

LEEDS
ARTS
CENTRE
presents

The *J. M. Lawrence*
How the Author

School for Scandal

A

Comedy —

Richard

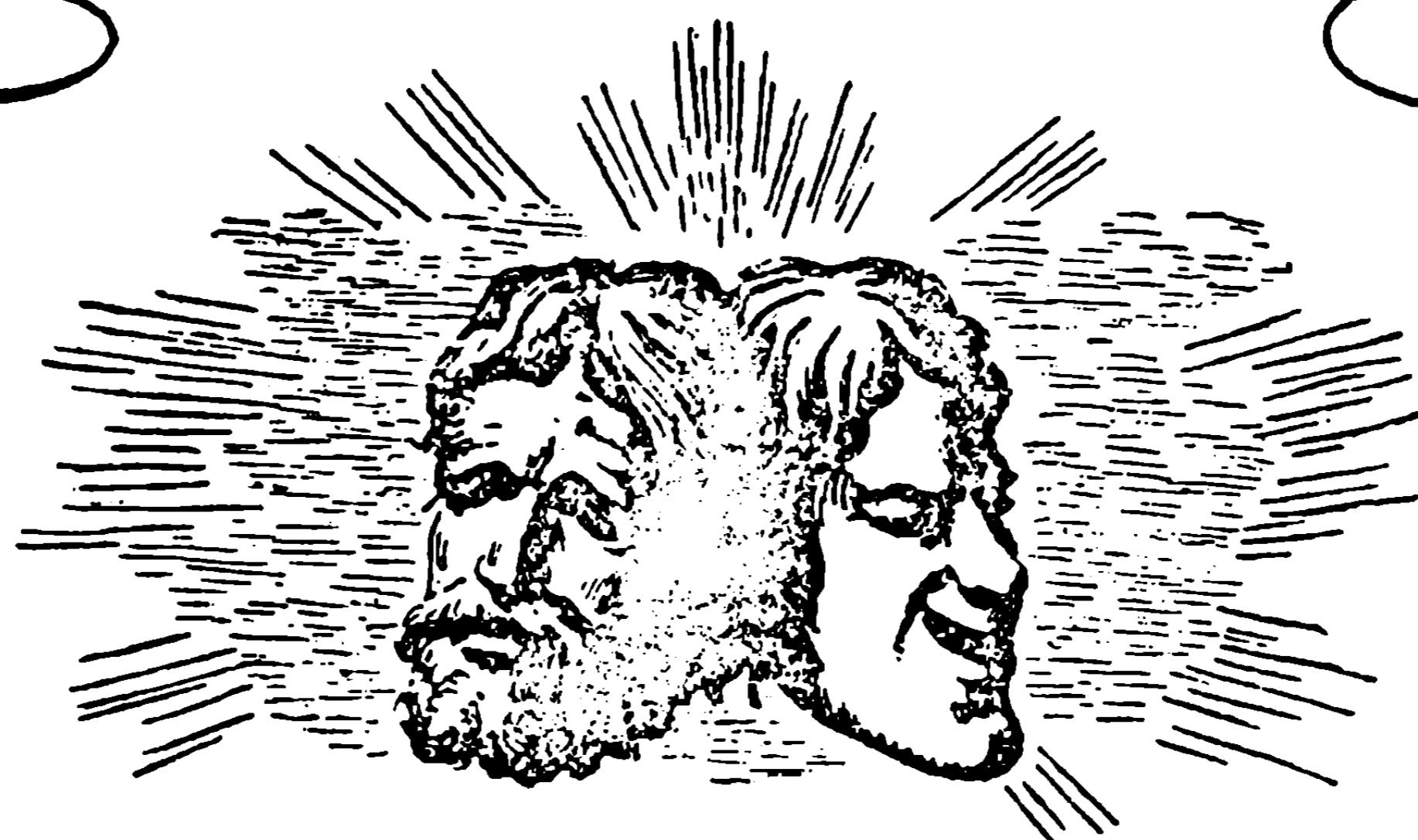
LEEDS CIVIC THEATRE

MONDAY, 4th OCTOBER

TO SATURDAY, 8th OCTOBER 1971 at 7:00 p.m.

C R I T I C
O R
A Tragedy Rehears'd
A
Dramatic Piece
in three ACTS

as it is performed at the
THEATRE ROYAL in DRURY LANE



Richard Brinsley Sheridan Esq.

L O N D O N .

Printed for T. Becket. Adelphi. Strand.

M D C C L X X I .

ENGRAVED TITLE OF THE FIRST EDITION, 1781, OF *THE CRITIC*

CIVIC THEATRE, Cookridge Street, Leeds

Manager: Derek Rose

**In accordance with the requirements of the Watch 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 obstruction.
- (c) The safety curtain must be lowered and raised once immediately before the commencement of each performance so as to ensure its being in proper working order.

The School for Scandal

The Critic

CAST

Sir Peter Teazle	Arthur Cockerill
Sir Oliver Surface	Norman Thackwray
Sir Benjamin Backbite	David Nicholls
Joseph Surface	Leonard Sheldon
Charles Surface	Derek Harrison
Careless	George Teale
Snake	Edward Lakeland
Crabtree	Jack Clark
Rowley	Edward Macro
Moses	Trevor Money
Lady Teazle	Josephine Ward
Lady Sneerwell	Mary Nelson
Mrs. Candour	June Stevenson
Maria	Anne Robinson
Manservant to Joseph Surface	Christopher Richmond
Maid servant to Lady Sneerwell	Ruth Wilkinson
Maid servant to Lady Teazle	Doreen Parker

Scene 1:	Lady Sneerwell's House
Scene 2:	Sir Peter Teazle's House
Scene 3:	Lady Sneerwell's House
Scene 4:	Sir Peter Teazle's House
Scene 5:	Charles Surface's House
Scene 6:	Joseph Surface's House
Scene 7:	Sir Peter Teazle's House
Scene 8:	Joseph Surface's House

CAST

Dangle	Edward Lakeland
Sneer	David Nicholls
Sir Fretful Plagiary	Edward Macro
Under Prompter	Charles Cook
Puff	Edwin Barraclough
Mrs. Dangle	June Stevenson

Characters in the Tragedy:

Lord Burleigh	Edward Macro
Governor of Tilbury Fort	Jack Clark
Earl of Leicester	George Teale
Sir Walter Raleigh	Alan Upton
Sir Christopher Hatton	Norman Thackwray
Beefeater	Trevor Money
Don Ferolo Whiskerandos	Arthur Cockerill
Tilburina	Josephine Ward
Confidante	June Stevenson
Justice	Leonard Sheldon
Justice's Lady	Mary Nelson
Tom Jenkins	Derek Harrison
First Niece	Anne Robinson
Second Niece	Ruth Wilkinson
Constable	
Servant	Dennis Stevenson

Scene 1:	Dangle's House in London
Scene 2:	Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

DESIGNED AND DIRECTED BY GERALD ARMYTAGE

The plays are set in the City of London in the late 18th Century.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes duration.

Stage Manager	Ray Spurgeon
Assistant Stage Manager	Dennis Stevenson
Set and Sea Battle by	Ray Spurgeon
Prompter	Hazel Spray
Wardrobe	Margaret Rhodes and members of the Arts Centre Wardrobe Team
Properties	Doreen Parker
Box Office	Hazel Irving and John Pemberton
Publicity	Edward Macro, Leonard Sheldon, Richard Strudwick
Front of House Manager	Dennis Stevenson
Theatre Manager	Derek Rose.

The cover of this programme is from the title page of the MS copy presented "to Mrs. Crewe from the Author".

RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN was born in 1751 at Dublin, where his father was manager of the Theatre Royal. His mother was a successful novelist and playwright. The family moved to England and Richard attended Harrow School from 1762 to 1768. In 1770 he went to Bath and there he met Elizabeth Linley, aged 16 and famous for her beauty and singing. Two years later when she fled abroad from the persistent attentions of a married admirer, Major Matthews, Sheridan went as her escort. Arriving at Dunkirk, he refused to leave her in a convent as she intended unless she married him first. She consented and they were wed. Mr. Linley arrived in pursuit of his daughter and returned with her to Bath. Shortly afterwards Sheridan, having fought two duels with Major Matthews, was reconciled to her father, married her a second time and took her to live with him in London.

His first play to be produced in London was "The Rivals", presented at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden in 1775. In 1776 he bought David Garrick's share in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane and became its manager until 1809. "The School for Scandal" was produced there in 1777 and "The Critic" in 1779. In 1780 he entered Parliament as Member for Stafford; became Under Secretary of State in 1782 and a Privy Councillor and Treasurer of the Navy in 1779. He remained in Parliament until 1812 and died in London in 1816.

Sheridan has been described as wittier though less naturally humorous than his contemporary, Oliver Goldsmith. The Comedy of Manners, which had a heyday of extreme brilliance and licentiousness with the Restoration dramatists, gave way in the early 18th Century, under the chastisement of Jeremy Collier who published "A Short View of the Immorality and Profaneness of the English Stage" in 1698, to the Sentimental Comedy. With the production of Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer" at Covent Garden in 1773, the Comedy of Manners was re-established, shorn of its previous indecency. J. B. Priestley says that Sheridan's plays "have kept their liveliness, wit and charm" and that "The School for Scandal might be described as a Restoration Comedy following Wycherley and Congreve without the impudent indecencies and so entirely suitable for family entertainment".

L.S.

We are pleased to announce the remainder of our programme for this season:-

DECEMBER. Tuesday 14th to Saturday 18th.
“THE WIDOWING OF MRS. HOLROYD” by D.H.Lawrence.
Produced by Edward Lakeland.

FEBRUARY. Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th.
“HOTEL PARADISO” by Georges Feydeau.
Produced by Margaret Rhodes.

APRIL. Tuesday 18th to Saturday 22nd.
“TIGER AT THE GATES” by Jean Girardoux.
Produced by Tony Nelson.

JUNE. Tuesday 13th to Saturday 17th.
“FOLLOW THAT GIRL”. A musical by Julian Slade and
Dorothy Reynolds.
Produced by Arthur Cockerill.

The Leeds Arts Centre is an Amateur Society which mounts five plays each season at the Civic Theatre.

It also has a Green Room Group which mounts plays and evenings of Drama in the Rehearsal Rooms and in the theatre, which is intended to give new members some acting experience before performing at the Civic Theatre.

If you are interested in joining the “Leeds Arts Centre” and would like more information about the society and the Fine Arts Group, please write to:-

The Secretary,
LEEDS ARTS CENTRE,
43, Cookridge Street,
Leeds, 2.