

My Sister Eileen

by
Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorov
Directed by
Dennis Stevenson

Tuesday 19th to Saturday 23rd April
7.30 pm
Leeds Civic Theatre



Leeds Arts Centre

About the Play and the Playrights

As anyone who knows me will tell you, I tend to be something of a bore when American stage comedies are mentioned and if not threatened with ejection from the Civic Theatre bar, will embark on a lengthy dissertation on this, my particular Hobby Horse.

Quite simply I am of the opinion that during the period 1930 to about 1950 some of the finest English-speaking comedies were written. And when I say English-speaking, I mean of course, American, for in this time were written "Arsenic and Old Lace", "The Man who came to Dinner", "Harvey", "George Washington Slept Here", "You Can't Take it with You" to name but a few and here we have another superb comedy in "My Sister Eileen".

"Eileen" was first produced at the Biltmore Theatre, New York on December 26th, 1940 and in London in 1943 with Coral Browne playing the part of Ruth Sherwood. The film version was first seen in 1942 with Rosalind Russell and Janet Blair playing the lead roles and in 1953 the play was made into a musical called "Wonderful Town".

The writers of "My Sister Eileen", Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorov, spent many years in Hollywood in the period about which I have such an affection and during this time wrote many film scenarios including "The Doughgirls", "The French Touch" and "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes".

Fields' first venture into script writing was during World War I when he wrote sketches for Navy revues. After the war he continued writing for films such as "The Ziegfeld Follies". Chodorov collaborated with Oscar Hammerstein to write "Flower Drum Song" in 1958.

These then, are the men who wrote "My Sister Eileen", the story of two small town girls who leave home to make a living in New York and find themselves in Greenwich Village, where, in the semi basement slum of a bed-sit, they meet the sort of people who they never knew existed in glorious characters such as Appopolous, Wreck, Violet (the stripper), Jensen and many, many more.

We hope you enjoy the play as much as we have enjoyed rehearsing it.
D.S.



Cast List

Mr Appopolous
Ruth Sherwood
Eileen Sherwood
Jensen
A pair of drunks
A pair of Street Arabs
Lonigan
The Wreck
Mr Fletcher
Helen Wade
Frank Lippencott
Chic Clark
The Cossack
Violet Shelton
Mrs Wade
Robert Baker
Six young (?) Brazilian Naval Officers

Walter Sherwood
A Prospective Tenant
The Brazilian Consul
Street Vendors, Sand Hog, Prostitutes,
Passers-By

'The Place' Greenwich Village, New York.
'The Time' A Generation Ago, or perhaps a little more.....

Directed by
Assistant Director
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Prompt
Properties
Wardrobe

Portuguese Dialect Adviser

Sound
Lighting
Front of House Managers
Box Office

Gordon Carlin
Denise Swift
Julie Mitchell
Roger Cook
George Westmoreland, Dennis Stevenson
Pam Wilson, Gwyneth Hadley
Gordon Wilson
Stuart Mitchell
Robin Clayton
Shirley Broadbent
David Scott
Jim Young
Laurie Ball
Shirley Hamer
Joyce King
David Mallinson
George Barker, George Westmoreland, Robin
Clayton, Michael Haigh, Nicolas Money,
Martyn Drake
Trevor Money
Miriam Fletcher
George Teale
Members of The Leeds Arts Centre

Dennis Stevenson
George Westmoreland
Laurie Ball
Caroline Myers
Betty Triggs
Doreen Parker, Mary Nelson
Dorienne Pemberton and members of The
Leeds Arts Centre
Mrs Angela Baker, Home Farm Hotel,
Wilmington, Devon.
Jim Marshall, Gill Thresh
John Hines
Malcolm and Monica Brown
John Pemberton, Margaret Rhodes



GENERAL MANAGER & LICENSEE
ASSISTANT MANAGER/BAR MANAGER
RESIDENT STAGE MANAGER
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER
THEATRE ELECTRICIAN

BRIAN GODDARD
RICHARD PALMER
ANTHONY McMANUS
PAULINE MOWER
PETER WADDICOR

We hope you have enjoyed your visit to our theatre. If you would like to receive regular information about the theatre, please write to "The Mailing List", Leeds Civic Theatre, Cookridge Street, Leeds. LS2 8BH. If you are interested in becoming a Patron or Sponsor for this theatre, please write to the General Manager, at the above address.

Disabled Facilities

Leeds Civic Theatre can accommodate approximately 20 wheelchairs. Please ring 462453 for full details.

The Leeds Civic Theatre shares the Institute Buildings with the Leeds College of Music. This may mean that occasionally performances may be subject to slight acoustic problems. Whilst the management does everything within its power to keep this to a minimum, we cannot prevent it completely, as the College does not come under our control. We apologise, therefore, for any inconvenience which may be caused.

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 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 as 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 the commencement of each performance so as to ensure it being in proper working order.

PLEASE NOTE: THE TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS DURING PERFORMANCES IS PROHIBITED

STRICTLY NO SMOKING IN THE AUDITORIUM

NOTICE OF NEXT WEEK'S PRODUCTION

"The Plotters of Cabbage Patch Corner"

by David Wood
Directed by Judith Daniels
Adult £1.20 Child/O.A.P. 60p
Tel. Bookings 717102
and Tourist Information Centre 462453