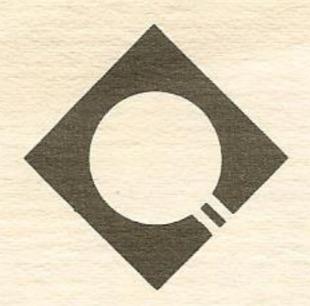


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QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY JUNE 1979



# THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

First performance 2nd June 1979

LOOT is the second in the series of Five English Comedies which are opening The Questors Golden Jubilee Season. It was Orton's second play to be staged and won the Evening Standard Drama Award for the best play of 1966.

"If you're absolutely practical — and I think I am — a coffin is only a box. One calls it a coffin, and once you've called it a coffin it immediately has all sorts of associations".

Orton interview with Giles Gordon.

Whenever one dares not to question any further, or when it does not occur to one to do so, one is dealing with taboo. The taboo represents society against the individual; and Orton's laughter was the revenge of the individual against a smothering consensus.

Miss Prism: The good ended happily, and the bad unhappily.

That is what fiction means . . .

Oscar Wilde, The Importance of Being Earnest.

At Joe Orton's cremation Donald Pleasance read his own poem Hilarium Memorium. J. O. which began —

> Some met together when he died Not in the name of any god But in his name Whom they lost to the coffin, The box that caused him endless mirth His lesson — which he could not read again Hilarity in death.

> > Extracts from Prick Up Your Ears the biography of Joe Orton by John Lahr.

# by Joe Orton

#### CAST

in order of appearance

McLEAVY	JOHN ROBB
FAY	GILLIAN KERSWELL
HAL	GRAHAM WILLIAMS
DENNIS	COLIN THOMAS
TRUSCOTT	KEN RATCLIFFE
MEADOWS	RICHARD LEWIS

Directed by EDWARD PITT

Set designed by BETH CROWLEY

Costumes designed by LINDSAY UDELL

Stage Warrager
Deputy Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Managers ROBERT JONES, GEOFF POWELL, SOO STANLEY, PAMELA GREEN,
ALAN GREENBERG, ODED SHIMSHON
Lighting LES SMITH
Assisted by PHILIPPA FORSTER, ALAN B. SMITH
Sound
Assisted by CANDY CLOTWORTHY, PHIL PAGE
Properties JOAN CURRY, BOB RICKET
Assisted by AILEEN ROGER, CARINA CHOY-WARRY
Construction JOAN HAZELL, JOHN WILCOX
The 'LOOT' printed by GEOFF POWELL and ROBERT JONES
We wish to thank Richmond Hospital for the loan of the screens

and the Ealing Division of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade for

MAADTINIIDALI

Stage Manager

the loan of the body.

#### An Open Discussion

on this production will be held on Tuesday 12 th June, at 7.45 p.m. in the Bernard Shaw Room, led by

#### JOHN ELSOM

Theatre Critic for The Listener

Mr. Elsom was unfortunately prevented by illness from leading the discussion on *The Entertainer*, but has kindly agreed to lead the discussion on *Loot*. In addition to a long career as a theatre critic — he was formerly theatre correspondent for Paramount Pictures and theatre critic for the *London Magazine* — John Elsom has written widely about the theatre, notably *Theatre Outside London*, *Erotic Theatre*, *Post-War British Theatre*, and, most recently, the controversial *History of the National Theatre*. He is also chairman of the Bush Theatre, Shepherds Bush.

All are invited: come to discuss or just to listen!

Note the date:

TUESDAY, 12th JUNE at 7.45 p.m. in the BERNARD SHAW ROOM The Theatres Act of 1968 abolished the Lord Chamberlain's right of censorship over the text of a new play. Until this time, wide powers of supervision and control over the stage in Great Britain were vested in the Lord Chamberlain.

#### **AUTHOR'S NOTE**

to the first edition of the play in 1967

The Lord Chamberlain grants a licence to the play subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The corpse is inanimate and not played by an actress.
- (ii) On Page 79 the casket is wiped with a handkerchief. The Lord Chamberlain is particularly anxious that no stain shall appear on the handkerchief.

The following alterations to the text are required:

Act One: Page 21 'Run by a woman who was connected with the Royal Family one time'. For 'Royal Family' substitute 'Empire Loyalists'.

Page 22 'Under that picture of the Sacred Heart'. For 'Sacred Heart' substitute 'Infant Samuel'.

Page 36 'While Jesus pointed to his Sacred Heart, you pointed to yours. I never point. It's rude' must be cut.

Page 39 For 'Consummatum Est' substitute 'Kingdom Come'.

Page 51 For 'buggery' substitute 'beggary'.

Act Two: Page 79 'Run by three Pakistanis aged between ten and fifteen. They do it for sweets. Part of their religion'. For 'Pakistanis' substitute 'kids'. 'Part of their religion' must be cut.

Page 85 For 'fucking' substitute 'bleeding'.

## CONTINUING THE QUESTORS GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR

#### Coming in the Main Theatre

#### IN THE SEASON OF FIVE ENGLISH COMEDIES

June 23 – 30

JUMPERS by Tom Stoppard

September 15 – 22

VENUS OBSERVED by Christopher Fry

October 13 – 20

WHEN WE ARE MARRIED

by J. B. Priestley

### AND THE STUDENT GROUP JUBILEE PRODUCTION

July 14 - 21

#### CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

adapted from Dostoievsky's novel by Rodney Ackland

#### AND IN THE STUDIO

July 5 - 12

The celebrated Hungarian Company, STUDIO K from Budapest in Buchner's WOYZECK

#### THE FILM SOCIETY:

#### LOVE AND DEATH

Friday, June 8th at 11p.m.