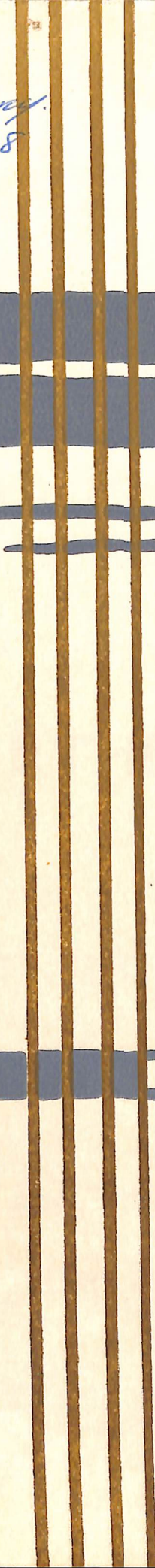


*The Birth of Italy
by Scheraga, Capponi, and Genny.
15th Edition, 1968*



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1869

THE MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE

PRESENT

THE WEBBER - DOUGLAS ACADEMY
OF DRAMATIC ART

IN

"THE BIRTHDAY PARTY"

BY

HAROLD PINTER

ON

MONDAY 15th and TUESDAY 16th APRIL 1968

at 7.30 p.m.

THE WEBBER-DOUGLAS ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART

The Academy was founded in 1926 by Amherst Webber and Walter Johnstone-Douglas, as a School of Singing and Opera. Dramatic training was introduced in 1929 under the direction of Ellen O'Malley, for whom Shaw created the part of Ellie in "Heartbreak House", and this department grew until it became the main course of study, with singing as an important additional subject. In 1932 the Chanticleer Theatre was added and the building further enlarged.

1957 saw the retirement of Walter Johnstone-Douglas after 31 years as Principal, and he was succeeded by George Rossiter who held office until the end of 1965, and whose many improvements included the building of the Ellen O'Malley studio and the installation of a closed-circuit television system and a new theatre-lighting board.

The title "Academy of Dramatic Art" was adopted in 1966 on the appointment of the present Principal, Raphael Jago.

RAPHAEL JAGO began his career by re-opening a season of Repertory at Perranporth in Cornwall, originally started before the second World War by Robert Morley and Peter Bull; he also presented the inaugural production of Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra" at Middlesborough in Yorkshire, in the first new theatre to be built in England after the war. After holding the post of Producer at the Theatre Royal, York, and Director of Productions at the Harrogate Opera House, he joined the Stratford East Company of Joan Littlewood, taking the company to the East Berlin Festival. In 1961 he began his association with the Academy, initially as a producer and later as Assistant Principal.



"THE BIRTHDAY PARTY"

Hugh
Morrison
Producer

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY was first produced in 1958 at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, and subsequently given a television presentation in 1960; it has since been presented by the majority of the leading Repertory companies in Great Britain and was recently revived by the Royal Shakespeare Company, directed by the author. It marks the start of the career of one of the most important dramatists of our generation. At first Pinter's talent was not recognised by the critics, with the notable exception of Harold Hobson who saw what a significant play The Birthday Party was, when others described it as obtuse and incomprehensible. Whatever conclusions we may draw on the ultimate meaning of the play, no one can deny the brilliance of its character-drawing and the masterly way the writer builds an atmosphere of tension and menace.

HUGH MORRISON was trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, and has since directed in Repertory and at the Arts and Mermaid theatres in London; since 1964 he has been a Director on the staff of the Webber-Douglas Academy and The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, and his most recent work includes a film and stage version of Romeo and Juliet in the United States. Concurrently with holding the post of Director at the Academy he holds the post of guest Director at the Phoenix Theatre, Leicester.

"THE BIRTHDAY PARTY"

by
HAROLD PINTER

Cast in order of appearance

Petey Boles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NEIL BUXTON	<i>Neil W Buxton</i>
Meg Boles, his wife	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	RUTH SILK	<i>Ruth Silk</i>
Stanley Webber, a lodger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	DESMOND ADAMS	<i>Desmond Adams</i>
Lulu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	SUSAN COLE	<i>Susan Cole</i>
Goldberg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ALAN HUNT	<i>Alan Hunt</i>
McCann	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	MICHAEL HARRIS	<i>Michael Harris</i>

Directed by **HUGH MORRISON**

Set and Furniture built by **MANOEL THEATRE STAFF**

The action of the play passes in the living-room of a house in a seaside town. Time: The present.

ACT I

A morning in Summer

ACT II

The evening of the same day

ACT III

The next morning

FOR THE WEBBER-DOUGLAS ACADEMY

Production Manager	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	GEORGE ROSSITER	<i>Malcom Bullivant</i>
Stage Manager	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	MALCOM BULLIVANT	
Assistant Stage Manager	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	SUSAN BENNETT	<i>Susan Bennett</i>
Wardrobe Mistress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	MOLLY COCHRANE	

FOR THE MANOEL THEATRE

Lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	J. LAUS
Stage Carpenter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	J. BORG
Assistants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	E. DALLI, F. MIFSUD

George Rossiter acknowledges with grateful thanks the splendid help given by Mrs. Pamela Ash in designing the set and to Mr. James Falkland for his assistance with the overall staging of the play.

The Manoel Theatre Management Committee wish to thank:

Gio. Batta Delia — Kingsway, for loan of furniture and crockery.

Palazzo della Luce — Floriana for loan of flowers.

George
Rossiter



GEORGE ROSSITER was educated at Clifton College, Bristol before going to Florence. On returning to London he trained as Accountant and at the same time studied privately to become an actor. He rapidly discovered he preferred the production side of the Theatre and in 1947 formed his own Company, The Manchester Intimate Theatre and ran several highly successful seasons. He subsequently became a Director of the famous Barry O'Brien Organisation and in 1957 took over as Principal of the Webber-Douglas School of Singing and Dramatic Art. He retired from this post on December 31st, 1965 but continued teaching and producing there until he settled in Malta in October 1967.

George Rossiter returned to London in March in order to direct Lord Arthur Savile's Crime and to take over the overall production of both this play and The Birthday Party and bring them out to the Manoel Theatre for presentation.



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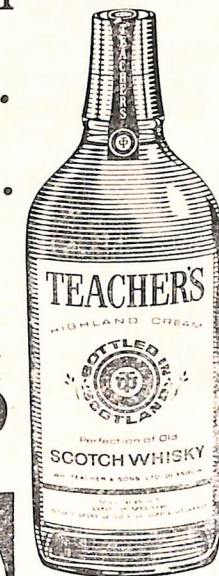
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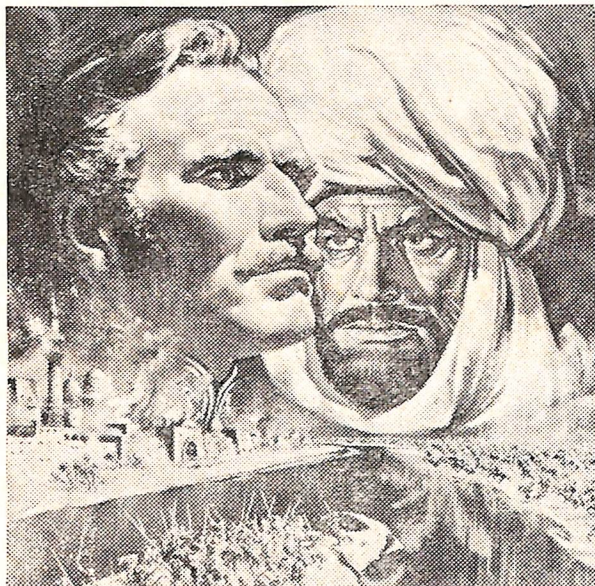
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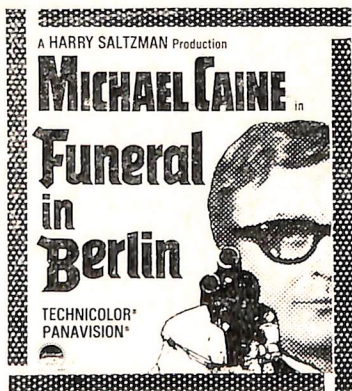
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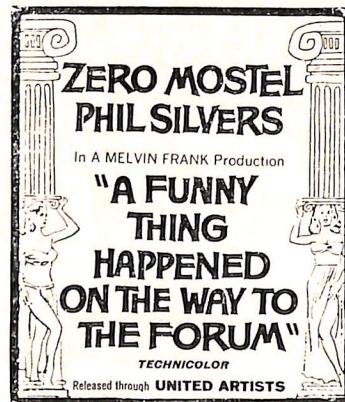


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