

*Relatively
Speaking*

by

Alan Ayckbourn



The Questors Theatre Company



THE QUESTORS THEATRE

First Performance

SATURDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 1973

"In general, the people who liked this play when it was first seen remarked that it was 'well-constructed'..... I hope it is, since I did set out consciously to write a 'well-made' play. I think this is important for a playwright to do at least once in his life, since as in any science, he cannot begin to shatter theatrical convention or break golden rules until he is reasonably sure in himself what they are and how they were arrived at.

And this knowledge is really only acquired as a result of having plays produced, torn apart and reassembled by actors and held up to public scrutiny for praise or ridicule. I suppose I am lucky, writing for a small theatre company as I did for so many years, to have had almost a dozen plays put through this very process before reaching the age of thirty".

Alan Ayckbourn, Introduction to *Relatively Speaking*

Born in 1939, Alan Ayckbourn has worked in the theatre since leaving school at the age of seventeen. After periods as an actor and ASM with repertory companies in Worthing, Leatherhead and Oxford, he joined Stephen Joseph's Studio Theatre in Scarborough, and it was there that his career as a playwright really began.

Relatively Speaking was written in 1967, in response to Stephen Joseph's request for a play "which would make people laugh when their seaside holidays were spoiled by the rain and they came into the theatre to get dry before trudging back to their landladies'. The play was an immediate hit in Scarborough and in London, and has subsequently been translated into a dozen languages and shown all over the world.

To date, five of Alan Ayckbourn's plays have reached the West End: *Mr. Whatnot* (1964), *Relatively Speaking* (1967), *How the Other Half Loves* (1970), *Time and Time Again* (1972), and *Absurd Person Singular* — now running at the Criterion Theatre.

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

by

ALAN AYCKBOURN

Cast in order of appearance

Greg	DAVID PEARSON
Ginny	SONIA PEARSON
Philip	TED SCRIVENER
Sheila	ROSEMARY PURKIS

The action of this play takes place during a summer week-end
in London and the country.

Act I, Scene 1

Act I, Scene 2

There will be an interval of 15 minutes (a warning bell will be
rung before the performance recommences)

Act II, Scene 1

Act II, Scene 2

Directed by JILL CHAMPION-TORRANCE

Sets designed by PAT STOCK

Stage Manager DOUG BROWN

Deputy Stage Manager PETER MANSBRIDGE

Assistant Stage Managers JEAN BAKER

LAURIE KEOUGH

JACKIE MANSBRIDGE

JENNY PARKIN

Properties IRIS PHELPS

Construction DENNIS BLAKELOCK

Lighting GRAEME HOLFORD

Assisted by MARTIN SHARPE

Sound BRIAN McLOUGHLIN

EXHIBITION

During the run of *Relatively Speaking* there will be an exhibition of paintings by JOHN STACEY in the Foyer.

REFRESHMENTS

Sandwiches and coffee are available in the Foyer before performances and refreshments including ice cream will be served during the intervals.

FOYER BAR

The Foyer Bar is open on performance evenings from 7.00 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. and during the interval. It operates on a theatre licence and anyone attending a performance may use it, including guests. No bar membership is involved.

Interval drinks may be ordered at the bar before the performance commences. The Grapevine Club continues as a private bar.

ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY THE BAR IS ALSO OPEN AFTER THE SHOW.

DISCUSSION

A discussion is held after each production by The Questors to which all members are invited. The discussion on *Relatively Speaking* will be held after the performance on Saturday, 22nd September in the Foyer.

**MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE ARE
REQUESTED TO REFRAIN FROM
SMOKING IN THE AUDITORIUM.**



THE QUESTORS THEATRE
MATTOCK LANE EALING W5 5BQ

567 0011 *Administrator*

567 5184 *Box Office*

Forthcoming Productions:

October 6th - 13th

TOUCH & GO

by D.H. Lawrence

Members free seats available. Guests 60p & 40p

November 3rd - 17th

CYMBELINE

by William Shakespeare

Members free seats **NOT** available

Tickets 60p & 40p

December 1st - 8th

THE PROMISE

by Arbusov

Members free seats available. Guests 60p & 40p

The Questors is a Club Theatre

Only members may book tickets, and membership Cards must be produced at the box-office.

Full details on membership are available from the Administrator, on request.

For The Questors Theatre:

Administrator: Gordon Caleb
House Manager Stan Eamer
Box Office Manager Win Wright
Stage Director Adrienne Talbot