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The Questors Theatre

ONKEL, ONKEL

by Gunter Grass

Translated by
Ralph Manheim



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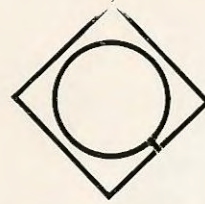
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by Bernard Shaw

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THE APPOINTMENT by Malcolm Quantrill

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THE DOGS OF PAVLOV by Dannie Abse

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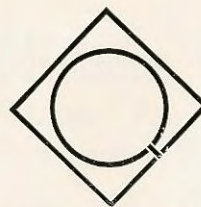
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THE QUESTORS THEATRE

FIRST PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY, 12th APRIL, 1969

PRODUCER'S NOTE

First reading . . . Don't understand a word of it. Second Reading . . . still don't understand. Research on Gunter Grass. Can't find much in English. Have friend . . . German student.

S.O.S. "Please find what you can in German on Gunter Grass, not on novels but on plays" Letters to Germany. Definitely established that play refers to degradation of Germany during and after world war two.

Bollin possibly representational of Germany-Hitler S.S. Men? Slick and Sprat — of time-history-outside influence? Mrs. Domke and Sophie . . . the ordinary German people? Greenward . . . Religion — the Jews? Mimi . . . The arts? Irwin . . . Outsider wanting to climb on the band wagon? Seems to fit.

Act One. Start of "System." S.S. men known to have appeared on doorsteps (from under the bed) and question townsfolk on statistics. Inhabitants only too pleased to assist in formation of New Germany.

Bollin still "Tormented. Driven by some inner unrest."

Act Two. Prologue. "Excellent Bollin. Keep up the good work." Forester period. Bollin attacks nature. (Religion?). Now possibly "incurable idealist, a revolutionary, a Red" (From original translation "Red" appears to read more as a "Reactionary or agitator").

Act Three. Prologue. Bollin's "look at nature" has been a failure. Decision to try barbers. (Commerce?).

Act Three. Bollin tries the Opera (Possibly the act on Barbers was omitted from the first writing?). Now termed "Master."

Act Four. Just after the war.

In all of Gunter Grass's work there seems to run innumerable parallels or analogies. It is difficult to tell exactly what these parallels are or if indeed they are at all intended. One aspect is clear, and that is that reality or naturalism and the absurd rub shoulders, making both more digestible.

C.H.

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ONKEL, ONKEL

by Gunter Grass

Translated by Ralph Manheim

Bollin HOWARD BENBROOK
Sprat LESLEY GOLDIE
Slick DON STARKEY
Sophie MAVIS SAGE
Mrs. Domke CARLA FIELD
Greenward DAVID LORRAINE
Mimi Landella RUTH LISTER
Bodo DON STARKEY

ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

Directed by CECIL HAYTER

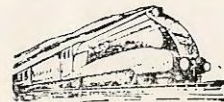
Sets designed by STEFAN PACZAI

Costumes designed by JILL CHAMPION TORRANCE and
PENELOPE KAVANAGH-WARREN

Research by BARRY GOLDING

Members of the audience are requested to refrain from smoking in the auditorium

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Stage Manager	Frances O'Neil
Deputy Stage Manager	John Cave
Assistant Stage Manager	Dick Bennett, Beryl Waterhouse
Wardrobe	Freddie Edwards
Assisted by	Gillian Edwards
Properties	Yvonne Conkleton
Assisted by	Janet Holloway, Jacky Bray
Construction	Bob Stock
Lighting	Bob Harris
Assisted by	Nick Osorio
Sound	Roger Driver, John Boyce
Projections	Tony Blake, Barry Cowen, Frank Wood, Bryan Pittman
Assistants in all departments	Jean Burroughs, Paul Barrett, Ian Russell, Rosemary Thurogood, Angele Baveystock, Terence Morris

Sandwiches and coffee are available in the Bernard Shaw Room before performances and refreshments will be served there during the interval. Sweets and chocolates will be on sale only in the Bernard Shaw Room.

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