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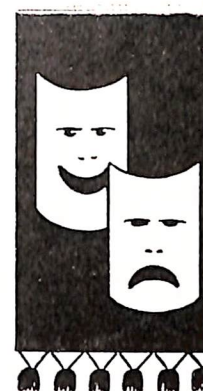
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PRESENT

# **THE PROMISE**

BY

**ALEKSEI ARBUZOV**

Translated by Ariadne Nicolaeff

A PLAY IN THREE ACTS

at the

**MANOEL THEATRE**

THURSDAY, 8th FEBRUARY, 1968 at 7.30 p.m.

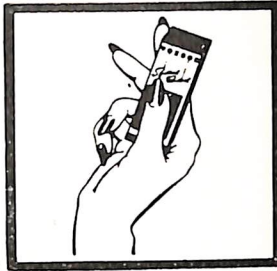
FRIDAY, 9th FEBRUARY, 1968 at 7.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, 10th FEBRUARY, 1968 at 8.00 p.m.

SUNDAY, 11th FEBRUARY, 1968 at 6.30 p.m.



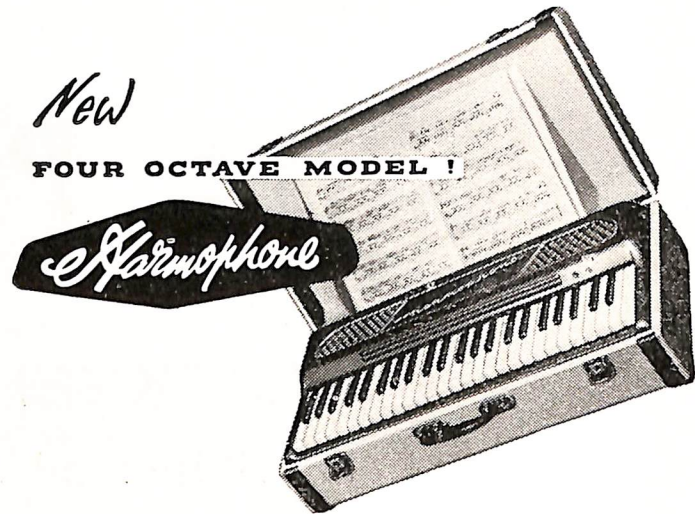
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## ABOUT THE PLAY

"The Promise" was given its first performance in English at the Oxford Playhouse on November 29th 1966 and was directed by Frank Hauser. Peter Bridge then presented the Oxford Playhouse production at the Fortune Theatre, London where it opened on 17th January 1967. The play, and its playing by Judi Dench, Ian McShane and Ian McKellen, received instant critical acclaim and it ran until November of last year, when the production moved to Broadway.

The author, Aleksei Arbuzov, was born in 1908 and introduced to Theatre at the age of fourteen when he was an extra at the Marinsky Theatre.

By 1928 he was producing at Leningrad and running mobile theatre groups; in 1930 he wrote his first play "Class" and he wrote several others before the outbreak of the war. During the war he helped to run a front line Theatre for the troops.

Since then he has written more plays and "The Promise" (originally called "My Poor Marat") was written in 1965 and performed in the same year. "The Promise" has been given more than 1600 performances in over 60 different theatres in the Soviet Union.

# THE PROMISE

## *The Cast in order of appearance*

LIKA ... .. ANTOINETTE SOLER  
MARAT ... .. NARCY CALAMATTA  
LEONIDIK ... .. GODWIN MICELI

*Play Directed by*

JAMES FALKLAND

*James Falkland*

ACT I — March to May 1942

ACT II — March to May 1946

ACT III — December 1959

The action takes place in Leningrad

*There will be two Intervals of fifteen minutes*

## *For THEATRICAL ENTERPRISES (MALTA) LTD.*

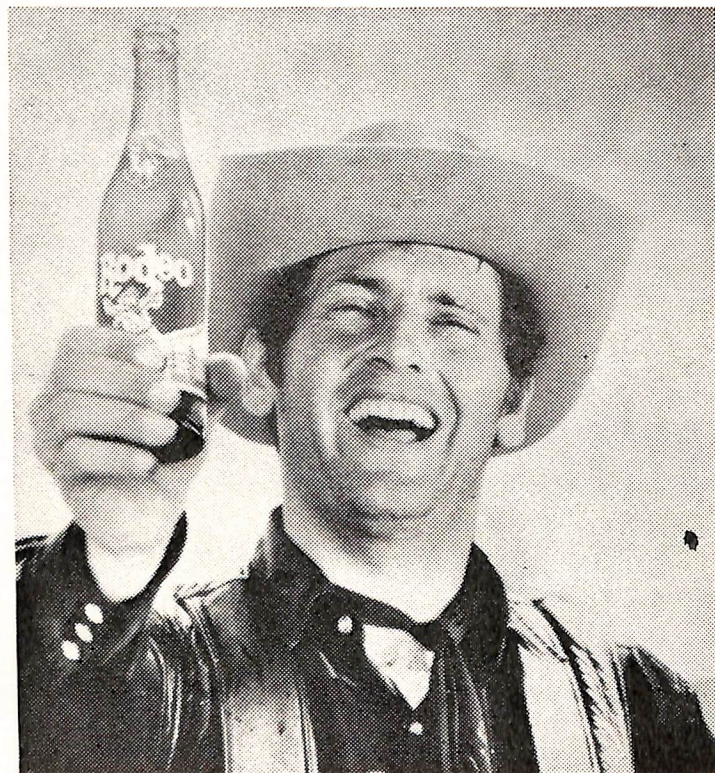
Stage Manager ... .. VICTOR SOLER  
Deputy Stage Manager ... .. JANET PALMER  
Assistant Stage Managers ... .. MARIO PHILIP AZZOPARDI,  
LENO FARRUGIA  
Sound ... .. JO DE BONO  
Decor and Lighting ... .. JAMES FALKLAND

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Head Carpenter ... .. JOSEPH BORG  
Assistants ... .. E. DALLI, F. MIFSUD

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ANTONETTE SOLER was born in Valletta and had no leaning to the stage until 1959 when her husband persuaded her to take an interest in acting. She had an early success, gaining the award for the best actress in the Malta Drama League Festival and became a leading actress for 'Riba'ta'. She has also appeared in several productions at the Manoel Theatre — notably 'Wuthering Heights', 'Boulevard' and the 'Doll's House' — the latter being the inaugural production of the Manoel Theatre Drama Group. Her most recent appearance was in "The Duchess of Malfi" for the M.A.D.C. She has considerable experience of Radio and Television and these activities leave her little time to follow her hobbies, which are reading and collecting antiques.



NARCY CALAMATTA made his first stage appearance at the age of five, in Grand Opera, but did little acting during school days — one schoolboy role was given him because of his ability to imitate the late Cyril Parker, his Headmaster! Since 1961 however, when he joined MALETH, he has taken considerable interest in theatre and has rapidly become one of MALETH's leading actors. Among the plays he has appeared in are "My Three Angels", "Arsenic and Old Lace", and "Come Blow your Horn". His most recent performance was in "Barefoot in the Park" where he scored a particular success. Narcy is a bachelor and has what he calls "normal bachelor interests" but his principal interest is undoubtedly theatre, theatre and more theatre.

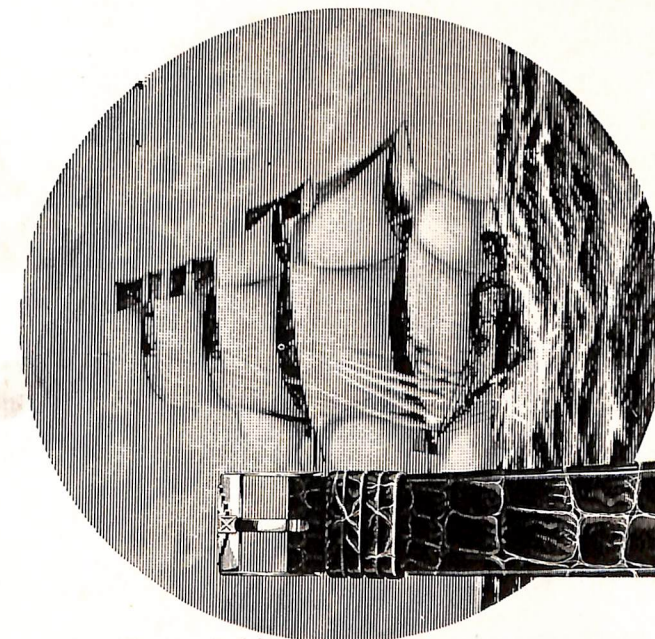


GODWIN MICELI was born in Sliema and his first stage debut was in Cairo when ten years old. While being educated at the Lyceum he had further experience in Shakespearean productions and later in student Drama at Perugia University. He has also acted with the Compagnia Filodrammatica Carlo Go'doni. Since his return to Malta he has appeared with Maleth and the Dante Alighieri and taken a keen interest in amateur filming, gaining the Best Actor award of the Malta Amateur Cine Circle Film Festival in 1963. In 1964 he went to London on a British Government scholarship to the B.B.C. and he is currently well known as a freelance broadcaster and Television Newscaster.

He is married with two children and confesses to no particular interests except Theatre and writing radio plays.

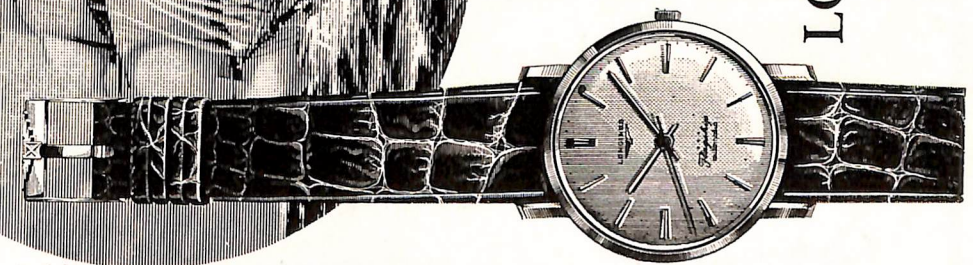


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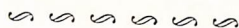
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