theatre,
Washington, DC,

Blithe Spirit, Vaudeville Theatre,

Fanfare for Elizabeth, Royal Opera House,

Oberon, Edinburgh Festival,

1986/87 - *Wildfire*, Theatre Royal Bath C&C

TV: Production designer, "*On the Razzle*,"
Great Performances, PBS.

1987

Became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts
– FRSA - an award granted to individuals that
the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) judges to
have made outstanding achievements related
to the Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.
Fellowship is widely regarded as an honour

February - *Six Characters in Search of an
Author*, Olivier Theatre / National, C&C

June - *Fathers and Sons*, Lyttelton Theatre /
National, C&C

Sept - *The Ting Tang Mine*, Cottesloe
Theatre /National C&C

Opening of refurbished Cambridge Theatre
London.

1987/88 - *Hapgood*, Aldwych Theatre. C&C

1987/88 - *The Browning Version*, Royalty
Theatre London, C&C

1987/88 - *The Importance of Being Earnest*,
Royalty Theatre, London, then Royal
Theatre, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1987. C&C

1987/88 – *Semi-Monde* Bristol Old Vic Co.
Royalty Theatre Ldn C&C

1987/88 – *The Living Room*. The Royalty
Theatre. C&C

1988

1988/89 - *Artist Descending a Staircase*,
Duke of York's Theatre, London, C&C

1988/89 – *The Man Who Came to Dinner*
Barbican Theatre. C&C

Nov / 89 - *Richard II*, Kennedy Center
Washington DC USA & Theatre Royal Bath
Phoenix Theatre, C&C

Rigoletto, New York City Opera,

1989

Hapgood. Los Angeles.

May - *Richard III*, Kennedy Center
Washington DC USA & Phoenix Theatre Ldn.
C&C

July - *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, RSC,
Barbican C&C

1989 /90 - *Thark*, Lyric Hammersmith
Theatre, London, C&C

Noel and Gertie, Comedy Theatre, London,
then Duke of York's Theatre, 1991-92. [Page
from Programme](#)

1990

Restored the Richmond Theatre, Surrey.

Look Look!, Aldwych Theatre,

1990 - *The Silver King*, Chichester Festival Theatre,

1990 /91 Sept - *Private Lives*, Theatre Royal Bath Aldwych Theatre, C&C

1991

Painting Churches, Playhouse Theatre, London,

August - *Preserving Mr. Panmure*, Chichester Festival Theatre, C&C

November - *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, RSC, Barbican Theatre, C&C

Making It Better, Josephstadt Theatre, Vienna,

1991 /92- *It's Ralph*, Comedy Theatre, C&C

1992

March - *Straight and Narrow*, Wyndham's Theatre, London, C&C

1992-3 - *An Ideal Husband*, Globe Theatre, London, C&C

1992/93 - *Separate Tables*, Noel Coward Theatre. London. & Theatre Royal Bath C&C

1993

Set designer for *Arcadia*, Zurich, Switzerland,

1993 /94 - *She Stoops to Conquer*, Queen's Theatre & Theatre Royal Bath C&C

1994

1994 Oct / 95 – *Three Tall Women* Wyndham's. & 1995/96 Theatre Royal Bath. C&C

1995

1995/96 - *An Ideal Husband* Old Vic & 1997/98 Noel Coward Theatre. C&C

1996

1997

Wedgwood tankard - the Golden Wedding of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. Limited edition 5,000.

1997/98 – *A Delicate Balance* Theatre Royal Haymarket C&C

DIED AGED 72 on 4th August 1999 in Hertfordshire.

DATES UNKNOWN:

Death Watch, Young Vic London. Des C&C

The Maids, Young Vic, London. (NT) Des. C&C

FILM WORK; COSTUME DESIGNER, EXCEPT WHERE INDICATED

(listed in the appropriate years above)
She, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1965.

One Million Years, B.C., Twentieth Century-Fox, 1967.

Prehistoric Women (also known as Slave Girls), Twentieth Century-Fox, 1967.

Those Fantastic Flying Fools (also known as Jules Verne's Rocket to the Moon and Blast Off), American International, 1967.

The Lost Continent, Twentieth Century-Fox, 1968.

The Vengeance of She (also known as The Return of She), Twentieth Century-Fox, 1968.

Moon Zero Two, Warner Bros., 1970.

When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth, Warner Bros., 1971.

Production designer for *The Winter's Tale*, 1968.

Credits; TELEVISION WORK; EPISODIC

Production designer, "*On the Razzle*," Great Performances, PBS, 1986.

Credits; OTHER TELEVISION WORK

Designer of Boule de Suif, The Sandcastle, and Twelfth Night.

WRITINGS

Author of *Winter's Tale* and *Scapino*, books of stage designs, both published in 1975