

The Questors Theatre Archives
Questories
New Plays Festivals
13th Festival 1972

THE MIDDLESEX CHRONICLE (TWICKENHAM)
23 June 1972

CANDLELIGHT AND BABYLON

THE second of the three first performances in the Questors' Festival of New Plays was "**Candlelight and Babylon**," by Don Roberts, played last week.

It is a very agreeable, enigmatic play, impressionistic if you like, with no connected plot as such but with a number of characters (some very unpleasant) moving around.

The "candlelight" would obviously seem be the charming young Anne and her equally charming grandfather.

HARSH

In their harsh treatment of her, Anne's parents forcibly reminded me of Mr. and Miss Murdstone's handling of the young David Copperfield after his young widowed mother was unwise enough to marry Mr. M.

Delightful characters were a flirting couple of a sailor and a darkie girl, and a pedlar selling balloons and trinkets. These, and several others, had their little scenes spotlighted—while the rest were blacked out.

Under the direction of Gill Champion Torrance, the play moved like clockwork.

The cast of John Holloway, Philip Wright, Julia Cruttenden (most excellent as Anne), Alfred Anderson, Dorothy Wood, David Lorraine, Roberta Horstein, Sheila Sorley, Tom Pritchard, John Webb, Sean Moore, Alfred Anderson, Arthur Boyd Taylor, Mary Hodlin and Jean Harding played up to the highest Questors' standards.

MAURICE REEVE