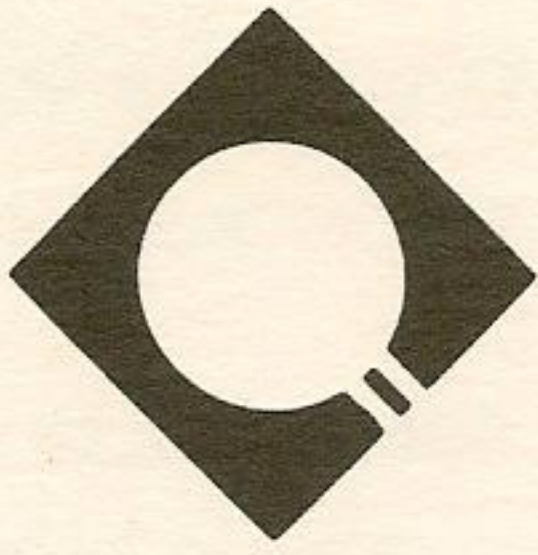


NOV 1985

BLACK COMEDY

LUNCH HOUR



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

First performed 2nd November 1985

BLACK COMEDY was written for the National Theatre in 1965: probably in something of a hurry! There are one or two little give-away moments in the play which suggest this, but that is the merest quibble when we are talking of what must be one of the funniest and wittiest farces ever to have been written originally in the English language. It has been widely performed, in this country and abroad, including Japan, where we understand it is well-known and very popular. This fact, together with the strong visual quality of the piece should stand us in good stead when we take the production to Yokohama at the end of November.

The company is greatly looking forward to participating, together with groups from Canada, Belgium (Flanders), Finland, France, Japan, Northern Ireland, the United States of America and West Germany, in the 1st Kanagawa International Festival of Amateur Drama. Whilst there, we shall be presenting the Mayor of Yokohama with a doll, dressed as a Pearly Queen, which will then find a permanent home in the Yokohama Doll House, along with dolls from over a hundred other nations. We are much indebted to the House of Nisbet for making this especially for us.

B.H.

LUNCH HOUR is perhaps one of the best of John Mortimer's one act plays. This is a genre at which he excels and his writing accurately pinpoints the fears, hopes, desires and tragedies that surround mundane situations.

Mortimer says 'even if a play lasts not more than five minutes, it should be able to contain at least one life, with a character that can be conceived as stretching forward and backwards in time. A play is a demonstration, in which an audience can recognise something about themselves'.

John Mortimer is not only a playwright but also a journalist, novelist and lawyer. He has written many film scripts, television and radio plays, including the successful award winning series about Rumpole.

Among his many credits are *A Voyage Round My Father* and his adaptation of *Brideshead Revisited* for television.

M.L.

ケスタースが日本で成功しますように**

**GINO'S
RESTAURANT**
4 THE MALL, W5
**WINE BAR &
PASTA SHOP**
70 THE MALL, W5

BLOWSY LTD
10 OAK ROAD, W5
567 4151

**41
BOND STREET
EALING W5
840 7512**

DIXON WARD
SOLICITORS
15/16 THE GREEN,
RICHMOND
01-940 7451
01-940 4051

CREASEPAIN
SCHOOL OF STAGE, T.V.
& FILM MAKE-UP
ENQUIRIES
579 4806
567 0011 X 27



HOTPLATE

Delicious food available
in the
UPPER FOYER
during the run of
PLAYHOUSE PRODUCTIONS
INTERVAL REFRESHMENTS
AND BAR



NEW AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Meeting including Tour of Theatre
complex
Every Wednesday 7.45pm
in the Grapevine Bar



LUNCHTIME SOCIAL GROUP

meets LAST Wednesday
of each month
12.30 - 2pm
Upper Foyer
Refreshments available



Patrons are asked to
refrain from taking
refreshments into
the auditorium



** We wish The Questors great success in Japan

Forthcoming Attractions

IN THE PLAYHOUSE

23 – 30 NOVEMBER

MISALLIANCE

by Bernard Shaw

21 DECEMBER – 4 JANUARY

UNDER THE GASLIGHT

A Melodrama

by Augustus Daly

IN THE STUDIO

4 – 7 DECEMBER

HARD FEELINGS

by Doug Lucie

15 DECEMBER – 6 JANUARY

MICROMANIA

A contemporary Pantomime for 6 – 11 year olds

by Jane Dewey

CHRISTMAS GIFT STALL

In the Foyer during the run of this production

Organised by the 'Japan' Company

SHAW ROOM

TUESDAY, 12th NOVEMBER – 7.45pm

THE OPEN DISCUSSION

on tonight's PLAYS will be led by

MICHAEL GREEN

renowned for his books on *The Art of Coarse Acting; Rugby; Sailing; Golf; Moving; Sex* and, published this month, *The Art of Coarse Office Life*. Other publications include three volumes of *Coarse Acting Plays* and a standard theatrical work, *Stage Noises and Effects*. He is a rugby columnist for *The Sunday Times*, a contributor to *Punch* and presents his own One-Man Show.

ALL ARE WELCOME

ADMISSION FREE

THE QUESTORS WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION TO THE BRITISH COUNCIL for financial assistance in connection with the tour to Japan of *Black Comedy* to participate in the International Festival of Amateur Theatre being held in and around Yokohama from November 19 – 25, 1985. THANKS ALSO to Neville Cruttenden, Alan Drake, Frank di Rienzo, Richard Gaunt, Iain Reid and Jenny Richardson for their help. THE BLACK COMEDY COMPANY would like to thank the Committee of Management of The Questors for donating the proceeds of the JAPANESE GALA EVENING to the tour fund.

BLACK COMEDY & LUNCH HOUR

LUNCH HOUR

by JOHN MORTIMER

Cast (in order of appearance)

GIRL.....MARIA BRUSA
MAN.....MICHAEL HEALY
MANAGERESS.....LORNA DUVAL

Scene: A bedroom in a small hotel near Kings Cross

Time: The present

The play directed by MICHAEL LANGRIDGE

INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

BLACK COMEDY

by PETER SHAFFER

Cast (in order of appearance)

BRINDSLEY MILLER.....SIMON HIGGINSON
CAROL MELKETT.....FIONA NICHOLSON
MISS FURNIVAL.....JILLYANN HEALY
COLONEL MELKETT.....COLIN PRONGER
HAROLD GORRINGE.....JOHN HINES
CLEA.....WENDY MEGENEY
SCHUPPANZIGH.....TONY WORTH
GEORG BAMBERGER.....MICHAEL HEALY

Scene: Brindsley's apartment in South Kensington at
9.30 on a Sunday evening

Time: The present

The play directed by BARBARA HUTCHINS

LUNCH HOUR

Stage Manager : ANITA MEHTA
Assistant Stage Managers : NEIL THOMPSON
CHARLES NICHOLS
ALEX MACMASTER
MARTIN BENEDICT
PETER DEVINE
SELINA YANKSTAN
Properties : ANITA MEHTA
Prompt : LORRAINE MARLOWE

With special thanks to IRIS PHELPS, THE CARNARVON HOTEL
and BRITISH GAS

BLACK COMEDY

Stage Manager : GORDON MILLER
Assistant Stage Managers : HARRIET SIMON
KATE DUNNING
MANDY CUNNINGHAM
JUDY WARD
Properties : JENNIFER REID
MARY WALKER
Prompt : BARBARA HOLGATE

Miss Nicholson's Dress by BLOWSY LTD.
Miss Megenny's Outfit by 41 BOND STREET

With special thanks to the LONDON ELECTRICITY BOARD
and SOLUS LIGHTING

FOR BOTH PLAYS

SETTINGS DESIGNED BY NORMAN BARWICK
LIGHTING DESIGNED BY RICHARD BROADHURST
SOUND DESIGNED BY JOHN HADLER

Lighting Assistants : ANDREW DAVIE
BRENDA WOOD
Sound Operator : ANDREW MADDOCKS
Wardrobe by : ANNE GILMOUR
Construction : TINA HARRIS,
DAVE ELLIS
ARTHUR BOARDMAN
CHRIS SYDENHAM
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR : MARTIN STONER