


March 1985

 THE QUESTORS  
THEATRE COMPANY

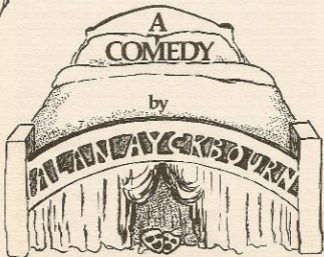


# Bedroom Farce

A  
COMEDY

by

PAUL WILKINSON





# THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

First performed March 8th 1985

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## AYCKBOURN . . .

. . . on drama and comedy

First, there is the drama or straight play which is usually rather short on humour but filled with Insights and other Serious Things and is thus, when successful, regarded as a Very Good Thing to See. Comedies, on the other hand, are straight plays with a sense of humour, often saying much the same thing only more enjoyably and therefore to a wider audience. A very few comedies can occasionally achieve the Very Good Thing category but generally only if (a) the director has removed all the humour from it by playing it with funereal solemnity or (b) the author is long dead, foreign, or preferably both. If the author is foreign, the chances are the translator will have killed off most of the humour anyway (*cf.* Molière, Goldoni). If very long dead, then most of the audiences don't understand the jokes anyway (*cf.* Shakespeare).

. . . on Marriage

The marriages I see are either fraught or dull. There are one or two very happy ones, but that's probably because they're new . . .

. . . I think a big piece of us dies in a marriage. We enter it, often spoilt, only children and in general, it goes one of two ways: we're either very bad at adjusting at all — we say: 'Yes, I don't mind marrying you, but I do object to the fact that you want this over there'. Or one personality, being stronger, will eclipse the other. Sometimes that happens by slow erosion — in the woman's case it's probably a long term marathon: she'll just whittle away . . .

. . . on *Bedroom Farce*

Comedy, I read somewhere, consists of larger than life characters in real situations. Farce, on the other hand, portrays real characters projected into incredible situations. *Bedroom Farce* is a comedy about real characters,

*continued on page 3*

# BEDROOM FARCE

by

**ALAN AYCKBOURN**

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*CAST in order of appearance*

ERNEST .....MICHAEL HOWARD  
DELIA .....BARBARA HUTCHINS  
JAN.....SONIA PEARSON  
NICK.....NEVILLE CRUTTENDEN  
KATE ..... GRACE CRADDOCK  
MALCOLM..... KEITH PARRY  
TREVOR .....MICHAEL LANGRIDGE  
SUSANNAH .....GILLIAN KERSWELL

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ACT I – *Saturday evening, 7 pm*

ACT II – *A few moments later*

TIME – *the present*

There will be one interval of 15 minutes

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DIRECTOR : DAVID PEARSON  
DESIGNER : PETER KNIGHT  
LIGHTING DESIGN : IAN HOWLETT  
SOUND DESIGN : STUART DOLLIN

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THIS PRODUCTION HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY



FLETCHER DENNIS  
SYSTEMS

STAGE MANAGER	ERIC LISTER
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER	MARGUERITE MINSTER
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	GAIL RICHARDSON NAOMI KERSHAW JULIA WRIGHT JILL WHITEWRIGHT KAREN TOSSELL
PROPERTIES assisted by	IRIS PHELPS GILLIE SANGUINETTI
LIGHTING OPERATOR assisted by	MALCOLM ROBERTSON JANE BLACKWALL
WARDROBE	LESLEY HARRIS
CONSTRUCTION	HUGH KENT JIM CRADDOCK PAUL BRAND PHILIP CLAYTON-GORE DOUGLAS KING
SPECIAL PROPERTY CONSTRUCTION	TIM GODFREY
PROSCENIUM DRAPES ASSISTANCE	ROB HUGHES
THANKS TO	BOB RICKETTS

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### 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.

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#### *Ayckbourn on Bedroom Farce continued*

who projected into incredible situations, start behaving in a larger than life manner as the situations appear to them too horribly real. I'm with Chekhov on this, as a matter of fact. He called his plays comedies or farces whenever he felt like it, probably to confuse Stanislavsky.

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

**ON**

**BEDROOM FARCE**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 19th — 7.45pm  
IN THE SHAW ROOM**

**WHY NOT JOIN US EITHER TO LISTEN  
OR TO AIR YOUR VIEWS**

**ALL WELCOME**

**ADMISSION FREE**

The sponsors of this production:

**FLETCHER DENNYS SYSTEMS LTD.**

are a local company based in Brentford. Their association with The Questors started when we purchased our IBM Computer from them in May last year. This computer, as by now all members should be aware, is used for processing our membership records.

As with many small businesses, when The Questors began their search for a suitable method of updating their membership records system to the second half of the twentieth century we had little idea of the criteria for selecting such a system and, therefore, the services of a specialist company, as Fletcher Dennys are, were most valuable in assisting us with our choice.

Over the past few years we have been fortunate in being able to include among our list of sponsors many major companies who are household names, and for their support we are extremely grateful. However, it is particularly pleasing that on this occasion we are able to be associated with a young, relatively small and local company who have provided us with an important specialist service that we could not obtain from elsewhere.

As a theatre which serves a local community, The Questors are keen to maintain our links with those local companies who have supported and assisted us over the years and we are always prepared to explore ways in which we can be associated with other local companies. We sincerely hope that our association with Fletcher Dennys will prove to be of assistance to a local company which clearly has something to offer the business community.

Fletcher Dennys Systems Ltd. specialise in the supply and support of micro-computers (mainly IBM Personal Computers) and associated hardware and software both to business and public sector users. The difference between Fletcher Dennys and most other dealers and distributors is that they are committed to providing a service for their users rather than just selling computers off their shelves as fast as possible.

The service which Fletcher Dennys provide — to produce workable solutions to business problems, is just what The Questors was seeking a year ago. We are all aware that running a more effective business, whether it be an amateur theatre or a multi-million pound organisation, depends on making the right decisions from accurate information. Fletcher Dennys Systems believe that they have the answer to making that information available.

Fletcher Dennys Systems Ltd. are located at:  
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## **IN THE PLAYHOUSE**

**13 – 20 APRIL**

### **A LIFE**

by Hugh Leonard

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**4 – 11 MAY**

### **MARAT/SADE**

by Peter Weiss

English version by Geoffrey Skelton

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**1 – 8 JUNE**

### **TOM JONES**

by Joan Macalpine

from the novel by Henry Fielding

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**22 – 29 JUNE**

### **THE CHERRY ORCHARD**

by Anton Chekhov

translated by Michael Frayn

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## **IN THE STUDIO**

**29 APRIL – 4 MAY**

### **HARRY**

by Sebastian Baczkiewicz

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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.