

Oliva



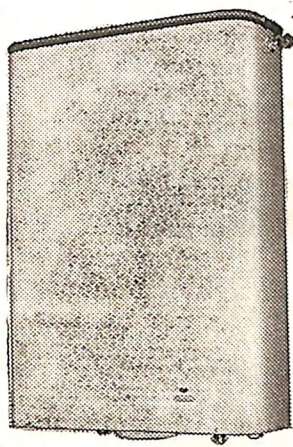
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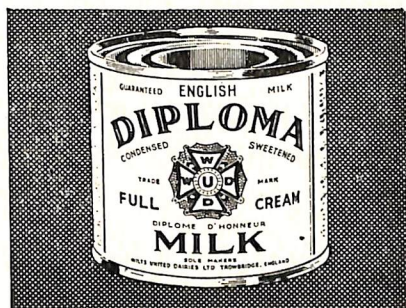
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Under the Auspices of the
MALTA POLIO FUND

JOSEPH R. DARMANIN

Presents

ELIZA

(With Apologies to "MY FAIR LADY")

AT THE

MANOEL THEATRE

VALLETTA

THURSDAY MARCH 14th, 1963 at 9 p.m.

(Sponsored by ROTHMAN'S-PALL MALL)

SATURDAY MARCH 16th, at 8 p.m.

OUR PRODUCTION

The impetus of our production lies with our producer, Joseph Darmanin. The idea was born in 1960 when the recorded version of "My Fair Lady" was at its height of popularity and was often to be heard over radio etc. Mr. Darmanin, upon hearing the record for the first time, realised that a version of this great musical could be produced locally. He gradually assessed his ideas and decided to attempt the production himself.

The gathering of his cast and the consequent start of the production took many a long hour and indeed one admires the perseverance entailed.

Finally, towards the end of January 1963, the production appeared to be taking shape. After crossing many hurdles and minor mishaps — Joseph Darmanin has brought to the Public, under the auspices of an excellent cause, "ELIZA" — an idea inspired upon first hearing of the recorded version of "MY FAIR LADY".



JOSEPH DARMANIN

Joseph Darmanin was born in Birkirkara, Malta, in October 1941. He has produced many amateur theatricals in aid of charitable organisations and finally, after many difficulties he has been persuaded to devote his efforts in presenting 'ELIZA' which we hope will prove to be the climax of his productions.

His courage and resourcefulness are much to be admired and we wish him every success with future productions.

SYNOPSIS

Professor Henry Higgins, a dialectician, meets his old friend, Colonel Pickering, who had just returned from India, outside the Opera House, Covent Garden on a cold night in March, 1910. Both Higgins and Pickering share a great love of the English language and its dialects and after exchanging a few pleasantries, Higgins commences to expound his latest theories, using a near-by flower-girl, Eliza Doolittle, to illustrate his beliefs.

Later that night, Eliza and her friends, the costermongers, meet and together with Eliza, they dream.

The following day, Pickering and Higgins are discussing the previous nights' events and as the argument grows, Pickering makes a bet with Higgins for five pounds that he would *not* be able to teach the flower-girl correct speech *and* successfully launch her into society — as Higgins claims he would be able to do.

Eliza comes, out of her own free will, for she had previously decided that she would take lessons from Professor Higgins — Higgins, Pickering and Mrs. Pearce receive her into the house and the transformation of Eliza Doolittle begins. Meanwhile, Mr. Doolittle comes to see Higgins about his daughter, and leaves the house five pounds the richer.

The experiment takes weeks of hard work but finally, late one night, success seems to have been obtained — and in joy, Higgins seizes Eliza in his arms and they dance a Spanish Flamenco whilst Pickering contentedly charges around the room, imitating a bull. The same night, when Higgins and Pickering have retired to bed, Eliza keeps Mrs. Pearce and the maids up by dancing around and singing with joy — not because she could finally speak properly but because she had danced with Higgins!

It was after that night that Higgins decided to launch Eliza into society and the first event in which Eliza was to appear publicly was the opening day at Ascot — which proved to be a great success for everyone adored her and she found a ready admirer in Freddy Eynesford-Hill, who was charmed by her unique form of expression.

Ascot was, however, only the beginning for the real test came with the Embassy Ball. Higgins heard that his rival dialectician, Voltan Karpathy was to be present at the Ball — and Karpathy had shown great interest in Higgins' latest experiment. Eliza however was brilliant in her success and Freddy Eynesford-Hill was by now quite enamoured with her. On returning home from the ball, Higgins and Pickering exchanged views upon the events of that evening and Pickering tells Mrs. Pearce what an outstanding success it was. Eliza, annoyed at receiving no credit at all, walks out whilst the staff together with Pickering and Mrs. Pearce congratulate Higgins.

The following day Freddy comes to see Eliza but Mrs. Pearce tells him that Miss Doolittle does not want to see anyone. Eliza however relents this action and she agrees to go for a walk with him. However she was so irritated with his company and his compliments that she teases him into proving his statements.

Eliza, tortured with love for Higgins and bored with Freddie's attentions, decides to leave the Higgins household and return to her friends. Higgins, much perturbed by her absence, vents his fury on Pickering and the two together blame women for all the wickedness surrounding them.

Eliza, without Higgins, was lost and returns once again only to tell Higgins exactly what she thinks of him and to hurt his feelings she tells him that she is to marry Freddy.

Later on, Eliza goes to the study and whilst there, Higgins enters swearing, Eliza hides behind a chair. Higgins furiously admits that he misses Eliza too much but protests he would never take her back — upon second thoughts he realises that no matter what Eliza does he loves her and would have her back at all costs. Eliza rises from behind the chair and Higgins realises that she has heard everything. She runs to his open arms.

ELIZA

(with Apologies to "MY FAIR LADY")

CAST

PROFESSOR HENRY HIGGINS MAURICE TANTI BURLO'
ELIZA DOOLITTLE GRETA CRAIG
COLONEL PICKERING JAMES GALEA
MRS. PEARCE SUZANNAH-LUCINDA FLANNERY
ALFRED P. DOOLITTLE NEVILLE CURMI
FREDDY EYNESFORD-HILL ALAN MEADOWS
MAIDS ELIZABETH PACE
CHRISTINE CRAIG
MARYANNE GRIMA
BUTLER WALTER SOLER
COLONEL PICKERING NARCY CALAMATTA
MRS. PEARCE DEBORAH FLANNERY

CHORUS

CHRISTINE CRAIG
ELIZABETH PACE
ELAINE Z. TABONE
JOAN BORG CARDONA
MARYANNE GRIMA
NELLA APAP
ROSE CASSAR TORREGGIANI
LEO VASSALLO CESAREO
WALTER SOLER
HARRY FENECH
PHILIP DE DOMENICO
ANTHONY GATT
ROBERTO BALLABENE

Producer JOSEPH R. DARMANIN
Secretary for Production GAY MICALLEF EYNAUD
Assistant Producer ROGER CASTILLO
Stage Manager JOSEPH B. DARMANIN
Stage Settings JOANNA BLAKE
ALFRED CUSCHIERI
Light Effects MICHAEL RUTLAND
Costumes SUZANNAH-LUCINDA FLANNERY
ROSE CASSAR TORREGGIANI
Sounds Effects HUBERT RIZZO
Scenery ADRIAN STRICKLAND
DEBORAH M. FLANNERY
Photographs MADELINE DEPIRO D'AMICO
Script NICHOLAS DEPIRO D'AMICO
Booking Office } For
Lights } Manoel
Theatre } MARGARET DEGIORGIO
CHARLES TABONE
VANNI LAUS

ELIZA

Time: 1910

EMBASSY WALTZ — Chorus

ACT I

SCENE I — *Outside the Opera House Covent Garden — a cold March night.*

- (1) WHY CAN'T THE ENGLISH?
Higgins, Pickering, Eliza and Chorus.
- (2) WOULDN'T IT BE LOVERLY?
Eliza and Chorus.
- (3) WITH A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK!
Doolittle and Chorus.

SCENE II — *Higgins' study — the following morning.*

- (1) I'M AN ORDINARY MAN
Higgins and Pickering.
- (2) JUST YOU WAIT!
Eliza.
- (3) THE RAIN IN SPAIN
Higgins, Eliza and Pickering.
- (4) I COULD HAVE DANCED ALL NIGHT
Eliza, Mrs. Pearce and Maids.

SCENE III — *At the Race Course Meeting — Ascot — A July afternoon.*

- (1) ASCOT GAVOTTE
Full esemble.

ACT II

SCENE I —

- (1) YOU DID IT!
Pickering, Higgins, Mrs. Pearce, Eliza, Maids and Butler.

SCENE II — *Outside Higgins' House — Later that afternoon.*

- (1) ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE
Freddy and Chorus.
- (2) SHOW ME!
Eliza and Freddy.

SCENE III — *Outside the Opera House, Covent Garden — 5 o'clock that morning.*

- (1) GET ME TO THE CHURCH ON TIME
Doolittle and Chorus.

SCENE IV — *Higgins' Study — 11 o'clock that morning.*

- (1) A HYMN TO HIM
Higgins, Pickering and Mrs. Pearce.
- (2) WITHOUT YOU
Eliza, Higgins and Pickering.
- (3) I'VE GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO HER FACE
Higgins and Eliza.
- (4) FINALE
Higgins, Eliza, Pickering and Mrs. Pearce.



**MAURICE
TANTI BURLO'**

Maurice Tanti Burlo was educated at the Lyceum, Breton Hall, Yorkshire and St. Michael's Training College, Ta' Gorni. He started acting at the Lyceum and having thus discovered his ability on stage, continued with his dramatic activities. He took part in many Shakespearian works and he also acted at Breton Hall, Yorks, whilst studying in England. His ambition to play the part of Hamlet was recently fulfilled when he brilliantly acted the part in the 1963 annual production at St. Michael's Training College. Other successes include 'Cyrano de Bergerac' which was the climax of his stage appearances.



JAMES GALEA

James Galea was born on March 29th, 1940, and was educated at St. Aloysius College B'Kara, where he commenced his acting career with a part in "She Stoops to Conquer" other plays in which he acted include "Tons of Money", "Toad of Toad Hall", whilst giving attention to his dramatic activities he continued his education at the Royal University of Malta and now works for the civil service.

GRETA CRAIG

Greta Craig was born in 1938 in Lija, Malta, she was educated at the Sacred Heart Convent, St. Julian's, where she started her acting career by taking part in the occasional school play. On leaving school she joined the drama group of the British Institute and on her first audition was successful in obtaining the part of Margaret Heiss in "The Shop at Sly Corner". A few months later she took part in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" which was undoubtedly one of her greatest achievements on the stage. Miss Craig then joined the M.A.D.C. and took part in a number of Shakespearian works, notably "Twelfth Night" in which she played Maria.

Many other successes followed and in 1959 she was awarded the trophy for the best actress in the Army Drama Festival.



**SUZANNAH-
LUCINDA FLANNERY**

Suzannah-Lucinda was born in Skegness, Lincolnshire towards the end of the war. She was educated, in the main, in England but finished her studies at the Sacred Heart Convent, St. Julian's and the Sacro Cuore, Florence.

Having always cherished the idea of acting, her part in "ELIZA" partly fulfills this desire. "ELIZA" is her first chance to display her talents here in Malta although she is not a newcomer to the stage having participated frequently in school dramatics.





NARCY CALAMATTA

Born in 1939, he was educated at the Lyceum where he played his first part in Cyril Parkers production of "Midsummers' Night Dream". After leaving school he presented a routine act at variety concerts. He was signed to the strength of "Maleth" in 1961 who have cast him in each of their productions. The Maltese version of "Will Any Gentleman?" — "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" were the first plays he was cast in. This season he started as the critics favourite in F. Ebejer's prize-winning play "Vakanzi Tas-Sajf" and followed up with "Rebecca" last week.

**DEBORAH
FLANNERY**

Born of a Naval family in Douglas, Isle of Man, in 1943 — she first came to Malta with her family in 1951 and lived here till 1954. On returning to England, she attended the Sacred Heart Convent in Tunbridge Wells until 1960 when her education was completed.

Her acting talents were first discovered whilst in England and she was well received by the Portsmouth press following her appearance in "Oliver Asks For More". This was followed by many other successes notably "The Rivals" and "Hamlet", both of which took place in Malta after her return to the Island in 1961.

It is most regrettable that theatre-goers in Malta will no longer be able to appreciate her artistic talents as Miss Flannery is soon to return to England.



**MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

Colonel G. C. GATT — *Chairman.*

Notary Dr. V.M PELLEGRINI, LL.D. — *Hon. Treasurer.*

Mr. A. AGIUS FERRANTE, L.P. — *Hon. Secretary.*

Mrs. INES BONELLO CASHA
Mr. GRAHAM BINNS, M.A. (Oxon) } *Members.*

Mr. MICHAEL KISSAUN — *Manager.*

Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium and in Boxes.

The Management reserve to themselves the right to make any change, vary or omit any part of the programme without previous notice.

Patrons are reminded that the taking of photographs during the performance is not allowed.

All seats bookable in advance (including gallery).

Seats can be reserved for organised parties on application.

F O R T H C O M I N G E V E N T S

* * *
"The Importance of Being Earnest" — by M.A.D.C. from the 20th to the 23rd March.

* * *
Malta Choral Society in April.

* * *
G. Miliareis — Celebrity Guitar Recital 8th and 10th April.



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Exc. Fare: £13. 18.

NAPLES

Exc. Fares: £16. 11.

ROME

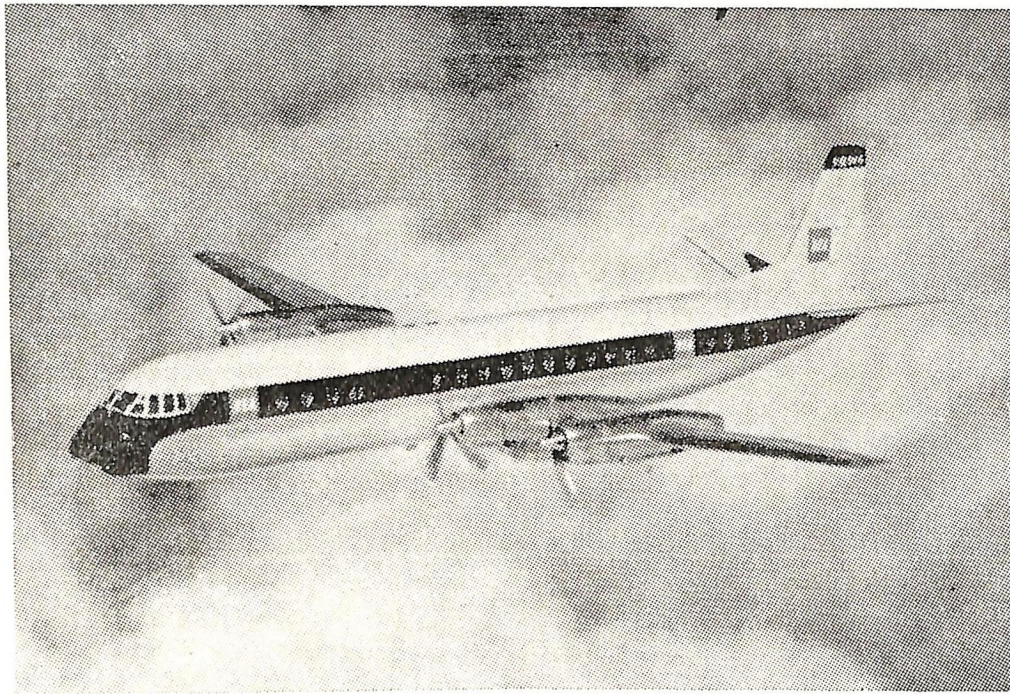
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