

22nd April - 29th April
1995

Coming next

You Never Can Tell

by George Bernard Shaw

April 29, 2 - 6 May at 7.45pm

April 30 at 2.30pm

First performed in 1897, You Never Can Tell allows Shaw to explore his favourite themes of women's emancipation, the sex war, class, property, social etiquette and the professions. One of the classics of English comedy.



Sketches in the Dark

by Scottt Perry

May 13 - 20 at 7.45pm

A highly charged black comedy revolving around an artist's desire to fulfil his creative potential. He is thwarted in his plans by his wife, who secures him a 'proper job'.

Biography

by Max Frisch

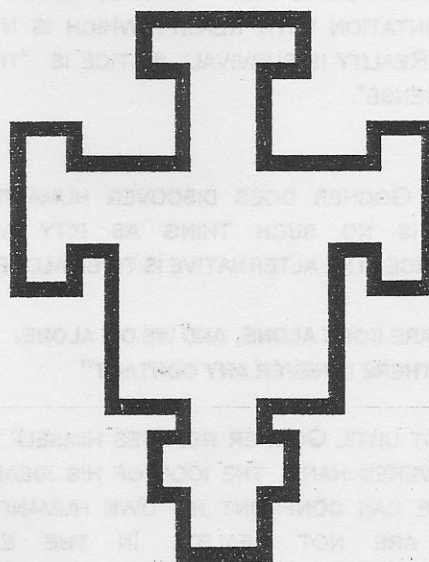
May 20, 23 - 27 at 7.45pm

May 21 at 2.30pm

*A sparkling, witty theatrical event rarely performed in this country. Written by one of Germany's foremost playwrights best known in England for **The Fire Raisers**. Hannes Kurmann has been given the opportunity to review his life. Will he alter his destiny? - Would you?*

FAIR SLAUGHTER

BY HOWARD
BARKER



FAIR SLAUGHTER

*SOMETHING MUST BE SAID AT THE END OF A LIFE
THERE IS A NECESSITY TO SPEAK
AND THIS MUST BE FAILURE
THE ACT WHICH WAS NOT CARRIED THROUGH*

HOWARD BARKER
(FROM *DEATHBED*).

FAIR SLAUGHTER IS THE FIRST HOWARD BARKER PLAY TO BE PERFORMED ON A QUESTORS STAGE. OF ALL LIVING WRITERS BARKER HAS GONE FURTHER TO CREATE A POETIC IDIOM THAT INVESTIGATES A LANGUAGE THAT IS MADE FOR THE THEATRE. A LANGUAGE THAT MAKES INTENSE DEMANDS. IT MOVES FROM TRADITIONAL PSYCHOLOGICAL REALITY TO A SURREALITY THAT OPERATES AT THE EXTREME LEVELS OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE.

BARKER HAS INSISTED THAT HE "HAS NOTHING TO TEACH ANYONE", BUT AT THE HEART OF FAIR SLAUGHTER LIES A SIMPLE MORALITY TALE. THE MAIN PROTAGONIST IN FAIR SLAUGHTER, THE MURDERER GOCHER, HAS HELD ONTO HIS LEFT WING IDEALS IN THE FORM OF THE SEVERED HAND OF TROTSKY'S ENGINE DRIVER. BUT IT DOES NOT BRING HIM JUSTICE, ONLY A CONFRONTATION WITH REALITY WHICH IS NOT "NICE". REALITY IS SURVIVAL; JUSTICE IS "THIS FUNNY SENSE".

FINALLY GOCHER DOES DISCOVER HUMANITY. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS PITY AND TOLERANCE. THE ALTERNATIVE IS TO BE ALONE.

**"WE ARE BORN ALONE, AND WE DIE ALONE.
AND THERE IS NEVER ANY CONTACT"**

IT IS NOT UNTIL GOCHER RELIEVES HIMSELF OF THE SEVERED HAND, THE ICON OF HIS IDEALS, THAT HE CAN CONFRONT HIS OWN HUMANITY. ICONS ARE NOT REALITY. IN THE END RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITH THE SELF.

THE CAST

OLD GOCHER ALLAN MORTON
LEARY PAUL CHINN
YOUNG GOCHER MARK REDRUP
STAVELEY ROBIN INGRAM
TOVARISH PAUL BOTLY
MOIRA HILARY BURNS
DOCTOR TERRY JERMYN
MELANIE LOUISE COUCHMAN
PORTER TERRY JERMYN

INCIDENTAL MUSIC

NYMAN: STRING QUARTET No 3
PROKOFIEV: LIEUTENANT KJE
TIPPET: FANTASIA CONCERTANTE ON
A THEME OF CORELLI
NYMAN: OUT OF THE RUINS

THE CREW

DIRECTOR BRIAN INGRAM
SET DESIGN NORMAN BARWICK
LIGHTING DESIGN RICHARD MANNING
LIGHTING CREW CECILE PAULIN
MICHAEL SILVER
GARETH GEORGE
RICHARD BRIDGEN
SOUND DESIGN IAN HOWLETT
SOUND CREW HEATHER MACINTYRE
MARIE O'BRIEN
ANN HOWLETT
SONG COMPOSER PAUL CLARKE
MUSIC ADVISER IAN AMOS
CHOREOGRAPHY RENATA NASH
COSTUME DESIGN CORINNE NIELD
WARDROBE ZOE HILL
NICOLA MILBURN
STAGE MANAGER JO BOOTH
DSMS MARIE O'BRIEN
BRIN PARSONAGE
ANNELIESE MORGAN

WITH THANKS TO:-

JULIE CRUTTENDEN, TESSA CURTIS, SPENCER BUTLER, ERIC LISTER, BARRY JONES, MARY ANGUS, EMILY BRAY, JON WEBSTER, JIM CRADDOCK, NIGEL WORSLEY.