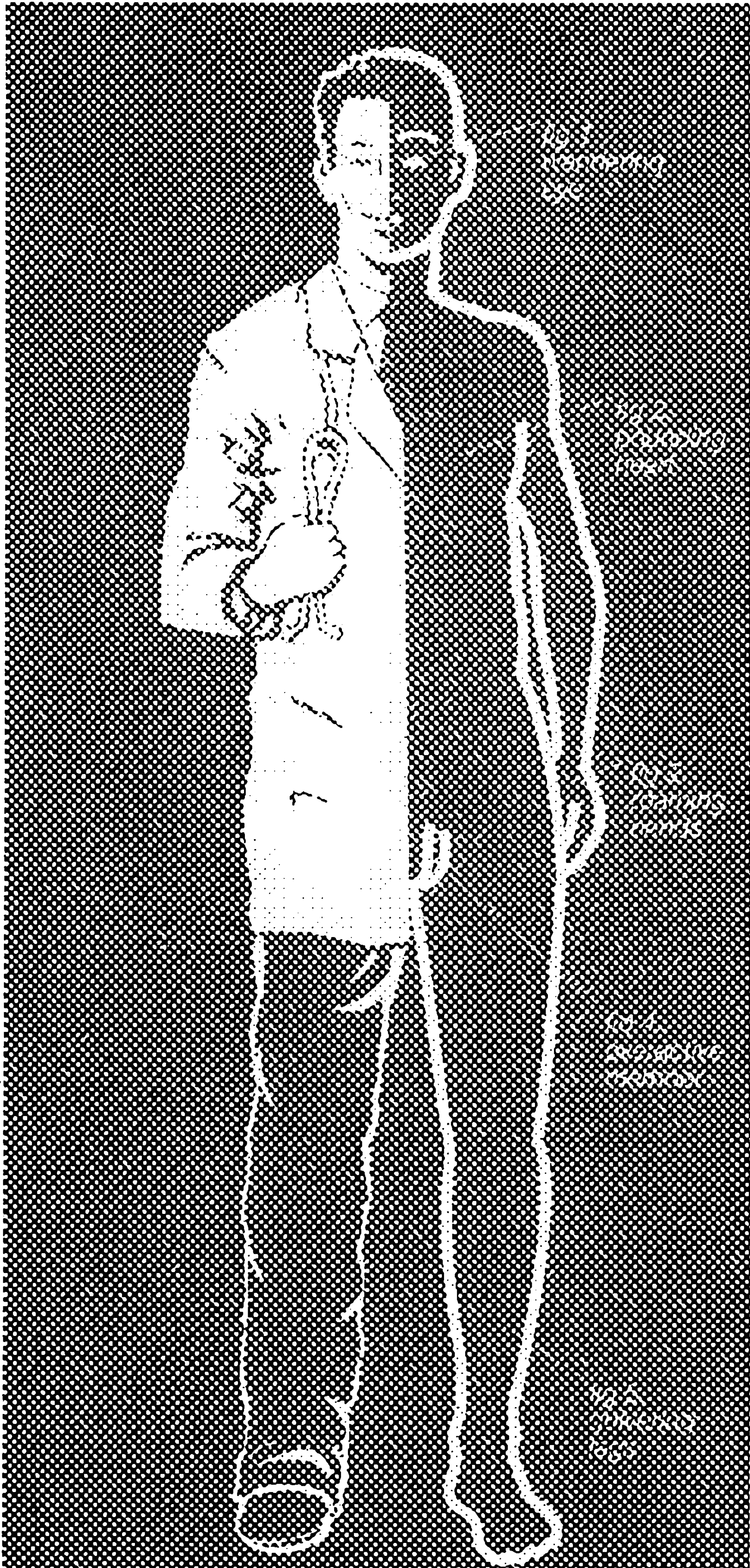


Leeds Arts Centre

presents

Alan Bennett's riotous sex comedy **HABEAS CORPUS**



Directed by Chris Hudson

Thursday 16th to Saturday 18th October 2003 at
7.30pm Civic Theatre, Millennium Square,
Leeds LS2 8BH

It can't be easy being an MP. All that travelling back and forth between parliament and the constituency, regular grillings from the press, the long hours and boring debates in the house of commons. I wouldn't be surprised if their sex lives suffer from the stress of the job and the lack of available time to spend with the partner of their choice.

Perhaps this is why the government has recently been seeking to outlaw lovemaking in the great outdoors in the upcoming sex offences bill. They are not getting a satisfactory and varied sex-life, so why should anyone else. One of the MP's behind this bill, explaining the inclusion of the ban on sex outside the confines of the home, said that no one wants to unwittingly stumble upon a couple having sex.

I wonder how many people he asked? Maybe he took a straw poll at a meeting of the local 'Mrs. Grundy out walking her dog' club? Or perhaps he consulted the staff of the Daily Mail? He certainly didn't ask me, because I would have told him what I consider to be the most sensible reaction to such a situation. It seems to me that the decent thing to do would be to either watch from a safe distance until one became bored or, if the couple saw you, apologise for having broken their concentration and walk away, somewhat slower than usual, hoping for an invitation to join in!

So, the government is trying to play sexual party poopers, but to counteract that, I give you Habeas Corpus. One of the reasons I love the play is that it celebrates sexuality and the body. We see how much more alive people become when desires, which have lain dormant, are suddenly awakened and allowed to express themselves. We see the enjoyment which can be had from the human body, no matter how young or old, or what shape or size. And we see the great variety in couplings which desire can bring.

So, enjoy the play and if, in the summer, you should be lucky enough to stumble upon a brave outlaw couple bonking on a beach or fucking in a forest, you will know what to do!

Chris Hudson
Director

CAST

Arthur Wicksteed	Malcolm Padwell
Muriel Wicksteed	Maija Lenik
Dennis Wicksteed	Tom Bailey
Constance Wicksteed	Elaine Blair
Mrs Swabb	Shirley Broadbent
Canon Throbbing	Warwick St John
Lady Rumpers	Audrey Shaw
Felicity Rumpers	Heather Mullins
Sir Percy Shorter	Tony Walford
Mr Shanks	Greg Hughes
Mr Purdue	Alan Baird

Directed by Chris Hudson

Production Manager	Marie Lindley
Set design	Margaret Savage
Cartoon Realisation	Eddie Butler
Set construction	Margaret Savage And team
Stage Manager	Rachel Morgan- Trimmer
Assistant Stage Managers	Edwin Barracough and Chris Fahy
Props	Samantha Sied
Assistant Props / Dresser	Kathryn Rothwell
Sound	Chris Hardy
Lighting	Peter Waddicor
Prompt	Anna Housden
Wardrobe co-ordination	George Judd
Box Office	LAC team
FOH Manager	Amy Glover

**The action takes place in Dr Wicksteed's
residence in Brighton's Hove**

The time is the late 1960s

There will be one interval of fifteen minutes during
which the theatre bar will be open

The taking of photographs and videos during any
performance is prohibited

**Please ensure all mobile phones are
turned off prior to commencement of 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.

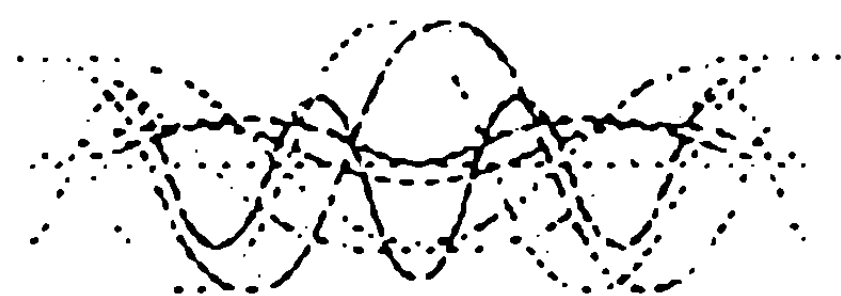
To find out more, contact our Publicity Officer at:

The Publicity Officer, Leeds Arts Centre
c/o The Civic Theatre, Millennium Square
Leeds LS2 8BH

or e-mail us at:

publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

The promotional material for this play was designed
by



brahm

0113 230 4000

Civic Theatre

Theatre Manager
Assistant Manager
Chief Technician & Lighting
Technicians
Simpson
Box Office
Sylvia Gooding

Steven Cartwright
Vivien Simpson
Peter Waddicor
Sandy Clark & David

Margaret Rooke &

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

- a) The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exits and entrance doors and such doors must at all times be kept open
- b) All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or other obstructions.
- c) Persons shall not be permitted to stand in any of the intersecting gangways, or stand in any other unseated space in the auditorium, unless standing in such space has been specially allowed by the Licensing Sub-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 the commencement of each performance to show that it is in proper working order.

Leeds Arts Centre is an amateur dramatic society formed in 1945. Our members come 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 more who are very happy to remain amateurs. We are a friendly company, 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 Civic Theatre, as well as **Green Room** productions to help members develop their acting, directing and production skills.

New members are always welcome, so 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 your address and contact telephone number, for further information to:

The Membership Secretary
Leeds Arts Centre
c/o The Civic Theatre
Millennium Square
Leeds LS2 8BH

or e-mail us at:
publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

To find out more about the activities and forthcoming productions of the Leeds Arts Centre visit our website at:

www.leedsartscentre.org.uk

FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

w/c 2 February 2004

ANTIGONE

by Jean Anouilh
directed by Martin Key

w/c 22 March 2004

Fallen Angels

by Noel Coward
directed by Joyce King

w/c 17 May 2004

The Fall of the House of Usher

by Edgar Allen Poe
adapted and directed by Malcolm Brown

To find out more about the activities and
forthcoming productions of the Leeds
Arts Centre visit our website at:

www.leedsartscentre.org.uk

THE NEXT LEEDS ARTS GUILD
PRODUCTION AT THE CIVIC
THEATRE

Cosmopolitan Players present

'ALLO 'ALLO

by Jeremy Lloyd & David Croft
23 to 25 October 2003 at 7.30pm
with 2.00pm Saturday matinee

FRIENDS OF THE CIVIC THEATRE

If you would like to support this
delightful theatre, you can join the
Friends. Application forms are available
from the Box Office.