



1732

*The Circus
by
Günter 83
6th & 7th October 1984.*

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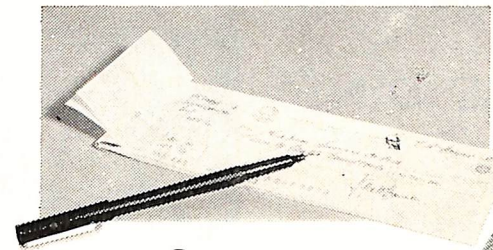
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IL WIEN '83

proudly presents

Don Taylor's

THE EXORCISM

A Thriller in 2 acts

at the MANOEL THEATRE

Sat. 6th October 1984

Sun. 7th October 1984

Directed by Alfred Vassallo

THE EXORCISM

DAN
EDMUND
MARGARET
RACHEL
VOICE

Manuel Cauchi
MANUEL CAUCHI
John Suda
JOHN SUDA
Josette Ciappara
JOSETTE CIAPPARA
Elsa Romei
ELSA ROMEI
ALFRED MALLIA

Directed by **ALFRED VASSALLO**

The action takes place in the living / dining
room of Edmund and Rachel's cottage.

ACT 1 Afternoon.

ACT 2 A short while after.

Time - the present.

There will be an interval of 15 minutes between the Acts.

BACKSTAGE

Stage Manager

Joe Vella
Joe Vella

ASM

Enid M. Vassallo *E.M. Vassallo*

Assistant

John Scerri *John Scerri*

Make-up

Lina Galea Cumbo *Lina Galea Cumbo*

Publicity

Alfred Vassallo

U.K. Representative

Enid Richardson

Photographs

Charles Agius

Joe Bartolo

Costumes (female)

S. & A. Boutique Fgura

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THE EXORCISM was written in 1971, at a time of great affluence in England, and when famine was raging in Biafra and Bangladesh. The first professional performance of this definitive text took place in Kratow, in a Polish translation in May 1976, and the first English performance at the Arts Theatre, Belfast in 1979.

Director's Note

The macabre is my obsession. Terrifying bloodcurdling horror stories have always had a fatal fascination for me. Perhaps in all of us there is a magnet which draws us toward the unknown, unexplained terror. We have traditions and superstitions which we laugh at on the surface but are rooted in our being.

In this play the horror exists for two couples. Edmund and Rachel have recently bought and renovated a 17th century labourer's cottage. They have invited their friends Margaret and Dan to celebrate Christmas with them.

What was to have been a happy festive occasion turns into a horrifying nightmare.

My passion for the bizarre, the mysterious, the unearthly has led me to this play, The Exorcism by Don Taylor. On first reading I was fascinated and felt compelled to produce it. To gain full dramatic impact I have decided to leave the text in its original English.

This is a great challenge for me as a director, being my first play in English.

I hope you'll enjoy it.

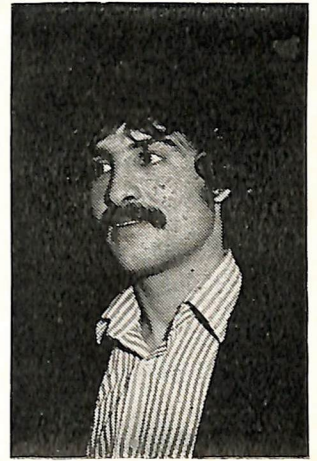
Alfred Vassallo.

ALFRED VASSALLO, born in Sliema on 11th April 1956 started his career in the theatre with Lino Grech. Under his direction he won the Best Actor of the Year 1972 in the Youth Drama Festival organised by FSOBIANS.

While continuing to act, he formed his own amateur company formerly Ilwien Brillanti four years ago.

Having built up a reputation with his Maltese productions and now concentrating on directing only, he has decided to venture into English plays.

His company has now assumed the name of ILWIEN '83. Anyone who would like to be included in the Mailing list may write to: Ilwien '83, 29, Camenzuli Street, Sliema or 5, Tonna Street, Sliema.



Kind Acknowledgements.

Bavarian Bar, 5, Tonna Street, Sliema.

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OCTOBER 1985

ILWIEN '83's 5th Anniversary.

To celebrate this occasion the company are issuing a free booklet containing all previous productions and photographs.

JOHN SUDA's first appearance at the Manoel Theatre was in 1971 in "Proċess Lil Gesù" directed by Joe Friggieri. Since then he has interpreted many important roles in Maltese and English. Marco in "A View From The Bridge", Chris in "All My Sons", Dr. Faustus in "Dr. Faustus", Cadmus in "The Bacchae", Fernize in "The Jew Of Malta", and the Captain in Strindberg's 'The Father' for which role he was awarded MADC Best Actor for 1981/82.

On Television he has done many teleplays and teleserials, ranging from light comedy to high drama. He has also presented programmes, for instance 'Dawra Madwarna' which was on between 1975/1979. John is a tutor at MTADA where he prepares young actors. He has written plays for children and published an anthology of children's drama "Maskli Zghar."

John Suda has just finished filming and dubbing the colossal for Television "Christopher Columbus" with Alberto Lattuada directing and starring among others Oliver Reed, Faye Dunaway, Max Von Sydow and Gabriel Byrne.

ELSA ROMEI was born in Cairo of a Maltese mother and Italian father. She spent her childhood in Egypt and Uruguay. From an early age she took part in school productions in both French and Spanish. Under Maltese and foreign directors Elsa has acted in many dramas and comedies. These include, "Wuthering Heights", "Il-Kerrejja", "In Camera", "The Miracle Worker", "There's a Girl in My Soup", "Il-Kummidjant" and she appeared for the first time with 'ILWIEN '83' as Mrs. Bramson in "Night Must Fall".

Her favourite roles on Television were in "Kristu fl-Isbarra" and 'Luka' in "Arms and The Man".

MANUEL CAUCHI was born in Melbourne, Australia. Studied at MTADA. He has recently returned to Malta after spending two years in Italy. In Rome he studied mime, (school of Jacque Lecoq); at the Piccolo Teatro di Milano he participated in an acting/directing course. His theatre repertoire includes: Benedick in "Much Ado About Nothing", Doc in "Come Back Little Sheba", Don Peppino in "Saturday, Sunday, Monday", Trofimov in "The Cherry Orchard", and Antonio Barracano in "The Godfather". On Television he has appeared as Philip Ashley in "My Cousin Rachel", Turiddu in "Cavalleria Rusticana" and Pilate in "Proċesso à Gesù". He also took part in the film "Hanna K", with Costa Gavras.

JOSETTE CIAPPARA an ex-MTADA student, she worked under Adrian Rendle and Hugh Morrison in "Antigone", "Pheadra", "Roots", and "Hobson's Choice". She worked in T.I.E. programmes. On stage she has played leadings roles in: "Macbeth", "The Good Woman Of Setzuan", "Wings", "Can't Pay Won't Pay", "The Last Of The Red Hot Rovers", "A Friend Indeed" and "Any Wednesday".

Her Television repertoire includes: "Saturday, Sunday, Monday", "Hedda Gabler", and "Christ on Trial". She has also appeared in a series of comic sketches with Tony Cassar Darien. On Radio she takes part in radio plays and humorous programmes.

Now she is a teacher in the Drama Unit of the Dept. of Educ. and a Tutor at MTADA.

Recently she directed "Man-Nanna fil-Manoel" at the Manoel Theatre and for the Maltafest "L-Infern Ma Jistax Jistenna".



Cast — during rehearsals

(Left) Josette Ciappara (Margaret) discusses a point with Elsa Romei (Rachel).

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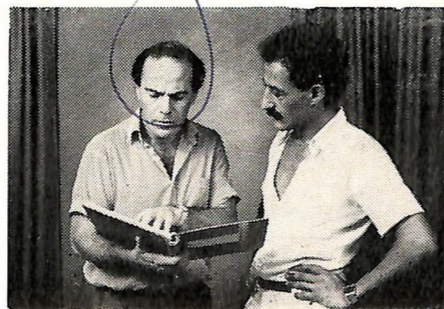


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The Cast is terrified!
Of what...??

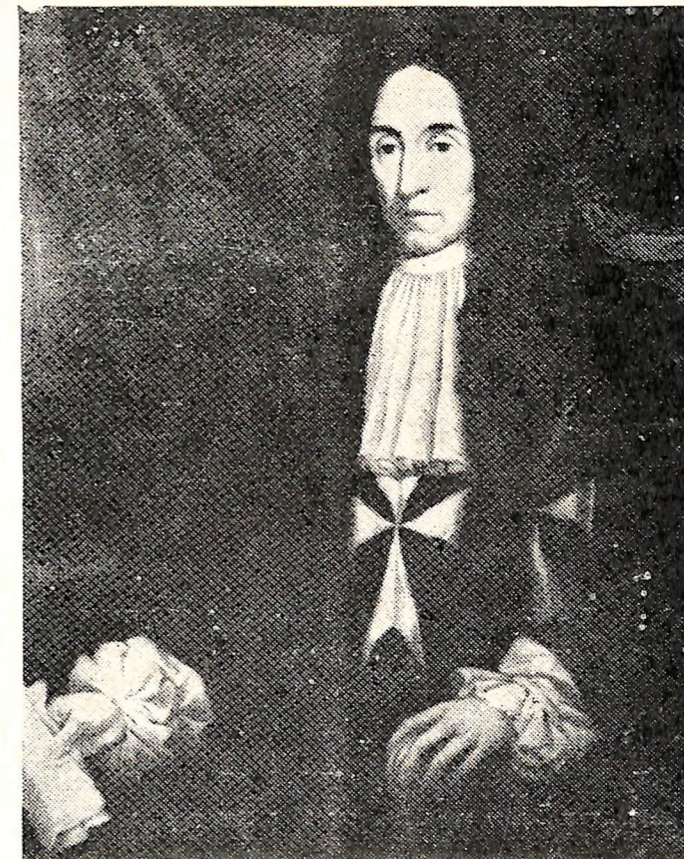
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John Suda (Edmund) showing photos of the cottage before and after renovation, to Manuel Cauchi (Dan)



Antonio Manoel

De Vilhena



Grand Master *Antonio Manoel de Vilhena*, a Portuguese, was elected Grand Master in 1722. A man of great intellectual qualities, he was popular with all, and his "savoir faire" earned him everyone's love.

At the beginning of his reign, fearing a second Turkish invasion of Malta, he promptly took steps against such an eventuality, and the enemy, seeing his preparedness, sailed away without even attempting a landing.

Having fortified the Island, he began to find ways and means of encouraging civil enterprise, and in the political field he managed to negotiate a treaty of peace with the Sultan of Constantinople.

As a befitting gesture towards the People of Malta, he built in 1732 the Manoel Theatre which is a living monument to his achievements. It keeps his memory fresh and glorious in all those who cultivate the Arts and all those who seek an honest recreation, as is implied by the Theatre's motto: "*Ad honestatem populi oblectationem.*"

HISTORY OF ILWIEN '83

- SEPT 1981: A name had to be found for Alfred Vassallo's new theatrical Company. ILWIEN BRILLANTI was the one.
- OCT 1981: First production. 'Dik l-Imbierka Joyce Xriha' a farce at the Radio City - Hamrun.
- NOV 1981: Director Alfred Vassallo went to Scotland for some months.
- MARCH 1982: Director returned to Malta. From April to October preparations were in full swing.
- NOV 1982: Second production. 'Joyce Xriha u l-Gurdien' a farce at the Catholic Institute - Floriana.
- JAN 1983: 'Id-Dottoressa Joyce Xriha' a farce at the Catholic Institute.
- Feb 1983: 'Il-Kuruna tal-Madonna s-Sewda' was their first dramatic play at the Catholic Institute Floriana.
- APRIL 1983: Another farce at the Catholic Institute. 'Zwieg A'la Ingliza'.
- MAY 1983: 'F'Jum il-Karnival' a farce.
- OCT 1983: Gemma Portelli takes the lead. 'Kif Tehles mill-Kunjata'. A farce at the Catholic Institute.
- NOV 1983: A move to De Porres Hall, Sliema. ILWIEN BRILLANTI changed to ILWIEN '83 'Il-Mozares minn Hong Kong' a farce.

- JAN 1984: ILWIEN '83 produces semi-religious drama. 'It-Tfajla ta' Pompei'. At the Catholic Institute.
- FEB 1984: Another semi-Religious play. 'Is-Soru l-Bajda' at the Catholic Institute.
- MARCH 1984: Debut at the Manoel Theatre. 'Il-Lejl Jasal Zgur' 'Night Must Fall', by Emlyn Williams.
- SUMMER 1984: Director working hard on preparations. Ilwien '83 turned semi-professional. Heavy and modern productions planned. This coming season Ilwien '83 will be performing for the first time in English. This decision was taken as director felt in translating plays in the Maltese language the dramatic impact was lost. Still Maltese productions are planned as well.
- OCT 1984: Opening season at the Manoel: The Exorcism.

COME & ENJOY A FREE DRINK with the compliments of ILWIEN '83 at the BAVARIAN BAR 5, Tonna Street, Sliema. Tel: 32919.

Opens from 9 am to 1 pm and 6 pm to 1 am.

Valid for ONE person

Please produce this coupon not later than Sun. 14th October 1984.

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THE MANOEL THEATRE FOYER

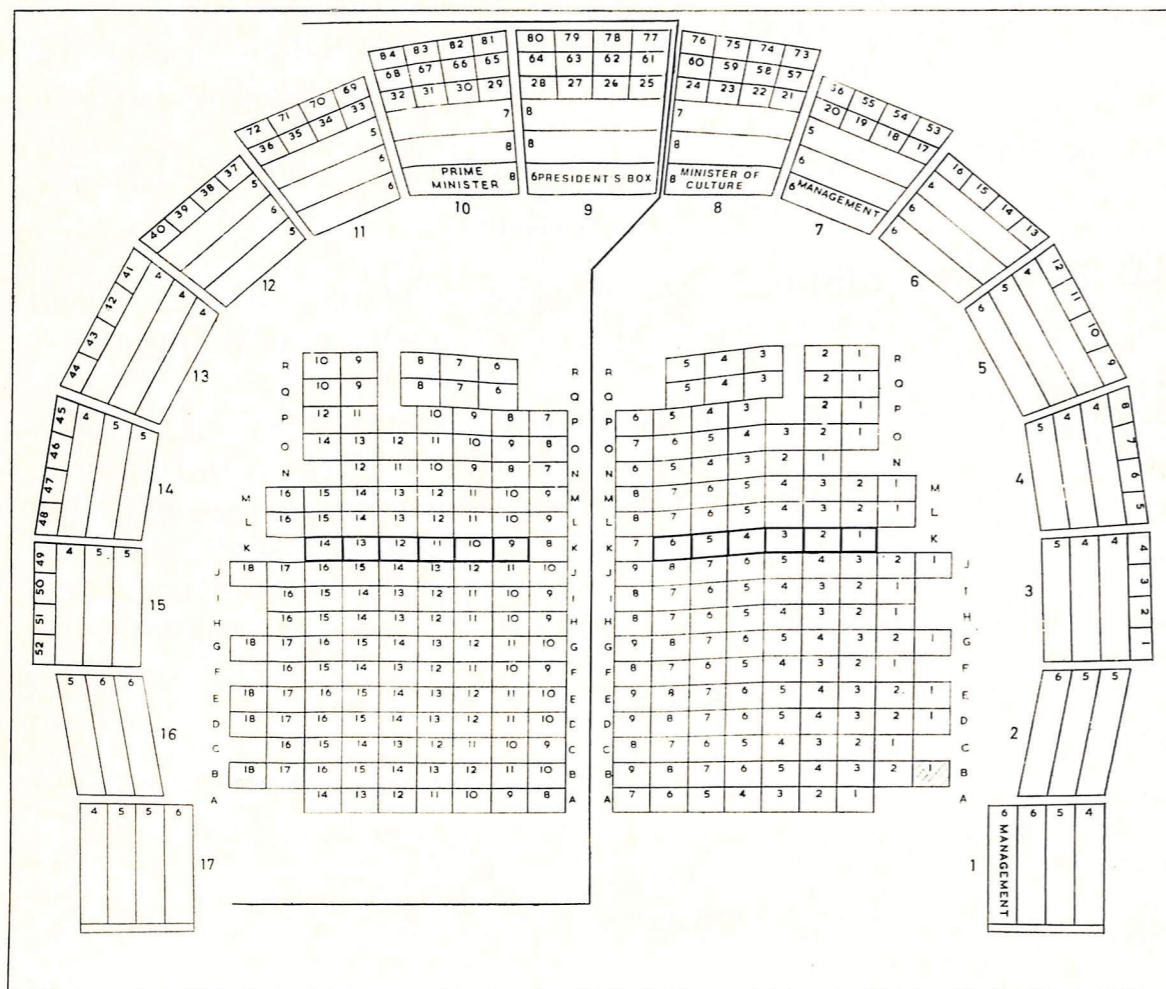
The Bonici Palace on the corner of Old Bakery Street, acquired by the Manoel Theatre two decades ago, has been completely restored and now constitutes its foyer. It can be approached from the auditorium, the level of your box, or from the original courtyard. Climbing the staircase with its shallow steps of white Carrara marble you see at every turn shell-shaped niches in one of which you may find the bust of your favourite composer. Further up, double doors inset with bevelled-edged mirrors lead to impeccable cloakrooms.

There are wall brackets and chandeliers from Vienna, heavy silk curtains in bluey/green and gold, a pair of candelabra once the property of the Messina family.

You will see engravings characters and scenes from famous operas and showcases in which are to be found *memorabilia* of the Theatre collected throughout the years. An antique mirror hangs above the eighteenth century mantelpiece. Beautiful furniture has been collected from the Auberges and carefully restored. The ceiling is a particular delight, the newly hand-painted beams, so near in colour to the curtains, are decorated with the Maltese Cross and small crowns picked out in gold.

Keeping guard over all this splendour stands the bust of Grand Master Antonio Manuel de Vilhena which was recovered from Manoel Island.

A visit to the Manoel Theatre Foyer is a must for every art lover, this splendid old house, restored to its pristine glory, makes a marvellous venue for any art Exhibition. The setting and acoustics are perfect for recitals and poetry reading.



MANOEL THEATRE BOOKING PLAN

Late comers will not be admitted to the Auditorium.

Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium, in the Boxes and in the Gallery.

The Management reserve the right to 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.

Children even when accompanied by their parents, will be required to occupy a seat.

MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

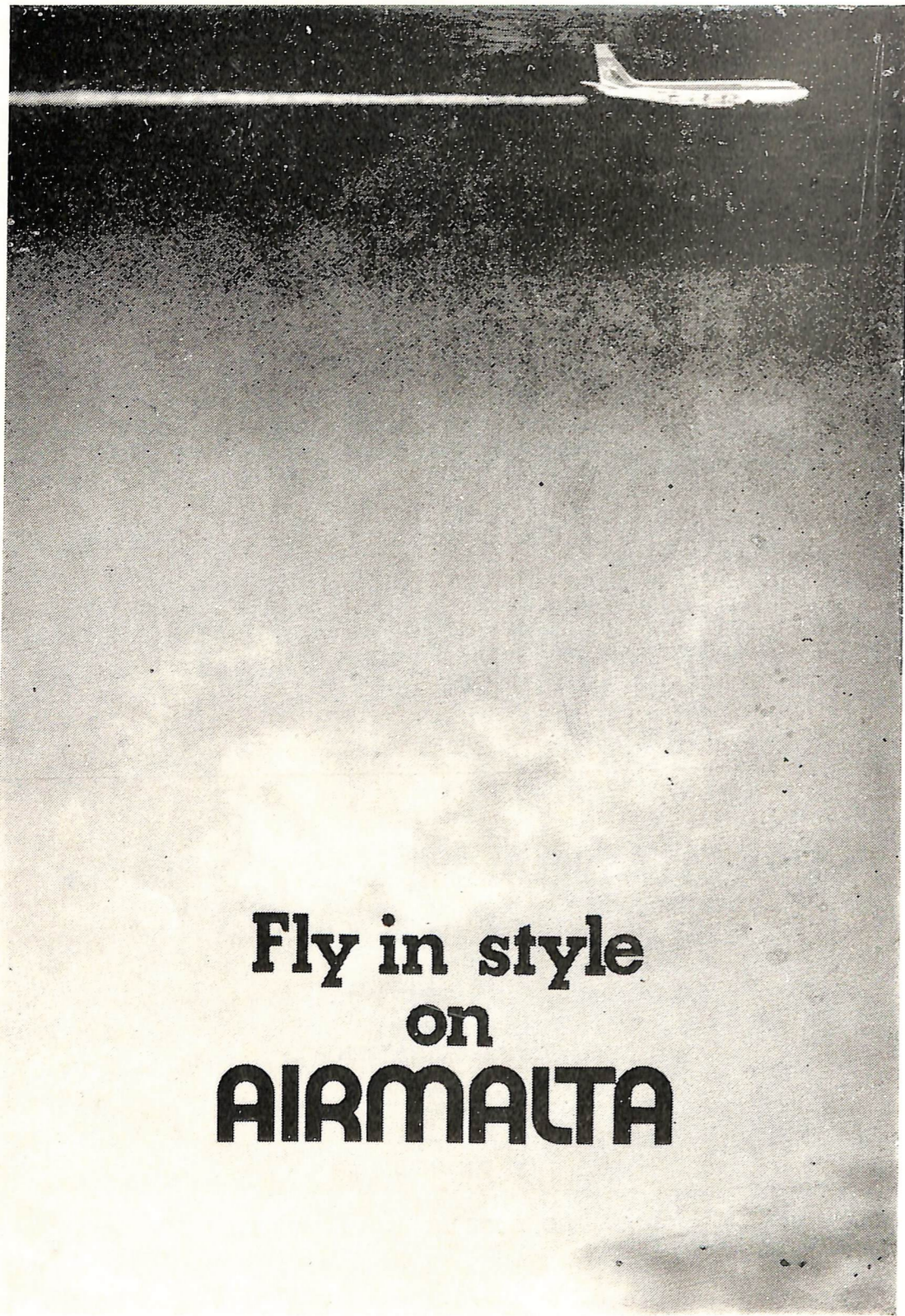
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