

CONTENTS

9	
11	THE VOW Why the Passion Play exists at all
17	THE BEGINNINGS What it took to stage the Play in turbulent times
25	THE CONCEPT What is required, forbidden and prescribed
37	THE PERFORMERS How complicated gender, religion or ancestry sometimes is
49	THE STAGE Where Oberammergau holds the world record
57	IMAGE GALLERY: BEHIND THE SCENES
67	THE MUSIC How six guardian spirits became a giant chorus
71	THE DECREE When bad times descend upon Oberammergau hairdressers
77	THE PECULIARITIES Why some things are quite different in Oberammergau