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The Questors Theatre

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LIVES

by  
Noel Coward

*John*  
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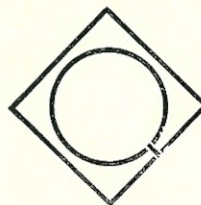
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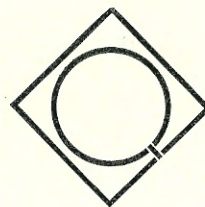
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## THE QUESTORS THEATRE

FIRST PERFORMANCE  
SATURDAY, 20th APRIL, 1968

If there is such a thing as vintage Coward, then I suppose PRIVATE LIVES comes into that category. Certainly it was 'put down' in 1930, but it is only in the last decade that it has really begun to accumulate much dust. Prior to that it was performed frequently and triumphantly up and down the country. With the advent of Jimmy Porter and his kind, however, Elyot Chase suffered an eclipse. The mood of the late fifties did not tolerate the flippancies of the pre-war years; the era of the kitchen sink was upon us and Deauville, Antibes and Brioni gave place to Salford, Blackpool and Sidcup.

But ten years is a long time and Spring is a time for nostalgia. Tonight we ask you to accompany us on a sentimental journey. Tonight we take you back in time to when Mummy and Daddy were loaded, when the Riviera was the playground of the gilded youth and no one had heard of Hitler.

But if you insist on something to think about . . . well, you might do worse than this quote from Act II.

AMANDA Darling, I believe you're talking nonsense.

ELYOT So is everyone else in the long run. Let's be superficial and pity the poor Philosophers. Let's blow trumpets and squeakers and enjoy the party as much as we can, like very small, quite idiotic school-children. Let's savour the delight of the moment. Come and kiss me darling, before your body rots and worms pop in and out of your eye sockets.

but personally I prefer to give Amanda the last word . . .

"I think very few people are completely normal really, deep down in their private lives. It all depends on a combination of circumstances. If all the various cosmic thingummys fuse at the same moment and the right spark is struck, there's no knowing what one mightn't do."

I've taken my cue from her.

B. H.

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Victor ..... PETER ANDERSON

Amanda ..... RUTH LISTER

Louise ..... MARILYN LANGRIDGE

ACT I The terrace of a hotel in France

ACT II Amanda's flat, a few days later. Evening

ACT III The same—next morning

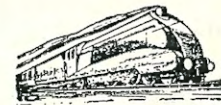
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### SHAW ROOM ART EXHIBITION

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### THE QUESTORS FILM SOCIETY

MAY 26 in the Shaw Room at 7.45 p.m.

Members Season Tickets. Guests 5/-

**ORPHANS OF THE STORM** (The Gish Sisters) shortened version.

**LA DAME AUX CAMELIAS** (Sarah Bernhardt) extract.

**THE CHAMPION** (Charlie Champion).

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A discussion is held after each production by The Questors, to which all members of the audience are cordially invited. The discussion on PRIVATE LIVES will be held on Monday, 29th April at 7.45 p.m. in the new Rehearsal Room, Mattock Lodge.

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