



THE
QUESTORS
THEATRE



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THE KERRY DANCE, my first full-length play, fully occupied eighteen months of my life whereas CLOSE-UP was written over an intensive eight weeks and nine characters would give me no peace until I moulded them into some kind of existence! The play has a West Yorkshire setting, once again I return to my roots, and the action of the play passes over two years moving from village to town to city.

I was interested in exploring how the long arm of coincidence can set in motion a sequence of events which gradually envelop the lives of a group of characters. These characters are not all known to each other, and in some cases never actually meet. Nevertheless they are all inexorably connected and responsible for the plight of the play's protagonists.

I wish to thank Steve Canny and Nicky Ramsay for discussions over the early drafts of the play. In rehearsals the actors themselves have most generously contributed to the final revisions and I am grateful to them.

Tony Rushforth

The action of the play takes place in West Yorkshire

SCENES:

1. Prelude
2. Cathedral Chapel Last year
3. Village Shop This year
4. Village Shop
5. Town Café
6. Terrace/Meeting Room
7. Village Shop

INTERVAL of fifteen minutes

8. City Office
9. Terrace
10. Village Shop Next Year
11. Town Café
12. Coda

CLOSE-UP

By Tony Rushforth

First performance of this production Saturday 6th January 2001

Cast

Maggie Singh
Bishop
Father David Croft
Edna Verity
Sarah Verity
Helen Fletcher
Monsignor
Sheila
Walter Turnbull

Charmian Norman-Taylor
Ken Ratcliffe
Tony Barber
Sheila Tiffany
Dorothy Boyd-Taylor
Margaret Turner
Phillip Sheahan
Mari King
John Hines

Production

Director
Set Design
Costume Design
Lighting Design
Sound Design
Stage Manager
Deputy Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Managers

Prompt
Properties
Lighting Operator
Sound Operator
Construction
Make-up and Hair
Voice Coach

Tony Rushforth
Tessa Curtis
Sarah Galton
Steve Hames
Alan N. Smith
Rona Christie
Brin Parsonage
Tom Begley, Esther Sunyer,
Alison Winter
Susan Oliver
Harriet Simon
Philippa Forster
Sue Crowson
John Rolfe
Edla Griffiths, Maggie Richards
Tony Hill

Thanks to:

Roger Brace, Patricia Harman, Tina Harris, Sally Howe, Bill Musker, Alice Pennicott, Jonathan and Mary Rushforth, Martin Sapsed, Adrienne Talbot, Jackie Tye, Freshbuy, Southall Neighbourly Care, Waitrose West Ealing, Lubna Malik, Father Bonard Scholes, Our Lady & St Joseph R.C. Church, Hanwell

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FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

A LITTLE HOTEL ON THE SIDE *By George Feydeau, adapted by John Mortimer*

In the Playhouse, 20th - 27th January

Love and marriage, horse and carriage, Feydeau and farce - You can't really have one without the other. All the classic themes of adultery, mistaken identity and misunderstanding are represented in this witty stylish piece.

THREE TALL WOMEN *By Edward Albee*

In the Playhouse, 17th - 24th February

Albee explores the life, memories and reminiscences of one elderly woman. A brilliant and poignant Pulitzer Prize-winning play.

A 50th Year Celebration VOICES FROM AMBRIDGE

Featuring cast members of THE ARCHERS

In The Playhouse, 18th - 25th November

Devised and directed by Gareth Armstrong and Malcolm McKee

Bringing you a light hearted celebration, in words and music of the British countryside. After the enormous success of 'Shakespeare Revue', this special evening holds a wealth of newly commissioned material from the cream of British Comedy Writers - featuring actors from Britain's most popular Radio Service, "The Archers".

HELEN OF TROY

By Euripides, translated by Adonis Galleus, Catherine Steevens and Toni Brown

In the Playhouse, 17th - 24th February

In the Studio, 24th February - 3rd March

The exciting tale of conflict and intrigue in Ancient Greece

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