

June 13th 1993

Napoleon

by
David Duff

Cast

Napoleon	Paul Ashby
Josephine	Angela Jenkins
Talleyrand	Edward Jeoffroy
Fouche	Peter Anderson
Louise	Claire Goose
Mde. Remusat, Florence	Jennifer Tudor
Barras, Duc d'Angers, Col.	Tony Worth
Sieyes, Gaston, Sgt 21st	Jerry Moreton
Cit 2, Armande, Marcel	Matthew Flexman
Cit 3, Spy 1, Soldier 21st,	
Sgt Gds, Jean	Andy Wisher
Cit 1, Hussar, Gentleman,	
Staff Officer, Duc d'Enghien	Geoff Cotton
Narrator, Spy 2	David Duff
Stage Management	Maureen Fleming
Sound	Nick Keene
Director	David Duff

History, someone once said, was just one damn thing after another. How true, and there we hit the first problem facing the writer who seeks to mould History into a dramatic form. Events must be shaped and presented in a theatrical manner, but two awkwardnesses constantly cramp the writers arm. Time, that is real time and theatrical time, must be blended in such a manner that the audience never notice the way it has been alternately stretched and compressed, and facts, particularly well known facts cannot be easily altered no matter how compelling the dramatic urge. I have tried to overcome these difficulties by mixing historical and imaginary characters but I am uneasily aware that the real-life 'actors' of this period, people like Talleyrand, Fouche, Josephine and of course, Napoleon himself, are far more brilliant than anything I could create.

David Duff

Rehearsed Reading Sunday June 13th 1993
Admission by programme 50p

*** *Next Rehearsed Readings* ***

July 11th: **Readings from James Joyce**, director Joe Purcell
July 25th: **Out of Order**, director Simon Thomas