

ON MACHIAVELLI AND MIKELLATOS

Nicolo Machiavelli was born in Florence on 3rd May, 1469. It is not part of our present brief to refer to his political principles or the activities which have caused his name to become a household word. As a writer he had a copious output including many stories and a number of plays. A master of style, Machiavelli was one of the three great writers produced by Italy in the 16th century.

His celebrated short story "The Marriage of Belphagor," a good-humoured satire upon marriage, had actually a mediaeval origin, though Machiavelli's retelling of the tale was aimed at the Florence of his day. "The Long Spoon" is based upon this story.

Alexandra Mikellatos was trained at the Theatre Studio in London and joined The Questors in 1950. She has appeared in several Questors' productions, including "Right You Are (If You Think So)" and "The Edge of the World." Her own play "The Testament of Cresseid" received its premiere production in this theatre in April, 1952, and was subsequently runner-up for the Foyle Award of that year.

B.H.

NEW THEATRE FUND PERFORMANCE

The performance on 28th January is in aid of the New Theatre Fund. If you have enjoyed the play this evening, why not come again on the 28th and bring a friend? On this night any member may buy two seats for the price of one, but members' seats as such are not available.

THEATRE DIARY

WEDNESDAY, 29th JANUARY: DISCUSSION on "The Long Spoon." This will take place at the theatre at 7.30 p.m. All members and friends are welcome. Come along and tell us what you thought of it!

FRIDAY, 14th FEBRUARY: VALENTINE NIGHT PARTY at the Park Hotel, Hanwell. This is an informal social event and all members and their friends are welcome. Tickets (price 2/6) are on sale at the theatre.

SATURDAY, 15th FEBRUARY: OPENING NIGHT of the Student Group's programme of plays, to be presented for four nights only (February 15th, 17th, 18th, 19th). The programme is:—

Act 2 of "The House of Bernarda Alba," by Garcia Lorca.

"The Full Moon," by Lady Gregory.

"Sganarelle," by Molière.

Thus it will be noted that there are two comedies and one tragedy. The Student Group is The Questors' contribution in Ealing to further education, the course being run under the auspices of the Middlesex County Council in conjunction with the Ealing Technical College. The standard is high and the work of the Group deserves the support of all members of The Questors.

SATURDAY, 15th MARCH: OPENING NIGHT of Tennessee Williams' "SUMMER AND SMOKE." This is the fifth Club production of the season, and it is a long time since any choice of play at The Questors has created such interest, indeed excitement. This is an adult play written with great force and distinction by the author of "A Street Car Named Desire." It is a play not to be missed.

SATURDAY 10th MAY. OPENING NIGHT of the sixth Club production, "EURYDICE," by Jean Anouilh.



present

THE LONG SPOON

BY ALEXANDRA MIKELLATOS

THE WORLD PREMIERE
AT THE QUESTORS THEATRE
MATTOCK LANE, EALING, W.5
18th JANUARY, 1958

FOURTH PRODUCTION
TWENTY-NINTH SEASON
1957-58

PROGRAMME

6^D

THE LONG SPOON

a new comedy by

ALEXANDRA MIKELLATOS



Cast

Belphagor	PAUL IMBUSCH
Matteo	BILL RUDDERHAM
Lorenzo Donati	GEORGE RAWLINS
Amelia Donati RUBY FEAST
Amerigo Donati	ALEC BROWN
Onesta	BETTY WHITE
Giovanni el Bene	LAURENCE NIXON
Theresa el Bene	SYLVIA ESTOP
Cardinal	WILFRID SHARP
A Maid-servant	DILYS DODD
A Man-servant	DOUGLAS THOMAS

Guests, tradesmen,
monks and nuns

UNA CHAPMAN, CARLA CRAIK, JUNE DAVIES, JENNIFER OSCARD, DEREK CUSDIN, ROY MONTGOMERY, KENNETH PORTER, HAROLD THORNLEY and PHILIP WRIGHT.

The play is produced by BARBARA HUTCHINS

The settings have been designed by

JULIETTE HOWARD

The scenery has been built in The Questors' workshop by

KEN and GEORGE BAIN

Some of the costumes have been kindly loaned by the Old Vic Theatre and others have been made in the Questors' Wardrobe by

JOAN PYLE assisted by HILDA COLLINS

The scene is set in Florence in the year 1489.

The play is presented in three acts. There will be an interval of fifteen minutes at the end of Act 1 when you may remain in your seat and be served with tea and biscuits at a fixed charge of 6d., or cross to the Lounge where coffee and light refreshments may also be obtained.

This play has been entered for the Charles Henry Foyle New Play Award and the British Drama League Original Full-length Play Festival.

Stage Manager	IAN JONES
assisted by	PAT DIGBY, JANET McMILLAN, JULIA WATSON, JOSÉ ROBERTS, JOYCE COOLING, NEVILLE BRADBURY
Properties	DILYS DODD
assisted by	JEAN MANSFIELD and BARBARA JACKSON
Lighting	R. G. S. ANDERSON
assisted by	STUART SARRAILHE
Sound	ERIC DONALD and ERIC KIRBY
Production Secretary	JOSÉ ROBERTS

Silverware kindly loaned by A. Barnett

Theatre Manager	RENA RICE
House Manager	ARCHIE COWAN

BOX OFFICE (6.30-8.00 p.m.) EALING 5184

Members are respectfully reminded that smoking is not permitted in the Theatre while the Play is in progress.