

The
Semicircle
presents:

“Present Laughter”

by

Noël Coward

Producer: Peter G. Broberg

on

Wednesday,	February 2 at 7.30 p.m. (19.30 Uhr)
Thursday,	February 3 at 7.30 p.m. (19.30 Uhr)
Friday,	February 4 at 7.30 p.m. (19.30 Uhr)
Saturday,	February 5 at 7.30 p.m. (19.30 Uhr)

at the

Gymnasium Bäumlhof
(Bus Nr. 34, Haltestelle “Drei Linden”)

Programme

Price Fr. 1.—



Indische Genüsse

Es ist längst zum Anziehungspunkt für Liebhaber exotisch-kulinarischer Genüsse geworden: Jeffery's Indian Restaurant am Bahnhof SBB. Auch Stammkunden bietet Jeffery's Speisekarte voller fernöstlicher Spezialitäten immer wieder neue köstliche Kombinationen in den verschiedensten Geschmacksrichtungen.

Wer vor der Bestellung hinter die Geheimnisse der indisch-englischen Menu-Bezeichnungen kommen will, lässt sich von Jeffery persönlich beraten. Der Malaysier empfiehlt «Anfängern» meist sein Lieblingsmenu: Tandoori Mixed Grill (Best.-Nr. 15, Fr. 20.-), dazu Bhuna King Prawn (31, Fr. 22.50), als Beilage Pulao Rice (42, Fr. 3.50) und natürlich das indische Fladenbrot Tandoori Chappati (37, Fr. 2.50).

Wer nach diesem Genuss der indischen Kochkunst des Küchenchefs Jit Singh noch Hunger verspürt, sollte unbedingt Jeffery's Golden Chicken (25, Fr. 15.-) nachbestellen.

Jeffery's «Kuchi» bietet aber neben all den Lamb- und Chicken-Menus einen interessanten Einblick in die vegetarische Küche aus Fernost. Wer es fleischlos mag, findet eine grosse, scharf-würzige Auswahl.

Jeffery hat am Montag geschlossen, abends sollte man (Tel. 23 10 40) reservieren.

ABOUT TONIGHT'S PLAY

What is love ? 'Tis not hereafter :
Present mirth hath present laughter . . .
Youth's a stuff will not endure.

TWELFTH NIGHT II.iii.

At 40, Garry Essendine's youth is not enduring too well under the combined assaults of his own vanity and a succession of young ladies who, having lost their home latchkeys, ring his doorbell late at night. As a stage idol he lives on adulation but complains bitterly about it as well. Two people out of the entourage that surrounds him as if he were a nabob understand him thoroughly and therefore take no nonsense from him : his secretary Monica and his wife Liz, from whom he is legally separated. Joanna, a femme fatale, the wife of his rather stodgy business manager, also judges him shrewdly enough to get what she wants from him, while Roland Maule, a slightly dotty young playgoer, invades his privacy with persistent and highly ambivalent admiration. We find Garry trying to cope with all this on the eve of a theatrical tour to South Africa.

Städteflüge
Herbst/Winter
1982/83

London

Athen
Kreta

Amsterdam

München

Wien

FERIE-LADE

Leonhardsstrasse 1, 4051 Basel
Telefon (061) 25 03 66

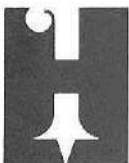
alle Flüge
ab Basel

HILTON
INTERNATIONAL
BASEL

Mehr als ein Hotel:

ein gepflegtes Erstklass-Restaurant und ein Café-Restaurant mit Ambiance und eine Apéro-Bar zum ungestörten Plaudern und ein Night-Club mit Pfiff und viele Räume für Kongresse, Vereins- und Familienanlässe und eine Festorganisation mit Erfahrung und ein Gastronomie-Hauslieferdienst à la Hilton und eine öffentliche Sauna mit Schwimmbad und ein öffentliches Parkhaus mit vielen Plätzen.

Aeschengraben 31
4002 Basel
Tel. 061/22 66 22



PREVIOUS SEMICIRCLE PRODUCTIONS

May 1975	Wilde : LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME (reading)
December 1976	Shaw : HEARTBREAK HOUSE (reading)
May 1977	JUBILEE REVUE (jointly)
January 1978	Melville : DEAR CHARLES
September 1978	OLD TIME MUSIC HALL (jointly)
January 1980	Coward : HAY FEVER
October 1980	A SEASIDE SHOW (jointly)
February 1982	Wilde : THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

'What is love? 'tis not hereafter;
Present mirth hath present laughter;
What's to come is still unsure:'
(Twelfth Night)

Yes, life is full of uncertainties, but if
it's a question of teaching or translation,
you can be sure of

THE ENGLISH INSTITUTE
D.Q. Stephenson

Malzgasse 25, Basel

Tel. 23 32 32

CHARACTERS

In order of appearance

DAPHNE STILLINGTON	Caroline Taylor
MISS ERIKSON, Garry's housekeeper	Joan Kuster
FRED, Garry's valet	Ted Ford
MONICA REED, Garry's secretary	Barbara Clark
GARRY ESSENDINE, a popular actor	Graham Simons
LIZ ESSENDINE, Garry's ex-wife	Molly Arnold
ROLAND MAULE, a young writer	Tony James
HENRY LYPPIATT, Garry's manager	Bryan Taylor
MORRIS DIXON, Garry's producer	Bob Billington
JOANNA LYPPIATT, Henry's wife	Diana Zuger
LADY SALT BURN, Daphne's aunt	Ruth Meier

Directed by Peter G. Broberg

The action takes place in the living room of Garry Essendine's flat in the West End of London.

Act I	Morning, about 11 o'clock
Act II	Scene 1, an evening three days later Scene 2, the next morning
Act III	Evening, a week later
	Period The nineteen-forties

The main interval will be after Act I

There will be a short pause after Act II.

Refreshments will be served during the interval.

BEHIND THE SCENES

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	Margot Sehringer
STAGE MANAGER	Peter Nixon
PROMPTER	Margot Sehringer
WARDROBE	Muriel Taylor
	Liz Baur
MAKEUP	Rudi and Vreneli Ortlieb
PROPERTIES	Shirley Burgy
	Barbara Haener
LIGHTING AND SOUND	Peter Degen
	Grayson Richards
PROGRAMME EDITOR	Penny Ehram
POSTER DESIGN	Penny Ehram
PUBLICITY	Tony Obrist
FRONT OF HOUSE	Jean Pierre Zuger
	"Volunteers"
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Ruedi Kuster

For the supplying of furniture we are very grateful to :

BERTRAND FRANK & PFLUEGER

Basle.

TANNER Bookshop will be selling books in the Foyer from
7.00 to 7.30 p.m. and during the interval.

The Semicircle would like to thank all those members and
non-members not mentioned by name whose generous help
has made this production possible.

Tanner

Streitgasse 5, 4010 Basel

Telefon 23 45 47

Die Spezialbuchhandlung für
English Books, Schulbücher
und moderne Literatur.

Nuts



Nuts hat's

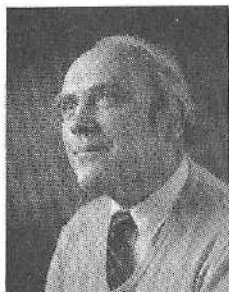
R.C. ANDREAE LIMITED
4144 Arlesheim

Exclusive Importers and
Distributors in Switzerland
for
ROWNTREE MACKINTOSH
LTD., York.



MOLLY ARNOLD

Molly Arnold, now a housewife with two children, came to Switzerland 18 years ago and took part at that time in the playreading group of 'the British Circle. She started acting in England at 17 years of age and appeared on stage several times. Since marrying a Swiss 12 years ago she has not been so active in the theatre but has found time to be prompter in DEAR CHARLES and enjoyed taking part in two of The Semicircle's joint musical productions.



BOB BILLINGTON

The possessor of a fine tenor singing voice, Bob Billington has made his mark in all The Semicircle's joint musical productions and also in the American musical THE FANTASTICKS in Basle and Freiburg im Breisgau in 1979. He began acting in school in Britain, where the plays were mostly classical, and continued in contemporary and Restoration comedy during his career with the R.A.F. He has acted with The Semicircle since its inception - the Basle production of DEAR CHARLES was the second one of this play in which he has appeared. Bob works as a translator/editor in the Basle chemical industry. Aged 43, he is married with two children.



BARBARA CLARK

Since graduating in medicine from Westminster Hospital, London, Barbara Clark has made notable contributions in pharmacological research. Besides doll-collecting, amateur drama, opera and choral singing have always been her spare-time interests. Before her move to Switzerland in 1968 her stage appearances included the leading part in Sherriff's MISS MABEL, where she played a 90-year-old woman while herself only 19 ! Barbara has had key roles in all The Semicircle's straight productions and will be remembered also for her personification of Marie Lloyd in OLD TIME MUSIC HALL.



TED FORD

Ted Ford started amateur dramatics (including Shakespeare) at the age of 9 at a boys' club in London, and as a child also appeared in plays with adults, in amateur productions. In Basle he has been seen in the musical shows JUBILEE REVUE, OLD TIME MUSIC HALL, THE FANTASTICKS, and A SEASIDE SHOW. Ted came from Geneva to Basle in 1961 and is now a Swiss citizen ; he is a corrector of the press at a publishing house.



ANTHONY M. JAMES

Tony James who is 32, is a computer programmer for an international organization in Basle. He made his Semicircle début as Algernon in THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, but had previously had wide amateur stage experience with a group in Southsea, where his roles included the Emlyn Williams part of Morgan Evans in THE CORN IS GREEN. In his spare time, Tony enjoys tennis, squash, model aeroplane flying, skiing, bridge and drinking.



JOAN KUSTER

Now actually visible on stage for the first time, Joan Kuster has previously been in close proximity throughout as prompter in THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST and has also helped out-front and backstage for HAY FEVER and A SEASIDE SHOW. Born in Liverpool, Joan came to Switzerland in 1967 to work and is now (married to our Production Manager Ruedi Kuster) a housewife and mother.



RUTH MEIER

Born in Birmingham, Ruth Meier is now a housewife with three children. With no acting experience except as a witch in school panto, Ruth is a new member of The Semicircle. She has lived in New Zealand (where she did some modelling from 1957 to 1959) and Australia.



GRAHAM SIMONS

A lawyer by profession, Graham Simons comes of a family with a long tradition of amateur acting. He has been a member of The Semicircle since it was founded and he has appeared in several previous productions, including DEAR CHARLES, HAY FEVER and THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, in which he played John Worthing. In England he has played in PRESENT LAUGHTER before - as Roland Maule. Graham works for an international organization in Switzerland and is President of the Swiss-British Society, Basel. He is married and has two sons, the younger of whom is already following in his father's (stage) footsteps.



BRYAN TAYLOR

Bryan Taylor has appeared in all The Semicircle's play productions and also in the Basle University English Seminar's MACBETH (as the Porter). Before coming to Switzerland 15 years ago, Bryan was active in amateur dramatics in England for several years, playing a wide variety of roles. He is a medical translator at one of the Basle chemical companies, is married to Muriel Taylor (who will be remembered as Lady Bracknell in THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST and is wardrobe mistress for this production), and has three sons and a daughter, Caroline - the first Semicircle Taylor of the next generation.



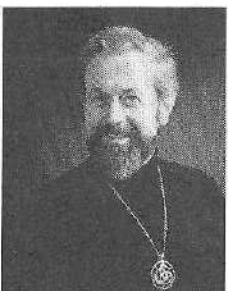
CAROLINE TAYLOR

At 19, Caroline Taylor is the youngest member of The Semicircle. She is the daughter of Bryan and Muriel Taylor. Caroline is making her stage debut in this production, never having acted before except as an angel in a kindergarten Nativity play. She got her first whiff of the greasepaint as makeup girl for THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST. Caroline, who has lived nearly all her life in Basle, has finished school and plans to go up to Fribourg to read psychology in autumn 1983.



DIANA ZUGER

A housewife with two children, Diana Zuger started acting at school and was a member of drama groups in England until she came to Switzerland 15 years ago. As a founder member of The Semicircle she has had roles in all its previous productions, both straight and musical, and was last seen as the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax in THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.



PETER G. BROBERG

Peter Broberg has been The Semicircle's play producer ever since it was founded. He qualified at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, and is a Gold Medallist of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Subsequently he gained acting and producing experience in several places, including English-speaking theatre groups in Berlin, Hamburg and Frankfurt, where his roles included that of Garry Essendine. Recently he has been seen in German versions of Shakespeare and in Dürrenmatt on the open-air stage of the Burgfestspiele at Rötteln. Having transferred his professional activity to journalism, he currently works as an industrial editor with Ciba-Geigy.

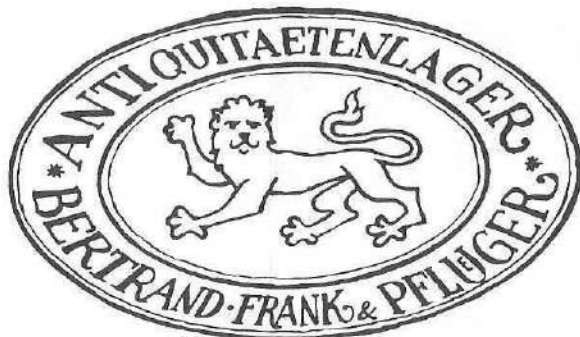
RUDOLF KUSTER

Ruedi Kuster is the man behind the scenes who holds the whole production (including months of preparation) together. He was Front of House Manager for HAY FEVER, A SEASIDE SHOW and THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST. As a structural engineer he works in the computer section of a large civil engineering firm. Born 1947 in Basle, Ruedi is married to Joan Kuster, who plays Miss Erikson in tonight's production.

ANTIQUITAETEN

*für die Zukunft kaufen,
denn unsere Antiquitäten sind gediegen und werterhaltend.*

*Ein vielfältiges Angebot von englischen Antiquitäten
für Sie ausgewählt.*



*Wällstrasse 17 in Basel
Dienstag bis Freitag 14-1830 Uhr Samstag 10-17 Uhr*

COIFFURE LANG



Coiffure Lang
Telefon 35 85 45
Bruderholzstrasse 62
4053 Basel

The Semicircle needs
YOU!

Phone Joan Kuster
72 62 73

Beginners welcome:
- actors & actresses
- backstage
- front of house
- administration
or any combination of these!

NOEL COWARD 1899 - 1973.

1899	Born Middlesex
1911	West End stage début
1923	The Vortex
1924	Hay Fever
1928	This Year of Grace
1929	Bitter-Sweet
1930	Private Lives
1931	Cavalcade
1932	Design for Living
1935	Tonight at 8.30
1937	Autobiography, Vol. 1
1939	Present Laughter
	This Happy Breed
1941	Blithe Spirit
1942	In Which We Serve
1945	Brief Encounter
1950	Relative Values
1954	In cabaret, London
	Autobiography, Vol. 2
	Nude with Violin
1955	In cabaret, Las Vegas
1958	Look After Lulu
1959	Waiting in the Wings
1960	Novel
1965	Suite in Three Keys
1970	Knighted
1973	Died in Jamaica

On his death Sir Noel Coward left behind him some 50 plays, 25 films, hundreds of songs (both sentimental and satirical), 2 autobiographies, several volumes of short stories, a novel, diaries, and various poems and paintings. In addition to being a playwright, author, film script writer, composer, librettist, artist and poet, he had also achieved fame in his lifetime as a stage and film star ; a concert, TV and cabaret artist ; a stage and film director and producer ; a socialite, a friend of Royalty and a wit.

