

Jimmie Chinn

Born in Middleton, Manchester, 1940. Trained at R.A.D.A. His short and very undistinguished career as an actor led him eventually to train as a teacher at Whitelands College, Putney where he gained a degree in English and Drama.

He taught and was a Housemaster at Dormers Wells High School in Southall and taught drama with the students at Questors with Alfred Emmet. It was for this group that he wrote his first full-length play: ALBERT MAKE US LAUGH. Encouraged by the success of a handful of radio plays including FROM HERE TO THE LIBRARY, TOO LONG AN AUTUMN, A WOMAN WHO DOES, IN ROOM FIVE HUNDRED AND FOUR and A DIFFERENT WAY HOME, he became a full-time writer in 1984.

His full-length plays include OUR LINDA OUR CAROL AND FREDA, TO THE ISLAND, TAKE AWAY THE LADY, HOME BEFORE DARK, AFTER SEPTEMBER and STRAIGHT AND NARROW which enjoyed a huge success in London's West End and all over the world. His latest play, SYLVIA'S WEDDING was premiered earlier this year. Jimmie has also written numerous episodes of EMMERDALE FARM for Yorkshire Television.

Most of his plays are published by Samuel French.

"whatever happened to kathy kirby?"

a new play by jimmie chinn



THE
QUESTORS
THEATRE
STUDIO

Box Office:
0181 567 5184

Registered Charity No 207516

July 1995

KATHY KIRBY

Born October 20th, 1940 in Ilford, Essex

Aged sixteen, auditioned for Bert Ambrose, once Britain's top band leader, who gave her a job believing her to be eighteen.

1960 Toured nationally, as support to Cliff Richard

1961 Ambrose, now semi-retired, became her manager, determined to seek the stardom Kathy so longed for.

1962 Appeared on T.V. in 'The Arthur Haynes Show'.

1963 Became a resident singer in the T.V. hit series 'Stars and Garters' - established as a firm favourite with millions of viewers. Two records in the charts - 'Dance On' and 'Secret Love'.

1964 Her greatest year: a star at twenty four, hit records, Summer Season at Blackpool's top venue, her own T.V. show - The Kathy Kirby Show. Appeared in The Royal Variety Performance at the London Palladium.

1965 Sang for this country in the 10th Eurovision Song Contest in Naples - she came second - the song 'I Belong'.

1970 Bert Ambrose died. At the time Miss Kirby commented 'He developed me as a person. He meant everything to me. I'll never get over his death'.

Her career, although not over, slipped into decline from then on.

1995 Kathy Kirby, now 55, lives quietly and mainly unknown in West London, but there are still millions who remember what a great star she was.

"Everything that happens to a writer is used, sooner or later, in one form or another, as copy we chew on our own lives"

Nora Ephron

Writer and Film Director

Cast

Armstrong Armstrong James Brennan
O' Toole Mark Fitzgerald
Venetia Armstrong Sara Pruce
Pearl Armstrong Linda Shannon
Beryl Armstrong Sophie James

Crew

Director Tony Hill
Designer Spencer Butler
Sound Designer Ian Howlett
Lighting Designer Martin Stoner
Lighting Operator Cecile Paulin
Stage Managers Tina Harris
Chris Sydenham
Assistant Stage Managers Brin Parsonage
Bridgett Strevens
Makeup Alexandra Scott
of Greasepaint

With thanks to:

Richard Kelly, Anne Gilmour, Alec
Atchison, Mrs. L. Strevens, Ann Howlett,
Nigel Worsley