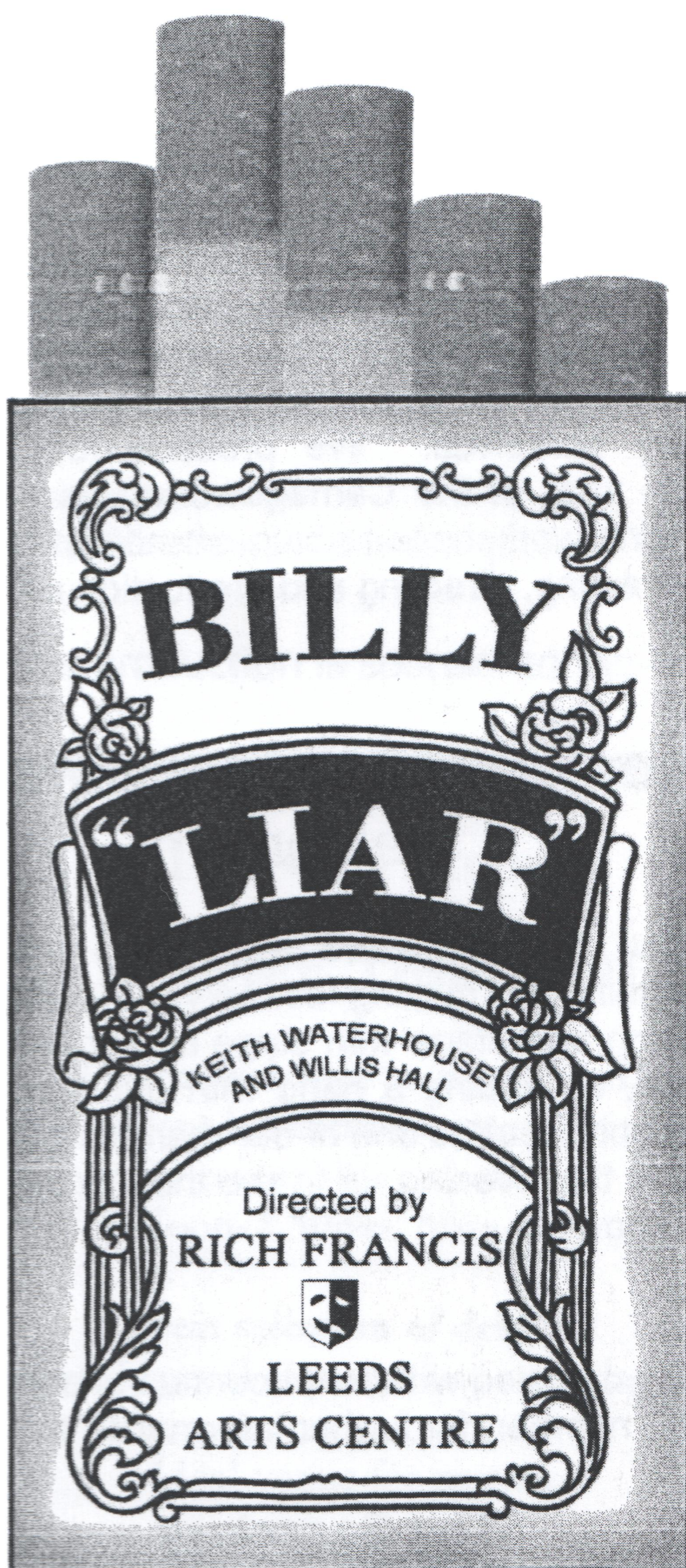




**LEEDS ARTS
CENTRE**



**The Carriageworks Theatre
Millennium Square Leeds**

**Wednesday 21st to Saturday
24th June 2006 7.30 p.m.**





Leeds Arts Centre is an amateur dramatic society founded in 1945. We have members from all walks of life, including people who have worked in the theatre, others who hope to make a career on the stage, and many who are very happy to remain amateurs. We are a very friendly society, working together to maintain the high standards for which our productions are known, and we always aim to enjoy ourselves. We produce four plays each year at the Carriageworks, as well as running workshops to help members develop their acting, directing and production skills.

New members are always welcome

If you are interested in acting, directing, designing or making scenery or costumes, helping backstage with stage management or props, or lending a hand with publicity, then why not speak to one of our members front of house this evening, or in the theatre bar after the show?

You can also write, with contact telephone number, for further information to:

The Secretary

Leeds Arts Centre
c/o The Carriageworks
Millennium Square
Leeds LS2 3AD
or e-mail us at:

publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

**Please ensure that all
mobile telephones are
switched off during the
performance.**

Advertising and Sponsorship

Leeds Arts Centre is a member of the Leeds Civic Arts Guild, is a registered charity and non-profit making organisation. We are currently looking for companies and organisations that would benefit from advertising in our programmes or sponsoring our productions.

**To find out more, contact our
Publicity Officer:**

The Publicity Officer, Leeds Arts Centre
c/o The Carriageworks Theatre, Millennium
Square Leeds LS2 3AD

or e-mail us at:

publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

This production is sponsored by:-

The Old Steps

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Directors Notes

To Billy Fisher, in 1960, the dimmer his surroundings, the more fantastic are his compensatory daydreams. Neither his family, nor his undertaker employers take kindly to his fantasies; nor do his three girlfriends, at least two of whom he is engaged to! So Billy wades through a confused Saturday, as his past lies follow him here, there and everywhere.

The play was first performed in 1960 and was set to take place "*in Stradhoughton, an industrial town in the north of England, today*". It can now be seen as a piece of social history and we have attempted to transport our audience back to that time; a time post-war, post the breakthrough of rock 'n' roll and yet pre-Beatles; before the "swinging sixties" started to swing.

A key way of introducing the period of the play has been through music. The popular music you will hear tonight was released or in the charts in 1960. Some fantastic bands and tunes were around during that year, many still played today but some of them have faded from view. Tonight you will hear from artists as diverse as Frank Sinatra, Johnny Kidd and the Pirates, Buddy Holly, Johnny Burnette and The Everly Brothers.

Forty-six years ago, political correctness was unheard of and the play contains many references to views widely held by many people across society. These also set the play firmly in its time.

We have had great fun rehearsing and performing the play which has certainly made us laugh; perhaps because although Billy is a child of his time (he's a grammar-school educated northern lad who is rebelling against the dreariness and conformity of his 1950's family) he is timeless too - young and hopeful and dreaming of success.

Rich Francis

The play takes place in "the Fisher residence" on a Saturday in 1960.

Act 1 Saturday morning

Act 2 Tea time

Act 3 Saturday evening

There will be one interval at the end of Act 2 during which the theatre bar will be open.

CAST

Florence Boothroyd	Joyce King
Alice Fisher	Margaret Savage
Geoffrey Fisher	Martin Key
Billy Fisher	Martin Cusworth
Arthur	Stephen Mosley
Barbara	Pip Tibbetts
Rita	Zoe Freedman
Liz	Charlotte Wylie

Directed by Rich Francis

Production Team

Production Manager	Maria Kwater
Prompt	Shirley Broadbent
Stage Manager	Martyn Drake
ASM	Edwin Barraclough
Set Construction	Martyn Drake and L.A.C members
Props & set dressing	Denise Davies & Doreen Parker
Sound Operation	Stephen Fryatt
Lighting	Peter Waddicor & Sandy Clark
Wardrobe	Dawn Morris, Pippa Robson, George Judd & Maggie Rhodes
Front of House	Trudy Stewart

Joyce King

After thirty years of acting and directing for the L.A.C. Joyce said “I have finally achieved my aim – grandma! A gem of a part in a classic “period” piece”.

Margaret Savage

Margaret has been a member of the L.A.C. for twenty years and throughout her diverse acting career has moved from playing Flibberty in *Flibberty and the Penguin* to being *A Woman of No Importance* to finally arrive at playing Billy’s mum. Margaret said “It has been an interesting journey!”

Martin Key

Martin has acted and directed at the Civic Theatre since 1970 taking a ten year break to direct the Leeds Youth Players for the L.E.A. In 1988 he took over direction of all major shows as Intake High School Arts College. In 2003 retirement meant he could dedicate more time to directing and acting with the L.A.C.

Martin Cusworth

Having trained at Mountview Drama School Martin moved to Leeds and amongst other roles has played Romeo and more recently Bob, in *Straight and Narrow*. Martin said “I wanted to play Billy for a number of reasons; it is such a fantastic play, I get to snog (or try to snog) three gorgeous girls and because our director is a fellow Owl”.

Stephen Mosley

Stephen’s previous stage credits include *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* at the Civic Theatre and *Once Upon a Quarry Hill* at the West Yorkshire Playhouse. Aside from acting he is also a keen writer. His first novel *The Lives and Deaths of Morbius Mozella* will be published later in the year.

Pip Tibbetts

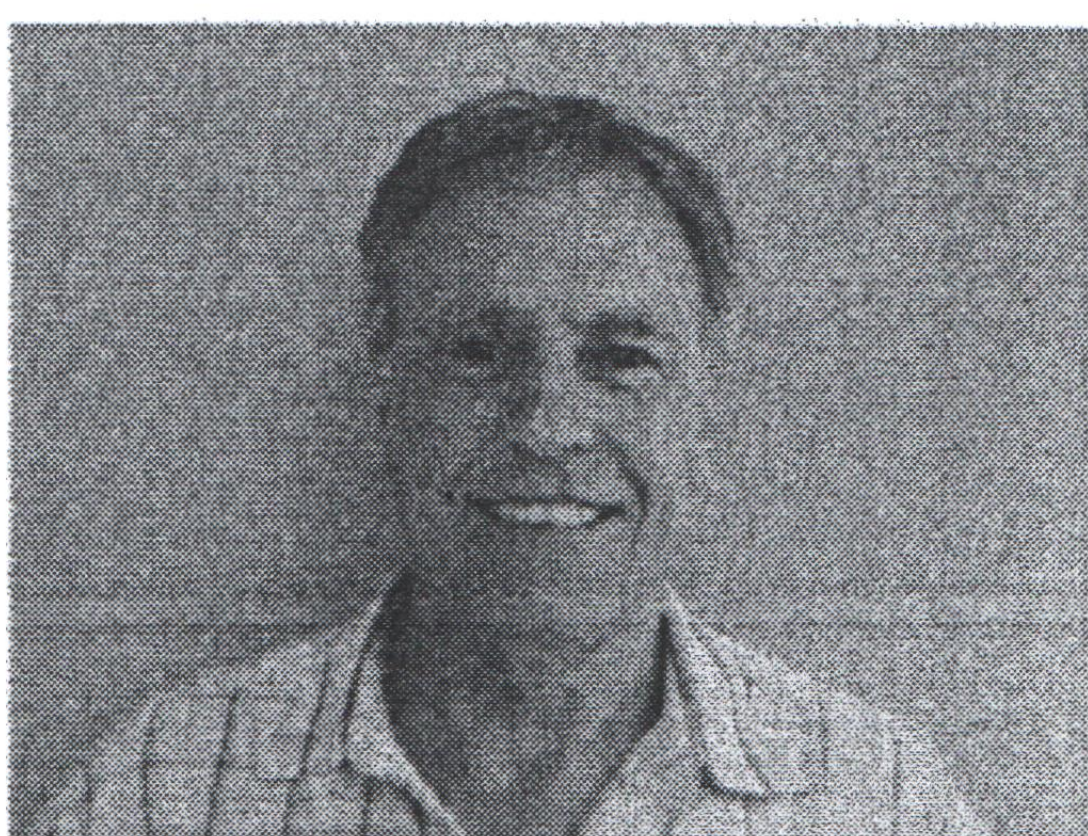
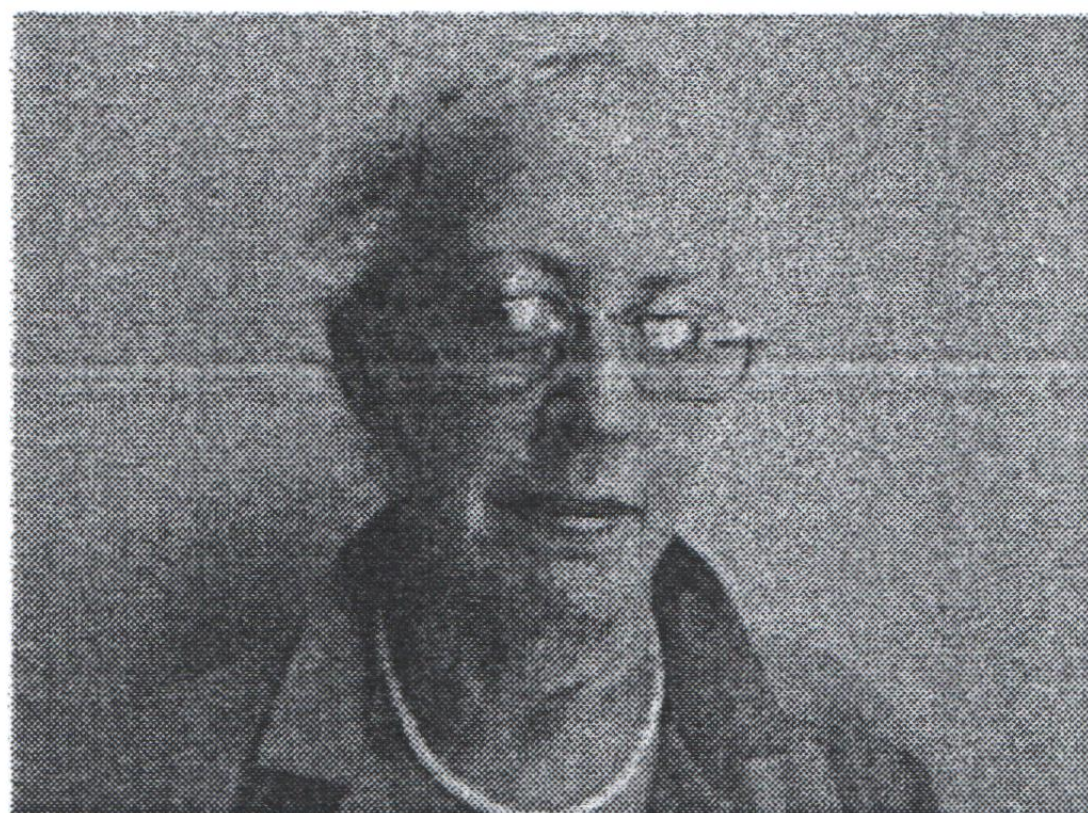
Pip has been acting for fifteen years in a midlands based amateur drama group and has performed in *Guys & Dolls*, *Steaming* and most recently in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. This is her first production with the L.A.C.. Of playing Barbara, Pip said “ I have recently developed a real taste for oranges!”

Zoe Freedman

Zoe’s first stage appearance was as a foetus whilst her mother played Barbara in a production of *Billy Liar*. She had been acting ever since and is delighted to be in her first L.A.C. production.

Charlotte Wylie

After graduating in “theatre” from Royal Holloway in 2005, Charlotte has recently relocated to Leeds. Previous credits include *The Winters Tale*, *Twelfth Night* and *Three Sisters*. Charlotte said “Playing Liz gives me butterflies in my stomach as it reminds me of the beauty of following your heart, rather than your head”.



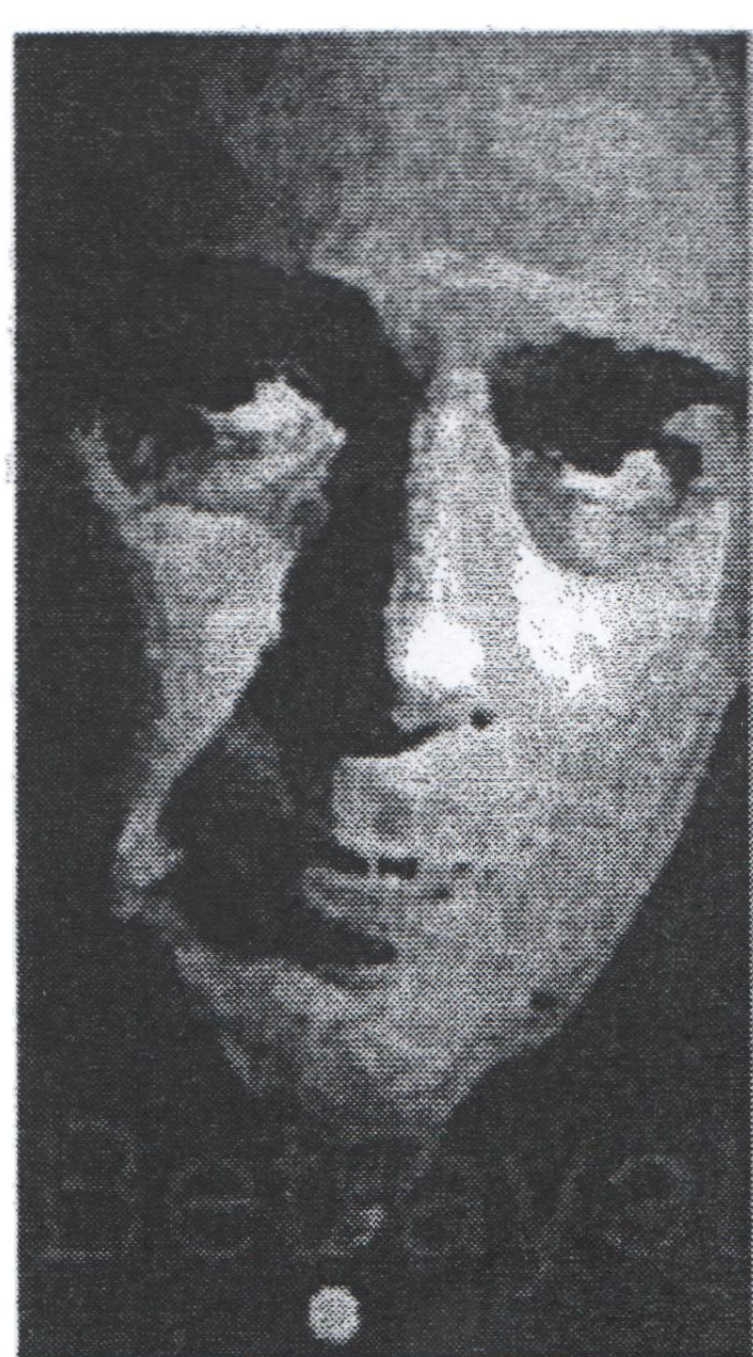
Forthcoming Productions
Presented by Leeds Arts Centre



Written and Directed by Martin Key
18th to Saturday 21st October 2006 7.30p.m.



Adapted and directed by Malcolm Brown
March/April, 2007



By Harold Pinter
directed by Amy Dutton
June, 2007

THE NEXT LEEDS ARTS GUILD PRODUCTION AT
THE CARRIAGEWORKS

Leeds Youth Opera presents
Sweeney Todd
Wednesday 5th - Saturday 8th July, 7.30pm