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# M.A.D.C.

## THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

A Comedy in Three Acts

by

RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN

AT THE

### MANOEL THEATRE

VALLETTA — MALTA

THURSDAY, 15th MARCH, 1962, at 7.30 p.m. FRIDAY, 16th MARCH, at 8.00 p.m. SATURDAY, 17th MARCH, at 8.30 p.m.

First produced at Drury Lane Theatre, London, 9th May, 1777.

## THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

#### DRAMATIS PERSONAE

SIR PETER TEAZLE Ronald Baldwin
SIR OLIVER SURFACE
SIR HARRY BUMPER
SIR BENJAMIN BACKBITE
JOSEPH SURFACE
CHARLES SURFACE
CARELESS
SNAKE
CRABTREE
ROWLEY
MOSES
SERVANT TO JOSEPH
TRIP
LADY TEAZLE
LADY SNEERWELL Elizabeth Malloch Davis
MRS. CANDOUR
MARIA
MAID TO LADY TEAZLE
MAID TO LADY SNEERWELL
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
BLACK BOY

The Play produced by KATHLEEN WARREN

#### SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

#### Act I

SCENE 1. — Lady Sneerwell's house. The boudoir. SCENE 2. — Sir Peter Teazle's house. The hall. SCENE 3. — The drawing-room at Lady Sneerwell's.

Interval of fifteen minutes

#### Act II

SCENE 1. — Sir Peter Teazle's house. The hall.
SCENE 2. — The hall in Charles Surface's house.
SCENE 3. — The picture-room in Charles' house.

Interval of fifteen minutes

#### Act III

SCENE 1. — The library in Joseph Surface's house. SCENE 2. — Sir Peter Teazle's house. SCENE 3. — The library at Joseph Surface's house.

Stage Manager VERNON DALE
Assistant Stage Manager DENNIS REDDINGS
Scenery designed by HENRY JAMES and
RONALD TRUSCOTT
Portraits painted by PATRICK BORG
Screen designed by LESLIE HEPHERD assisted
by PAT HEPHERD
Backcloth painted by SYLVIA HALLIDAY
Property Mistresses PAULINE WHITING and
GILLIAN THORNTON
Prompter BARBARA FADE
Make-up and Poster
Wigs by NATHANWIGS, LONDON
Ladies' Costumes designed by
IVDIA DALF
wararooe mistress
Choreography
Interest Director
Publicity JOHN WILES
Box Office for M.A.D.C
Stage Carpenter for M.A.D.C SALVATORE TESTA
Head Electrician . Manoel
Assistant Electrician Theatre JOHN LAUS
Head Carpenter . Staff JOSEPH BORG

The thanks and acknowledgements of the M.A.D.C. are due to Pearl's Gowns, for loan of birdcage, and Thomas Vassallo for antique jurniture.

### RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN

The son of an actor — Thomas Sheridan, and of a play-writer and novelist — Frances Sheridan, and the grandson of a wit, the author of "The School For Scandal" is the one proverbial instance of that inherited aptitude which goes far to develop genius. Richard Brinsley Sheridan was born (in 1751) at Dublin, moreover, which is wit's capital; and was saved from any possible excess of Irish imagination by being sent in due course to Harrow. When his schooldays were over he proved his faculty by helping to translate the epistles of Aristaenetus, and writing a farce.

The Sheridan family moved in 1770 from Dublin to Bath; and there he met his wife, Miss Linley, daughter of Linley the vocalist. Settled in London, after his marriage, he was still only a very young man when he successfully produced his first comedy at Covent Garden—"The Rivals"—in January 1775. A farce, "St. Patrick's Day", and a comic opera, "The Duenna", speedily followed. In 1776 Sheridan bought Garrick's share in Drury Lane Theatre; and there his later plays were produced,—including "The School For Scandal" in 1777, and "The Critic" in 1779.

Omitting "Pizarro", which he wrote at second-hand, he there ended his brilliant work as a dramatist, and commenced politician. In 1780 he became M.P. for Stafford, made just as rapid and incalculable a success in politics and statesmanship as he had done in his earlier vocation. His speeches delivered at the trial, and demanding the impeachment, of Warren Hastings in 1788 and in 1794 may still be read with pleasure and astonishment at their force and eloquence.

But in 1809 the turn of the wheel came; the new theatre at Drury Lane was in that year burnt down, and in 1812 his seat at Westminster was lost to him. Ill-health, sleeplessness, debt, the apparent or real forgetfulness of friends, and other troubles, weighed upon him and helped to hasten his end.

He died on July 7, 1816; and fame, that had treated him hardly towards the end, and left him, relented at last and gave him an almost royal funeral and a grave in Westminster Abbey.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A Rediffusion Celebrity Recital by Louis Kentner, pianist, on the 4th and 6th April, 1962.

\* \* \* \* Vocal and Orchestral Concert by "Chorus Melitensis" on the 23rd April, 1962.

A play by "Maleth Company": "The Barrets of Winpole Street" in a Maltese version by G. Attard Montalto, on the 28th and 29th April, 1962.

Next M.A.D.C. performance during first week of May.



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Bryan Forbes

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