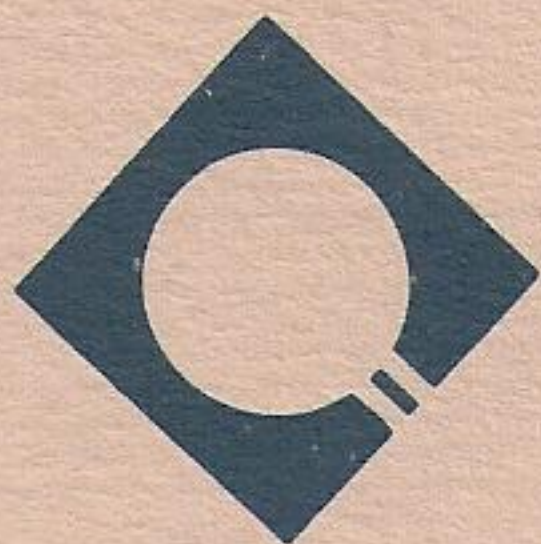


A NEW ADVENTURE OF
SHERLOCK HOLMES

GRAND CHRISTMAS NUMBER

DEC.
1984

4/-



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

First Performance December 31st 1984

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Sherlock Holmes was first performed, with the co-author, William Gillette, in the leading role, in New York in 1899 and came to London in 1904. Gillette tended to write plays in which he could play the leading part. His outstanding work was the Civil War play *Secret Service*, a great box office hit of the nineteenth century, which is still thought of as one of the great American melodramas. Gillette played Holmes over a period of 36 years and his final performance was in a radio broadcast in 1935 when he was eighty-two. He had retired from the stage in 1920 but in 1929 he emerged from retirement at the age of seventy-six for a farewell season and tour in *Sherlock Holmes*. The reception was so overwhelming that it ran for three seasons.

There are conflicting stories about how the play came to be written. Some say that Conan Doyle had written a play, based loosely on his stories, *A Scandal in Bohemia* and *The Final Problem*, which managements had rejected, and that Gillette decided to re-write it to give himself a large role. Others reckon the script was largely Gillette's idea and that Conan Doyle took little interest in its development. It is said that Gillette wired Conan Doyle over the romantic interest asking how he felt about him marrying Holmes off. Conan Doyle was alleged to have replied — you can kill him off for all I care.

Conan Doyle had, of course, killed off Holmes in *The Final Problem* at the Reichenbach Falls and it was due to popular demand that he was forced to resurrect him in *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*.

Our production makes no pretence to meet the Baker Street Dogmatists except that we hope that our setting will echo the now yellowing pages of the Strand Magazine and the sepia tones of a London Peculiar.

SHERLOCK HOLMES

by
ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE
and
WILLIAM GILLETTE

Characters in order of appearance

MADGE LARRABEE NIKKI TAIT
FORMAN KEITH PARRY
JIM LARRABEE VIC POMPINI
THERESE CATHY JONES
SID PRINCE TED SCRIVENER
ALICE FAULKNER MARIA BRUSA
SHERLOCK HOLMES PHILIP CLAYTON-GORE
PROFESSOR MORIARTY DEREK BULLOCK
KARL BASSICK ANTHONY WILLIS
BILLY LEON FLETCHER
DR. WATSON CLIVE FARLEY
CRAIGIN GLYN BACKSHALL
LEARY PETER GROGAN
McTAGUE TONY VALENTI
MRS. PARSONS GRACE CRADDOCK
SIR EDWARD LEIGHTON CHARLES NICHOLS
COUNT VON STALBERG TIM GODFREY

Directed by ALAN CHAMBERS
Settings designed by NORMAN BARWICK and
ROB HUGHES
Costumes designed by CHRIS BULLOCK
Lighting designed by RICHARD BROADHURST
Music composed by ANDREW BRIXEY
Violinist GEOFF FADDY

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

THE PERFORMANCE WILL LAST APPROXIMATELY
2 hrs. 25 mins.

ACT I

Drawing room at the Larrabees — Evening

ACT II

Scene 1 Professor Moriarty's underground office
— Morning

Scene 2 Sherlock Holmes' apartment in Baker Street
— Evening

INTERVAL

ACT III

The Stepney Gas Chamber — Midnight

ACT IV

Dr. Watson's Consulting Room — Kensington
— the following Morning

Stage Managers	—	RONA CHRISTIE and JENNY RICHARDSON
Assistant Stage Managers	—	ROY BRIERLEY LINDA BUXTON PAUL CHINN MELANIE ELLIS LESLEY HARRIS STEVE HEHIR ELIZABETH MARSHALL BRIAN McLOUGHLIN DAVID PALMER GARTH SHAW JOHN STACEY FRANCIS STEPHENSON BRIDGETT STREVENS
Wardrobe	<i>assisted by</i> —	GAIL SHARP JOAN BERRIDALE-JOHNS HILDA COLLINS LINDA GOWLAND LUCY LACAILLE JEAN LANE LISA MILLER VALERIE PALMER JACKIE ROLFE FRAN WILLIAMS
Properties Construction	—	TRACEY TOMLINSON DAVE ELLIS and TINA HARRIS
	<i>assisted by</i> —	ROGER BRACE BETH CROWLEY NEVILLE GILLETT TIM HAYWARD GEOFF MOORE DAVE WHEATLEY
Lighting Assistants	—	BRON BECKFORD and SUE FALLOWS
Sound	—	IAN HOWLETT
	<i>assisted by</i> —	MARTIN UDALL
Sound Operator	—	MARK DUDLEY
Make-Up	—	JULIE CRUTTENDEN and STUDENTS from 'GREASEPAINT LTD.'



The Questors gratefully acknowledge the assistance towards building the set provided by UK Corrugated

OVERHEARD IN BAKER STREET

Dr. Watson I say Holmes, how do those Questors people manage to keep sending out all the information to members each month?

The Great Detective Elementary my dear Watson. They have a small, but dedicated, band of helpers (not speckled) who are adept at putting pieces of paper in envelopes. I think however from time to time they could do with some more assistance.

Dr. Watson How can I find out about giving a hand?

The Great Detective Why not get in touch with Mesdames Gee and Udell between 9.30am and 5pm on a Monday through to Friday at their new office suite in Mattock Lane.

The General Post Office will also assist because telephones are installed. The secret code is 01/567/0011.

HOTPLATE

Delicious food is available in the Upper Foyer from 6.30 pm during the run of Playhouse productions.

Interval refreshments will be served and you can buy tea or coffee tokens in advance.

Orders for Interval drinks can also be given at the bar prior to the performance.

Patrons are respectfully asked to refrain from taking refreshments into the auditorium.

New and Prospective Members evenings are held every WEDNESDAY, commencing at 7.45 pm in the Grapevine bar. Included in the programme will be a comprehensive tour of the acting areas, workshops, wardrobe and rehearsal space.