



www.leedsartscentre.org.uk

Registered Charity No. HS503872R

The Price

Written by
Arthur Miller

Directed by
Zoë Freedman

Wednesday 27th to Saturday 30th June 2012





Leeds Arts Centre is a prestigious amateur theatre group founded in 1945. We are a friendly society, working together to maintain the high standards for which our productions are known. We produce four plays each year at the Carriageworks, as well as organising workshops to help members to develop their acting, directing and production skills.

We offer opportunities to all who are interested in becoming involved with any aspect of drama, including acting, directing, stage management, props, designing, costumes, lighting, sound, publicity and front of house.

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

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

www.leedsartscentre.org.uk



Director's Notes

Despite being one of Arthur Miller's lesser-known plays, 'The Price' is a beautifully written and constructed piece of theatre. This full length, one set drama with its continuous action consists of a number of short 'scenes' which show the ebb and flow of the character's attempts to achieve connection and catharsis, confront and accept their pasts and move on with their futures. The themes include family conflict, unfulfilled lives and the impact of the choices we make.

The Price is Miller's most autobiographical play. His father lost his coat manufacturing business in the depression, forcing the family to move to a smaller house in a new area of New York. Miller himself said 'There is exorcising going on in The Price for me with father and son...'

I first discovered this play as a teenager when I worked backstage on a production staged by the amateur group I was a member of. I was fascinated by the play, its characters, the power of the writing and the complexity of the relationships. I am delighted to have had the chance to direct this classic play and would like to thank the cast and crew for their support and hard work.

Zoë Freedman



Cast

Victor Franz	Asadour Guzelian
Esther Franz	Pauline Ashworth
Gregory Solomon	Pete Sandles
Walter Franz	Ken Taylor

**The action takes place in the attic
of a New York Brownstone
in 1968**

Special thanks to:-

Martyn Banks at Oakwood Instruments for the loan of the harp.
www.oakwoodinstruments.co.uk

The Carriageworks staff and Leeds Civic Arts Guild for their continuing support.



Production Team

Director	Zoë Freedman
Production Manager & Stage Manager	Maria Kwater
Prompt	Debs Sandles
Properties	Margaret Davey
Furniture	Pam Wilson
Costumes	Corinne McAlary
	Tori Morgan
Set Construction	Steve Fryatt & LAC Members
Sound and Lighting Operation	Steve Fryatt
Front of House	

The Running time of this show will be approximately
two and a half hours.

There will be a 15 minute interval between Acts I and II.



Synopsis/ Background

The Price centres around two brothers, Victor and Walter Franz, who meet for the first time in the sixteen years since the death of their father. They must now sell their parents' furniture before the building is knocked down.

Their father lost his fortune during the stock market crash of 1929 and their mother died shortly afterwards having never recovered from her husband's financial loss. Unable to start anew Mr Franz moved all his furniture into the attic of the building, hid the last of his savings and clung to his younger son in an attempt to retain something of his collapsed world.

Walter, the elder brother left home to study medicine, sending home five dollars a month to help with expenses. Victor, although the better student, gave up his plans to also study science and joined the police force in order to support his father.

When the brothers meet, their old hostilities resurface and they are forced to confront the truth about their past and the decisions they have made.



Advertising & Sponsorship

Leeds Arts Centre is a member of the Leeds Civic Arts Guild, and 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:

The Publicity Officer, Leeds Arts Centre
c/o The Carriageworks
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
or e-mail us at: publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

The programme for this production was produced with the kind assistance of

Lewis Francis Blackburn Bray
————— solicitors —————

14-16 Paradise Square Sheffield S1 2DE

0114 272 9721

The next Leeds Civic Arts Guild production at the Carriageworks

Manon

By Jules Massenet

Presented by Leeds Youth Opera

Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th July 2012



Next Leeds Arts Centre Production

Duets

**By Peter Quilter
24th to 27th October 2012**

**Forthcoming LAC Productions
at the Carriageworks**

The Visit

**By Friedrich Dürrenmatt
27th Feb to 2nd March 2013**

The Vagina Monologues

**By Eve Ensler
24th to 27th April 2013**

Dry Rot

**By John Chapman
19th to 22nd June 2013**