Director’s Notes

"Whose Life Is It Anyway?" made its West End debut at the Mermaid Theatre in 1978 with Tom Conti in the lead role as Ken and Jane Asher as the lovely Dr. Scott: then followed a successful run on Broadway. In 1981 MGM had a box-office winner with Richard Dreyfuss as Ken.

The story makes an early protest against medical paternalism but its message is even more relevant in today's increasingly technological world.

Ken is a strong-minded man who refuses to accept substitutes - love without sensuality, work that is not sculpting. Selfhood is also a strong factor in his refusal to continue life in an institution in which most staff members treat him as if he were not a real person.

We cannot help but feel the ambivalence of allowing this charming, witty, brave, resourceful young man to win his case and be allowed to die.

Malcolm Padwell

Leeds Arts Centre is grateful to the Wharfedale Hospital in Otley for the loan of medical equipment and would like to thank Nurse Barbara Padwell for acting as consultant on nursing matters.
CAST

Ken Harrison       Greg Hughes
Sister Anderson    Shirley Broadbent
Kay Sadler         Rachel Fowler
John               Martin Cusworth
Dr Scott           Alexis Thompson
Dr Emerson         Martin Key
Mrs Boyle          Margaret Davey
Philip Hill        Andrew Edwards
Dr Travers         Margaret Lucas
Peter Kershaw      Ed Corbet
Dr Barr            Daniel Cole
Andrea Eden        Elaine Blair
Justice Millhouse  David Lancaster

Directed by Malcolm Padwell

Production Manager Shirley Broadbent
Set Design          Malcolm Padwell
Stage Manager       Stephen Fryatt
ASM                 Richard Francis
Set/props           Denise Davies
Wardrobe            Andrew Lawrie
Lighting            Maggie Rhodes
Original Music      Yaron Hollander
Sound Effects       Jim Marshall
Sound Operation     Tom Bailey
Prompt              Louise Brameld
Box Office Manager  Maggie Rhodes
Front of House      Robin Thornton

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 programme for this play was produced with the kind assistance of

Lewis Francis

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solicitors

16 Paradise Square Sheffield S1 2DE
0114 272 9721

Civic Theatre

Theatre Manager                                  Steven Cartwright
Assistant Manager                                Vivien Simpson
Chief Technician & Lighting                      Peter Waddicor
Technicians                                     Sandy Clark & Chaz Elliott
Box Office                                       Margaret Rooke & Sylvia Gooding

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 the Licensing Sub-Committee has specially allowed standing in such space. 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 normally 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
Yaron Hollander has composed the original music used in this production. Yaron is a graduate of the Theatre and Film Music course in Rimon – the Israel School of Contemporary Music. He played as first oboist in the Technion Symphony orchestra and various chamber ensembles and led The Moebius Band in performing his jazz and funk compositions. Yaron composed the funk-opera Uncle Max, based on a play by Hanoch Levin and has won prizes for original pop interpretation of Israeli poetry. He is currently a PhD student in transport studies at the University of Leeds.

Forthcoming Productions

Wed 16 - Sat 19 March 2005
To be confirmed

w/c 26th June 2005
THEATRE SUITE
Written and directed by
Martin Key

To find out more, visit our website at:

www.leedsartscentre.org.uk

THE NEXT LEEDS ARTS GUILD PRODUCTION AT THE CIVIC THEATRE

Say Who You Are
By Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall
Cosmopolitan Players

28th to 30th October 2004 at 7.30pm
Saturday Matinee 2pm

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.