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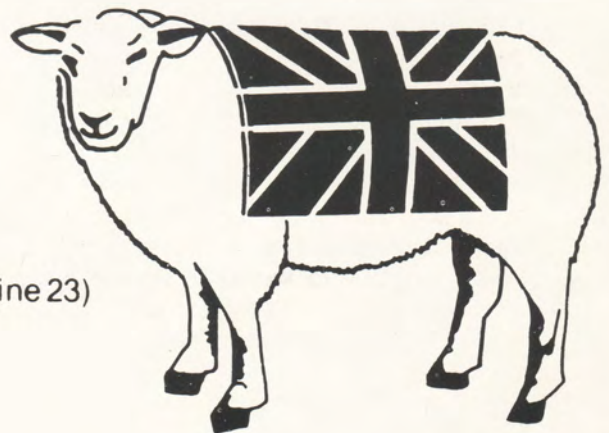
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FEATS '86

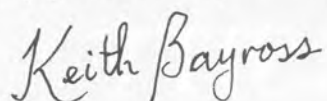
10th Festival of European Anglophone Theatrical Societies

Nederlands Congresgebouw, The Hague, May 16-19 1986

Patrons

His Excellency the British Ambassador
and his Excellency the Ambassador of the United States.

Once again it is my privilege and honour on behalf of the AATG to welcome all our visitors to The Hague and to FEATS '86, with a special welcome to the Fontenoy Players from Paris who are taking part for the first time. It is an occasion to renew past friendships and begin new ones in an ever increasing family of amateur theatre groups in Western Europe. A welcome also to our regular patrons. Thank you for your support through the years and for this Festival. I wish you all an enjoyable four days and may the best team win!



Chairman
FEATS '86 Organising Committee

FEATS originated in a two-day drama Festival organised by the AATG as part of the British Week in Rotterdam in 1976. The Festival assumed its present title in 1978 when, with the British American Theatre Society of Antwerp as hosts, it ran to seven plays over three evenings. In 1980 a Steering Committee was formed by the four Benelux groups: Anglo-American Theatre Group of The Hague, British American Theatre Society of Antwerp, the English Comedy Club of Brussels and the New World Theatre Club of Luxembourg. The Festival now runs under the guiding hand of that Committee with an Organising Committee formed each year to take charge of FEATS itself. The founders agreed to host FEATS in rotation.

Invitations go out to some forty drama groups all over Europe, as far afield as Copenhagen and Monaco and the Festival is now firmly established as a four-day, twelve-play event. This year the AATG expects to welcome groups from Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark and The Netherlands to The Hague to present a one-act play or one act from a full-length play at this now internationally renowned theatrical event.

For those who may be unfamiliar with drama festivals, it should be pointed out that the productions must comply with strict rules. The piece must last not less than 25 minutes and not more than 45 minutes. Each group is allowed 10 minutes to set its play and 5 minutes to strike the set after the performance. A two-hour period of rehearsal time is allotted to each group during the day preceding the performance, during which the group must set its lights, practise setting and striking routines and run its dress rehearsal. After the last of each evening's performances the entries are appraised by a professional adjudicator. At the end of the Festival he will offer a final critique and announce his decision as to the best productions, best actor and actress and the various technical and other awards.

There will be an interval between each play and a short break after the third play, before the adjudication, when the audience is asked to remain seated.

Please do not use flash equipment, 'bleep' watches or motor driven camera's.

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Order of Performance

Friday 16th May:

LEST, Leiden

Scenes from 'The Glass Menagerie'
by Tennessee Williams

InPlayers, Amsterdam

'Gotcha' by Barrie Keeffe

ECC, Brussels

'The Dumb Waiter' by Harold Pinter

Saturday 17th May:

CTC, Copenhagen

'The Love Course' by A.R. Gurney Jr.

Kent Players, Kent, FRG

'No Why' by John Whiting

GEDS, Geneva

'Old Times' (Act I) by Harold Pinter

Sunday 18th May:

Fontenoy Players, Paris

'Between Mouthfuls' by Alan Ayckbourn

Braunschweig Players, FRG

'Old Flames' (Act 1) by Ted Whitehead

NWTC, Luxembourg

'Knightsbridge' by John Mortimer

Monday 19th May:

The Alternative Theatre Group of Herford, FRG

'Sour Grapes and Ashes' by N.J. Warburton

AATG, The Hague

'The Long Way Home' by Jeremy Bentham

BATS, Antwerp

'Educating Rita' (Act I) by Willy Russell

Final Adjudication and prize-giving ceremony

FEATS '86 Steering Committee

Keith Bayross, Anglo-American Theatre Group, The Hague
Susan Hunt, Anglo-American Theatre Group, The Hague
Graham Fairfax-Jones, New World Theatre Club, Luxembourg
Ian Davis, English Comedy Club, Brussels
Dermod O'Reilly, British American Theatre Society, Antwerp

FEATS '86 Organising Committee

Chairman	Keith Bayross
Secretary	Susan Hunt
Treasurer	Richard Williams
Publicity	Hans van Bemmelen
Technical	John Newsome
Hospitality	Ria Jans
Front of House	Flip Rootliep
Sponsorship	Chick Parkinson

FEATS '86 Production Staff

Stage Manager	John Newsome	Publicity	Hans van Bemmelen
Timekeeper	John Humphrey		Ann Bush
Crew	Peter McMullan	Poster Design	Richard Cunliffe
	Peter Darwent	Programme	Hans van Bemmelen
	Hans van Bemmelen		Susan Hunt
Sound and Lighting	John Bush	Advertising	David Eaton
Front of House	John Kearey	Hospitality	Gwilym Lewis
	Paul Wood		Donal Merren
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	Gina Weinberger		Carla Jacobs
	Margaret Humphrey		Sheila Krzymuski
	Carol Burns		Philip Warnett
	Ann Bush		Felicity Lee
	Sandra Johnson		Monica Manders-Buys
Booking Office	Sheila Fallon		Sheila McMullan
assisted by	Meryl van Eek		Sylvia Judd
	Margaret Humphrey		Ria Jans
	Carla Jacobs		Veronica Dym
	Gina Weinberger		
	Maureen Schaafsma		

Scott Marshall

Our adjudicator for this year's festival is Mr Scott Marshall, MA, LGSM. An Ulsterman by birth, Mr Marshall has been involved in the professional theatre since the age of nine when he appeared on BBC radio. As an actor he has worked at the Lyric Theatre, Belfast and the famed Abbey Theatre in Dublin. He has twice won the Producer's Award at the Waterford International Festival. In addition to his work as actor and director, Mr Marshall is drama critic of an evening newspaper, and is a regular lecturer at Gormanstown, Co. Dublin, the largest theatrical summer school in the British Isles.

A member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators, Mr Marshall's services are in great demand. He adjudicated last year's British All Winners Festival and recently festivals in Belfast, Glasgow, Cardiff and London, he also adjudicated FEATS '84. He is currently headmaster of an independent public school in the North of England.

FEATS, Awards and previous winners

PRODUCTION AWARDS

PHILLIPS CUP (1st)

1976 ECC, Brussels
1978 ECC, Brussels
1979 NWTC, Luxembourg
1980 Kent Players
1981 ECC, Brussels
1982 LEST, Leiden
1983 GEDS, Geneva
1984 NWTC, Luxembourg
1985 ECC, Brussels

LUXEMBOURG CUP (2nd)

1980 ECC, Brussels
1981 Kent Players
1982 ATC, Brussels
DGM, Monaco
1983 AATG, The Hague
1984 ATC, Brussels
1985 BATS, Antwerp

R.A.M.D. AWARD (3rd)

1983 BATS, Antwerp
1984 Gütersloh Theatre
Workshop
1985 NWTC, Luxembourg

BEST ACTOR

1979 Joe Moss, ATC, Brussels
1980 Danny Strike, Kent Players
1981 Peter Lourens, Rick van Vliet, LEST
1982 Jon van Eerd, LEST, Leiden
1983 Richard Inkleton, Geneva
1984 David Greenfield, GTW, Gütersloh
1985 Robert Rowe, NWTC, Luxembourg

BEST ACTRESS

1979 Roz Jones, Highbury
1980 Paula Sepston, Geneva
1981 Susan Blackwell, ECC, Brussels
1982 Anne Fafoutakis, DGM, Monaco
1983 Doris Biles, Geneva
1984 Gwen Kingsmill, BATS, Antwerp
1985 Sally Boyle, ATC, Brussels

GRAND DUCHY CUP for best set

1980 Kent Players
1981 Kent Players
1982 ECC, Brussels
1983 BATS, Antwerp
1984 Ariel Theatre Guild,
Mönchengladbach
1985 BATS, Antwerp

MARCEL HUHNS MEMORIAL for stage management

1983 BATS, Antwerp
1984 ATC, Brussels
1985 BATS, Antwerp

ANTHONY CORNISH DISCRETIONARY AWARD

1980 Allen Roach, Kent Players
1981 Stage Crew, AATG, The Hague
1982 ATC, Brussels
1983 Bob Smith, Laarbruch
1984 BATS, Antwerp
1985 Braunschweig Players, FRG

VERULAM AWARD for best original script

1983 not awarded
1984 Vincent Eaton, ATC, Brussels
1985 In Players, Amsterdam

In 1982 ATC, Brussels and the Drama Group of Monaco were found equal runners-up by the adjudicator, who decided to confer his own discretionary award, there being no third place trophy at that time.

The script award is for the best original script, with the proviso that the FEATS production is the original production (not necessarily the first performance). The award is conferred at the adjudicator's discretion, and will not automatically be given to a single original script in any given Festival.

Friday, May 16th

Leiden English Speaking Theatre, Leiden, The Netherlands

Scenes from The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams
directed by Henry Schvey

Cast

Tom Wingfield	Cliff Sutton
Amanda Wingfield	Roberta Enschede
Laura Wingfield	Kathy van Vliet
Jim, the Gentleman Caller	Thomas Swaak

Music Peter Both

Production Staff

Producer	Karin Zimmer
Stage Manager	Theo Bögels
Set design	Marjanne Sijsma Tom de Langen
Lighting	Ynte Hoekstra Henk van Oers PromptMarjoleine Huigen
Costumes	Francisca Ottens
Make-up	Hilda Schuemie Albertine Snoep Cecile Bögels

The Play

The Glass Menagerie was Tennessee Williams' first successful play when it reached Broadway in March 1945. Williams wrote more than 30 plays in addition to stories, poems, screenplays and his highly controversial 'Memoires'.

'The Glass Menagerie' is a play about memories, recounting the experiences of the Wingfield family from the point of view of a son 'Tom'. In describing Tom's world Williams relies heavily in his own boyhood in Saint Louis, Missouri.

While the play in one sense is a flash-back into the memory of its narrator, it is even more clearly focused on Tom's sister Laura who flees into a world of her own fantasy where her principal companions are an assortment of little glass animals, her 'Glass Menagerie'. The true subject of the play is Tom's remembrance of a visit by a Gentleman Caller with whom Laura has been secretly in love since high school.

The Company

Founded in 1975 as a university drama group by Henry Schvey and a number of students from Leiden University's department of English, LEST is now open to anyone dedicated to the production of English language drama. LEST has been a frequent participant in FEATS in the past, and in 1982 won the award for best production, actor and costumes with the second act from Peter Shaffer's 'Equus'.

Friday, May 16th

In Players, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Gotcha

by **Barrie Keeffe**

directed by **Michael O'Riordan**

Cast

Lighting	Lorry Lepaule
Costumes	Ernie Navarro
Bike	Hans Konings
Make-up	Lydia Otte
Stage Crew	Casper Brands Nina Cohen Peter Hopwood

Production Staff

Ton	Stuart Idell
Lynne	Wenona Robb
Kid	Steve Moazed
Head	Luud Peters

The Play

Barrie Keeffe doesn't believe in pulling punches, avoiding social issues or a lack of a sense of humour. You laugh and wonder why you laugh, are shocked and yet cannot deny the reality of the situation. The situation every 'No Hoper' dreams of, to finally say back to the 'Wall' what the education system really means to the under-developed misunderstood youth who never seem to change from generation to generation. Not that they lack talent, they're just not wanted on the voyage. This impassioned view of the comprehensive system as seen by one of its casualties continues the tradition of the In Players to confront, enjoy, excite and hopefully involve the audience in issues relevant to its environment.

The Company

Well, here we are in The Hague again (who can forget the last time). The In Players, a motley group of many nationalities (including many Dutch) who, having escaped the British Society many years ago, has parented several well known groups in Amsterdam. It still flourishes with large scale musicals ('Merrily we Roll Along') and small scale drama (own scripts and modern authors). Involved in FEATS from the outset, the In Players have always tried to add an extra element to this fast growing event. Come and see us in Amsterdam, we could always do with a few more members.

Friday, May 16th

English Comedy Club, Brussels, Belgium

The Dumb Waiter

by Harold Pinter

directed by Lyrr Descy

Cast

Ben Martin Robert
Gus John Chapman

Production Staff

Stage Manager Chris Russell
Set Design Bob Bender
Lighting Design Patrick Linton
 Lyn Wainwright
Sound Barry Steen
Stage Crew Magnus Andersson
 Liz Eicher
 Andrew Hockley

The Play

Harold Pinter has an unerring grasp of the absurdities of the human condition, imaginatively captured in the tense rhythmic and pregnant dialogue which has become his hallmark. With his keen powers of observation, he has gained unique insight into the ambiguities of verbal and non-verbal communication and the nature of our responses to people and events. He exploits erratic speech patterns to give rein to his characters' inconsistencies and transient moods, through which we catch mere glimpses of their unconscious thoughts and insecurities, revealed as much by what they do not say as they say.

Two employees of a mysterious organisation await instructions in a basement room. They become increasingly rattled as a menacing outside world encroaches on their elementary existence, resulting in a struggle by each to hold on to his uncertain sense of self, with corresponding shifts in their relationship with each other. In a play full of surprises, Pinter shows with a mixture of dark humour and sobering truthfulness, how two men, mere cogs in the machine of an inscrutable world, try to cope with the unexpected and the inexplicable.

The Company

The English Comedy Club was founded in Brussels in 1909, but its roots go back to 1815 and the Battle of Waterloo. The Club has been involved with FEATS since its inception. It has won awards on a number of occasions, and hosted the event in 1979 and 1984.

Saturday, May 17th

Copenhagen Theatre Circle, Copenhagen, Denmark

The Love Course

by A.R. Gurney Jr.
directed by Elsy Ford

Cast

Professor Burgess	Frank Theakson
Miss Carroway	Claire Campbell Clausen
Sally	Christina Dregart
Mike	Kristian Bluff

Production Staff

Designer	Lone Sander Klan
Prompt	June Bramson
Stage Manager	Solvejg Glass
Lighting	Barbara Lehman
Sound	Hanne Ryge Nielsen
Stage Crew	Christopher Wilkes
	Lone Sander Klan
	Ed Kowalski

The Play

As an experiment Professors Carroway and Burgess have taught a course on the 'literature of love' in tandem. The play begins on the last class of the course and promises to be a real anti-climax as Professor Burgess announces that he must attend a Faculty meeting instead. Miss Carroway is very disappointed. The course has meant a great deal to her, as through the medium of literature and poetry she could ascend to levels of romantic love not normally part of her real life. One of her keenest students, Sally, has found the course valuable enough to her private life to invite her ex-boyfriend to listen in. The resolution of the relationships between all four characters, using the words of classical authors, forms the substance of the play.

The Company

Copenhagen Theatre Circle was formed in 1968 by a group of English speaking theatre enthusiasts, British, American and Danish. The membership includes not only people with experience of acting but those whose interest in theatre extends to all aspects of drama production, be it stage management, make-up, scenery, props or just making the group function.

Saturday, May 17th

Kent Players, Kent, FRG

No Why

by John Whiting
directed by Gareth Jones

Cast

Henry	Cliff Overton
Eleanor	Lyn Roper
Max	Dave Baker
Sarah	Jan Weir
Amy	Sylvia Ager
Gregory	Allan Roach
First Servant	Geoff Spooner
Jacob	Gareth Jones

Production Staff

Geoff Spooner
Phil Rylane
Ann Brown
Fiona Brown

The Play

Can you recall your own childhood misdemeanours: the rows, the slaps, the dreaded punishments? Can you remember the threats, the questioning, the 'Why can't you be like other children?' What made you conform in the end: love for your parents, or fear, or a desire for a quiet life? Jacob has been a bad boy, so bad in fact that he has been banished from the family party up to the attic. It is Grandfather's birthday and Jacob has ruined the day. Both Henry and Eleanor, as normal parents, want him to confess, to ask forgiveness, so that he can be readmitted to the fold. Aunts Sarah and Amy are shocked by his behaviour and even cousin Max resents his stubborn, unrepentant attitude. But what exactly has Jacob done, and why won't he confess? Why won't he conform?

The Company

All members of the Kent Players are on the teaching staff of Kent School, near Mönchengladbach, which caters for children and dependants of the British Army on the Rhine. The present company includes some new young blood who have recently come out from the U.K. while preserving some veteran FEATS performers and past award-winners. We welcome very much the opportunity to participate in this year's Festival.

Saturday, May 17th

Geneva English Drama Society, Geneva, Switzerland

Old Times (Act 1)

by Harold Pinter

directed by Alan Simmance and Jean Navassardian

Cast

Deeley	Tim Goodyear
Kate	Elizabeth Matthews
Anna	Diane Simmance

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Tim Hancox
Lighting	Jane Easton
Stage Crew	Jean Navassardian Tigran Navassardian

The Play

The plays of Harold Pinter are widely regarded by those who have not seen them as convoluted, sombre and obscure. This view is quite mistaken and it is as well to say so clearly to those about to see a Pinter play.

Twenty years after they had lived together in London Anna revisits Kate, now married to Deeley. The visit stirs vivid memories of old times in all three, sometimes complementary, sometimes conflicting. Yet as the play progresses it becomes clear that what is stirred in them is more than memory, it is also an awareness of the gulfs between them.

The Company

GEDS has been active for over fifty years, since its original founding by members of the International Labour Organisation and the League of Nations. It still draws much of its membership from such organisations, plus multinational companies and schools. Current membership is about 240, and fortnightly events such as playreadings make up the usual season of about four full stage productions. GEDS has participated in FEATS three times before.

Sunday, May 18th

The Fontenoy Players, Paris, France

Between Mouthfuls

by Alan Ayckbourn
directed by Karen Levitt

Cast

Waiter	Andrew Taylor
Donald Pearce	David Williams
Emma Pearce	Pamela Lake
Polly	Myra Woodrow
Martin	Andrew Fountain

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Diana O'Reilly
Lighting	Philip Hill
Stage Crew	Marion Rushworth Patrick Woodrow

The Play

Donald Pearce, a middle-aged business man, is meeting his wife Emma for dinner in a hotel restaurant. Soon Martin, a member of Pearce's staff, and his wife Polly come in and sit at a nearby table. Pearce has just returned from a business trip to Rome, Polly has just returned from a holiday in Majorca. What did they really get up to?

The Company

The Fontenoy Players is an English speaking theatre group under the aegis of the UNESCO Staff Association. The group was formed in 1976 and is named after the Place de Fontenoy where the UNESCO headquarters are situated. The group consists of members of the UNESCO staff and other English speaking actors working in Paris. They usually produce one play a year.

Sunday, May 18th

The Braunschweig Players, Braunschweig, FRG

Old Flames (Act 1)

by Ted Whitehead
directed by Leslie Carnegie

Cast

Sally	Grania Grözinger
Edward	Peter Savic
Julie	Sonja Nealon
Diana	Ria Nijmeijer
Muriel	Delia Partridge

Music by Salino and Savic

Production Staff

Heidelore Hohls
Lynda Howat
Nigel Howat
Maria Lammeier

The Play

In 'Old Flames' (1975) Edward has gone to supper with Sally on her houseboat. When he learns she has invited other people he is disappointed, but then reconciles himself to meeting her friends. However, they turn out to be his friends, or rather his old friends, all of whom he has treated badly, and now the time of reckoning has come...

The Company

The Braunschweig Players were founded in 1975. We play mainly for school audiences and not all of us are native speakers. Membership waxes and wanes as Brits pass through Brunswick, which is on the eastern edge of West Germany. This spring we had only one actor and four actresses available and so – 'Old Flames'. With it we hope to keep the light of English drama burning in the 'far east'. Last year we received the Anthony Cornish Discretionary Award.

Sunday, May 18th

New World Theatre Club, Luxembourg

Knightsbridge

by John Mortimer
directed by Robert Rowe

Cast

Henry Bulstrode	David Buckley
Francesca Stokes	Clíodhna Dempsey
Muriel Stokes	Hilary Guerra
A man in a Mackintosh	John Overstall

Production Staff

Designer	Jane Carter*
Stage Manager	Roy Jackson*
Lighting and Sound	Alan Carlisle*
Props	Carol Cleland*
Furniture	Pauline Lloyd
Prompt	Helen Weaver
Production Manager	Graham Fairfax-Jones
Set Construction and Stage Crew	Jane Carter*
	Alan Carlisle*
	Carol Cleland*
	Roy Jackson*
	Matthew Kahn*
	Roland Reinert*

* Pirate Productions

The Play

We are in upper-class London in the '60s. Francesca takes her fiance Henry, a television interviewer, to meet her widowed mother Muriel. A number of strange telephone calls give Francesca and Henry the idea that her mother is 'on the game'. The arrival of a man whom Muriel shows into her bedroom seems to confirm their suspicions. His professional and personal interests aroused, Henry transfers his attentions from daughter to mother. Mystified, Muriel makes clear that her trade is in a wholly innocent commodity. Then as the door closes behind the engaged couple, the telephone rings again...

The Company

Since its foundation in 1968, the New World Theatre Club has succeeded in establishing English drama as an integral part of the cultural life of the Grand Duchy. The group's activities – we have a predominantly British but still very multinational membership of about 150 – range from playreadings to full scale, big budget musicals. We normally present two or three plays a year, for the last two of them we have moved into the delightfully refurbished Theatre des Capucins in the old city. NWTC has twice hosted FEATS and twice won. The group has run a number of workshops and will organise a four day workshop in various backstage disciplines in June for members of the FEATS community.

Monday, May 19th

The Alternative Theatre Group of Herford, FRG

Sour Grapes and Ashes

by N.J. Warburton

directed by Richard Ancliffe

Cast

Bernard	Richard Ancliffe
Pat	Jean Ancliffe
Carol	Ann Biles
Wilf	Neil Stephens
Geraldine	Alison King

Production Staff

John Guthrie

The Play

Bernard's father caused him many problems, the last of which provides the subject matter for this imaginative play. The stress of scattering his father's ashes on top of his favourite fell, after a six-year wait so that his trusty dog's remains can share that fate, gives us the chance to laugh at those human foibles we recognize so easily in other people. After a trail of misunderstandings and clashes in the family's relationships Bernard realizes the part his father has played and some sort of understanding is reached: Father, of course, has the last word.

The Company

Amateur theatre has been alive in Herford for 26 years. The group, raised from members of the British Army and its civilian component in the area, appeared until the end of last year under the name of 'Herford Players'. However, a dwindling audience and membership required an injection of new ideas and so the 'Players' were laid to rest and out of the ashes rose 'Phoenix'. Until two weeks ago the majority of the group were involved in a full length play festival in Germany, and so as an alternative those now onstage volunteered at short notice to take part in FEATS '86 as 'The Alternative Theatre Group of Herford'.

Monday, May 19th

Anglo-American Theatre Group, The Hague

The Long Way Home

by Jeremy Bentham

directed by David Westerman

Cast

Andy	Robert Fenn
Jackie	Elsita Liberg
Terry	Jeremy Bentham
Tom	Donal Merren

Guitarist Joep Wanders

Production Staff

Production Assistant	Lora Aarts
Crew	Hans van Bemmelen
	Liz Hazlehurst
	Peter McMullan
	Sheila McMullan
	Claire Wilson

The Play

Tom and Terry who share a shabby basement room await the arrival of Andy, a friend of Tom's from a time when his life was happier and his prospects were brighter.

The Company

The AATG has provided English language theatre to audiences in the The Hague area for 35 years. Our productions have varied from Restoration Comedy to Modern Drama, from Historical Realism to Farce. There are three major productions annually, including a children's Christmas show. Productions on a modest scale, in-house productions and play-reading evenings offer opportunities at all levels to encourage new actors and directors.

Monday, May 19th

British American Theatre Society, Antwerp, Belgium

Educating Rita (Act 1)

by Willy Russell

directed by Nora van Dessel

Cast

Rita Fay Glasgow
Frank Alec Robertson

Production Staff

Assistant Director Rosemary Watson
Stage Manager George Glasgow
Lighting Matthew Perrin
Sound Brian Edwards
Set Frank Mahieu
Stage Crew John Algar
 David Robson
 Vivi Roche
 Yvette Robertson

The Play

Frank is a tutor of English whose disillusioned outlook on life drives him to seek refuge in the bottles of whisky he hides on his bookshelves.

Rita is a forthright hairdresser who is hungry to find some meaning to life and to 'know everything'.

With Frank as her tutor, Rita embarks on an Open University course and her education process begins. But she discovers that education can create as many problems as it solves.

It is a play which raises a number of important questions, and demands that we give them serious and adequate consideration.

The Company

BATS is now in its 30th season of presenting plays in the English language to the Antwerp public. We present four productions annually, including a spectacular Christmas Pantomime. With over 160 members we also enjoy a very good social life, every month begins with an Open Evening in our premises, 'The Belfry'. These evenings are usually highlighted by a piece of well rehearsed entertainment presented by some of our more adventurous members. We also hold regular theatre workshops and play readings often attract a large group of participants.



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