

4. 11. 1990

**Fanny's
First
Play**



by
George Bernard Shaw

director
David Gowman

Sunday 4th Nov 7:45pm in the Foyer
Rehearsed Readings at Questors

Donations will be collected after the reading.

 **THE QUESTORS THEATRE**

Fanny's First Play

by George Bernard Shaw

The Play was first produced at the Little Theatre, Adelphi, in 1911 with Lillian McCarthy, Harcourt Williams, Dorothy Minto and Nigel Playfair.

In this 'pot-boiler' Shaw attacks the 'dead as mutton' respectable tradespeople represented by the partners Gilbey and Knox of Denmark Hill, S.E.5. Their children, Margaret Knox and Bobby Gilbey, take his 'desperate' advice: 'Do something that gets you into trouble', and so break out of their deadly respectability.

Induction and Epilogue (Omitted this evening)

Set in Fanny's Country House. Shaw hid his own authorship behind Fanny, whose doting but devastated father, Count O'Dowda, introduces her to a specially invited audience of critics. A play which she has written at Cambridge is to be presented to them. It is 'Fanny's First Play', but they are not told the author. In the Epilogue Shaw lampoons the critics who are challenged to guess who wrote it. The four critics of 1911 are: the flowery Oxonian A. B. Walker of 'The Times' ('Trotter'); the dry satirical Gilbert Cannan ('Gunn'); the enthusiastic Baughan ('Vaughan') and the know-nothing popular journalist ('Flawner Bannal').

CAST

Mrs Gilbey	Sarah Andrews
Mr Gilbey	Paul Chinn
Juggins	Robin Ingram
Dora	Bronwen James
Mrs Knox	Pam Gower
Mr Knox	Denis Adamms
Margaret	Lisa Day
Duvallet	John Davey
Bobby Gilbey	Peter Gardiner

directed by David Gowman

Act I: The Gilbey's breakfast room in Denmark Hill.

Act II: Afternoon, the Knox drawing room.

INTERVAL 10 mins

Act III: Later in the afternoon at the Gilbey's.

Fanny's play shocks her old fashioned father who has escaped England for Venice, 'I feel now as when the campanile fell'. She has become a Fabian and a Suffragette. To us the play is an amusing comedy of Edwardian manners.

Next Readings

Nov 25th The Play's The Thing
by Molnar and Wodehouse
director Kelvin West

Dec 23rd Tom Thumb
by Henry Fielding
director Jane Dewey