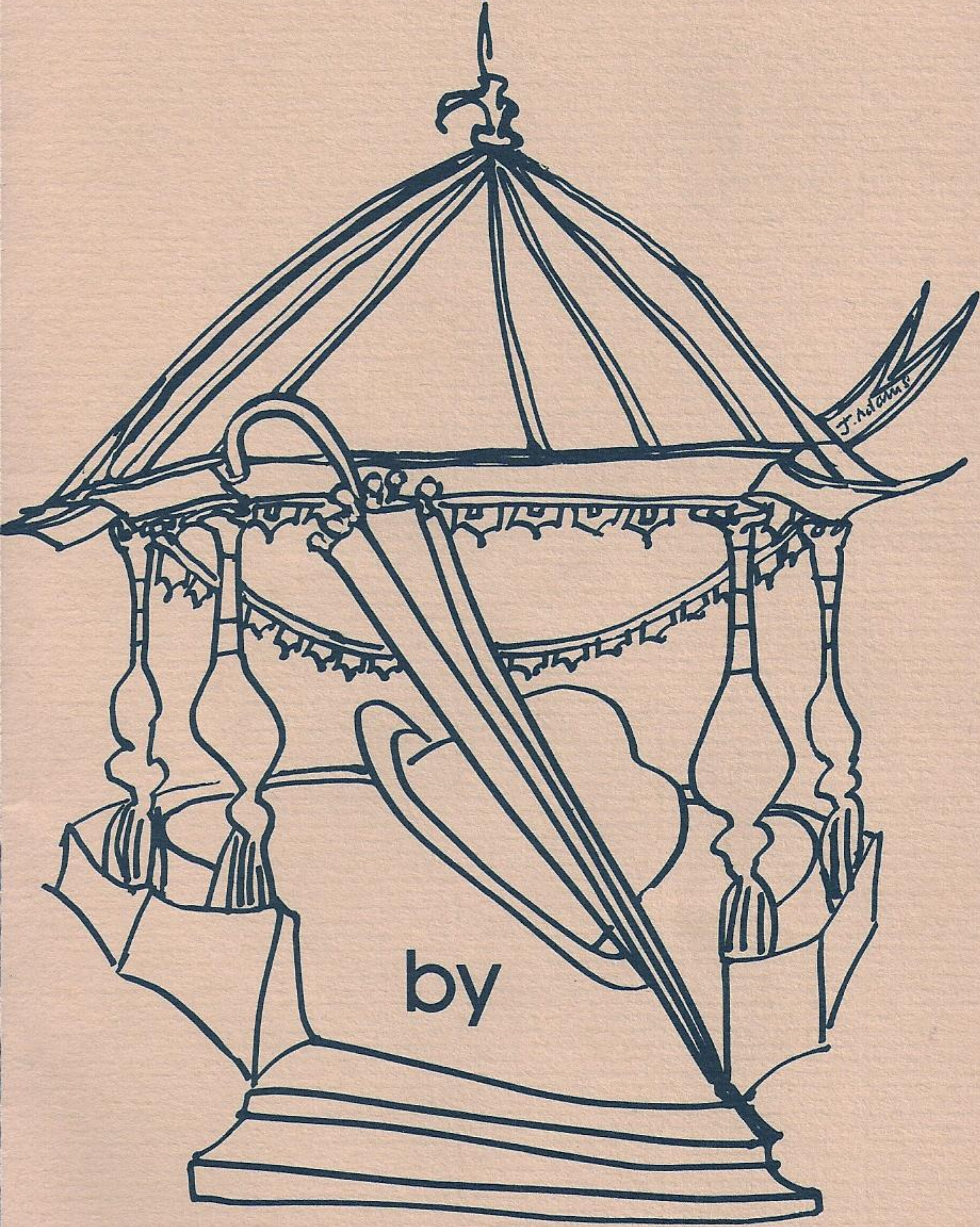
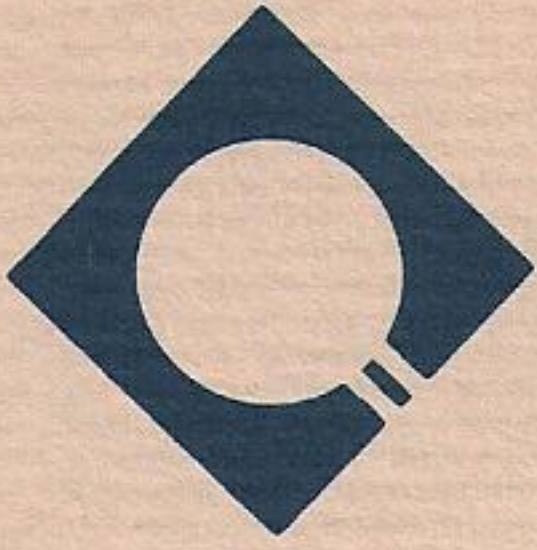


A LIFE

THE QUESTORS THEATRE



Hugh Leonard



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

First performed 13th April 1985

Hugh Leonard's first play was presented at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin in 1956 and since then a stream of award winning plays has followed, winning acclaim throughout the world. In addition he has worked extensively in television in Ireland and the United Kingdom. *A Life* was produced in Dublin in 1979, and later won a Harvey Award in America.

Writing of the themes of *A Life* in his autobiography *Home Before Night* Hugh Leonard has said: "The Irish love failure; in their folklore success is inexcusable, but the fumbled ball, the lost promotion, the one drink too many, are to them the stuff of romance; they turn the winner's laurels into a salad for the loser to eat, adding clichés for seasoning. And so, in the office, it was an article of faith that Drumm had a brilliant mind and could have become Principal Officer, or even Chief Clerk, but for his venomous tongue".

On December 6th 1921 the Saorstet Eireann, the Free State of Ireland, was given the full status of a dominion within the British Empire. In 1937 the title of Irish Free State was suppressed and changed to Eire. The action of the play thus spans forty years from 1937 to 1977.

A LIFE

by
Hugh Leonard

CAST

DRUMM KEN RATCLIFFE

DOLLY JANET EGAN

MARY HEATHER GODLEY

KEARNS DEREK BULLOCK

DESMOND SIMON HIGGINSON

(Drumm in his 20s)

DOROTHY MARIA BRUSA

(Dolly in her late teens)

MIBS BENIG MAUGER

(Mary in her late teens)

LAR DEREK STODDART

(Kearns in his 20s)

The play is set in a house and a park in Dalkey, a small town just south of Dublin and the port of Dun Laoghaire.

It is in two acts, and there will be one interval of fifteen minutes.

DIRECTOR : NEVILLE RASCHID
DESIGNER : NORMAN BARWICK
LIGHTING DESIGNER : FRANCIS STEVENSON
SOUND DESIGN : STEVE HAMES

STAGE MANAGER	ROGER STURM
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER	GORDON MILLER
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	SUSAN ABDEY MARJORIE EDWINS JO LOUGHLIN ADRIENNE O'BRIEN PAULA RODNEY HARRIET SIMON SIMON TRUEICK
PROPERTIES	GLYN BACKSHALL BOB RICKET TRACEY TOMLINSON
LIGHTING OPERATORS	JAMES LINEHAM JULIE ALLAN
WARDROBE	CHRIS BULLOCK LESLEY HARRIS
CONSTRUCTION assisted by	NEVILLE GILLETT ARTHUR BOARDMAN
PUBLICITY	JUDY ADAMS
MAKE UP	SHERRY REDLING KATE SHERRIN JACKIE GREER KATE PENTONY JULIE CRUTTENDEN

GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO GUINNESS OF PARK ROYAL

HOTPLATE

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

OPEN DISCUSSION

ON

A LIFE

TUESDAY, APRIL 23rd – 7.45pm

IN THE SHAW ROOM

WHY NOT JOIN US EITHER TO LISTEN

OR TO AIR YOUR VIEWS

ALL WELCOME

ADMISSION FREE

SIR MICHAEL REDGRAVE, CBE.

On 21st March the death occurred of Sir Michael Redgrave after a very long illness. This is a cause for grief to the British theatre, but for The Questors Theatre it is an occasion of personal loss and mourning, for Sir Michael Redgrave was our President.

In 1951 he attended a performance of *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and this marked the beginning of a close relationship with our expanding theatre. He later conducted the official opening of the Shaw Room, he launched the fund raising appeal for the new building and advised throughout that period on the architect's plans, bought the first sponsored seat for the theatre and attended, with Lady Redgrave and the then unknown young Vanessa a charity Bal Masqué. And so his enthusiastic support continued through the years until his final, heart rending visit to *A Month in the Country* in 1983.

For thirty five years Sir Michael's involvement with The Questors Theatre encouraged the standards of perfection we aspired to, and for those members who met him he was simply a friend.

Forthcoming Attractions

IN THE PLAYHOUSE

4 – 11 MAY

MARAT/SADE

by Peter Weiss

English version by Geoffrey Skelton

1 – 8 JUNE

TOM JONES

by Joan Macalpine

from the novel by Henry Fielding

22 – 29 JUNE

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

by Anton Chekhov

translated by Michael Frayn

13 – 20 JULY

THE GOOD WOMAN OF SETZUAN

by Berthold Brecht

translated by Eric Bentley

IN THE STUDIO

29 APRIL – 4 MAY

HARRY

by Sebastian Baczkiewicz

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