

by

J. B. PRIESTLEY

LEEDS CIVIC THEATRE

7th - 11th APRIL 1981

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Boynton Priestley is one of our best loved Yorkshire dramatists. Born in 1894 and educated in Bradford and Trinity College, Cambridge, he has also written novels, criticism and during the Second World War was a very popular broadcaster.

Though born in the Victorian Era, he joined the modern movement of H. G. Wells and T. S. Elliot to explore new ideas in drama and write "Modern prose with no Elizabethan nonsense about it". His first plays about 'Time', "DANGEROUS CORNER" (1932) currently running at the Ambassador Theatre, London, and "TIME AND THE CONWAYS" (1937) were real theatrical innovations. A great storyteller and entertainer, Priestley is still giving audiences an entertaining and thought provoking evening in the theatre.

ABOUT THE PLAY

"AN INSPECTOR CALLS", written in 1944-45, is an example of Priestley's social conscience at work with a twist of his earlier interest in 'Time' for good measure. So long as he draws from character, especially Northern character, his judgment of what the public wants is near infallible. The play was first produced in Moscow in 1945 where it was performed by two companies simultaneously. It has also proved popular with audiences in France and West Germany as well as Britain.

Bearing in mind that the play is set in the Spring of 1912, during the dialogue it is stated that the "TITANIC" is unsinkable. As we now know, the "TITANIC" sank on 14th April 1912 with appalling loss of life and the 69th anniversary of this disaster falls just three days after our final performance.

CAST:

Arthur Birling

Sybil Birling, his wife

Sheila Birling, their daughter

Eric Birling, their son

Gerald Croft, fiance to Sheila

Inspector Goole

Edna, The Maid

Robin Polley

June Stevenson

Vicki Atkinson

Les Wormald

Jim Young

George Teale

Mary Preston

For the Arts Centre:

Stage Manager Anne Robinson

Assistant Stage Managers Laurie Ball, Stuart Mitchell,

Geoff Mountain

Prompt Betty Triggs

Properties Julie Mitchell, David Scott,

Gill Thresh

Ladies Costume Design Elaine Cooper

and Portrait

Wardrobe Margaret Rhodes,

Ann Simpson-Hutchinson

and Wardrobe Team

Publicity Robin Clayton

Box Office John Pemberton,

Margaret Rhodes

Front of House Dennis Stevenson

Sound David Mallinson

Produced by NINA GOLDTHORPE

All three acts, which are continuous in time, are set in the dining room of the Birlings' home in Brumley, an industrial city in the North Midlands.

Time: An evening, Spring 1912.

There will be two intervals of 15 minutes during which ice cream will be on sale in the foyer and the theatre bar will be open.

Telephone kindly lent for this production by British Telecom Training School, 'Kineholm', Otley.

In accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Sub-committee of Leeds City Council:

- a) The public may leave at the end of each performance by all exit and entrance doors and such doors must at that time be open.
- b) All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions.
- c) Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways or stand in any unseated space in the auditorium unless standing in such a space has been specially allowed by the Licensing Committee. A notice is exhibited in that part of the auditorium in which standing has been sanctioned.
- d) The safety curtain must be lowered and raised once immediately before each performance to check that it is in proper working order.

Our final production for this season —

23rd - 28th June 1981

ROUND AND ROUND THE GARDEN

by

Alan Ayckbourn

Producer - Joyce King

NEXT SEASON we hope to present the classical comedy

LE MALADE IMAGINAIRE

by

Moliere

6th - 10th December 1981

NEXT WEEK

The Electricity Players in DRY ROT by John R. Chapman

LEEDS ARTS CENTRE

LEEDS ARTS CENTRE was formed in 1945 as an amateur society to encourage and foster interest in the arts.

THE DRAMA GROUP presents five productions at the Civic Theatre each year — usually including a musical or revue type show.

THE GREEN ROOM GROUP puts on plays and other forms of entertainment in the rehearsal rooms to give members valuable experience of acting and producing before tackling major parts or productions in the Civic Theatre.

THE FINE ARTS GROUP meets twice each week throughout the year for drawing, painting and other creative work.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES are organised for members, such as theatre visits, outings, parties etc.

NEW MEMBERS are always welcome so if you are interested in joining or would like more information please ask our members at the Box Office this evening or write to:

The Secretary,
Leeds Arts Centre,
Stansfeld Chambers,
Great George Street,
Leeds 1.

BOOKINGS: Advance bookings for any of our shows may be made at the Tourist Information Office in Calverley Street adjoining the Central Lending Library during the month before a production, or at the Bond Street Centre. Alternatively you may ask at the Box Office this evening or telephone Leeds 892346.

COSTUME HIRE: Some of the costumes you have seen tonight and countless others from different periods are available for hire from the Leeds Arts Centre costume collection at reasonable rates.

If you are interested please telephone Leeds 756796 and discuss your requirements with Mrs. Margaret Rhodes, our wardrobe mistress.