



The Semi-Circle Takes Pleasure In Inviting You To An Evening of 3 One-Act Plays:

An Englishman Abroad by Alan Bennett, directed by Richard Levitt

Cold Salmon by John Bowen, directed by Joy Scherer

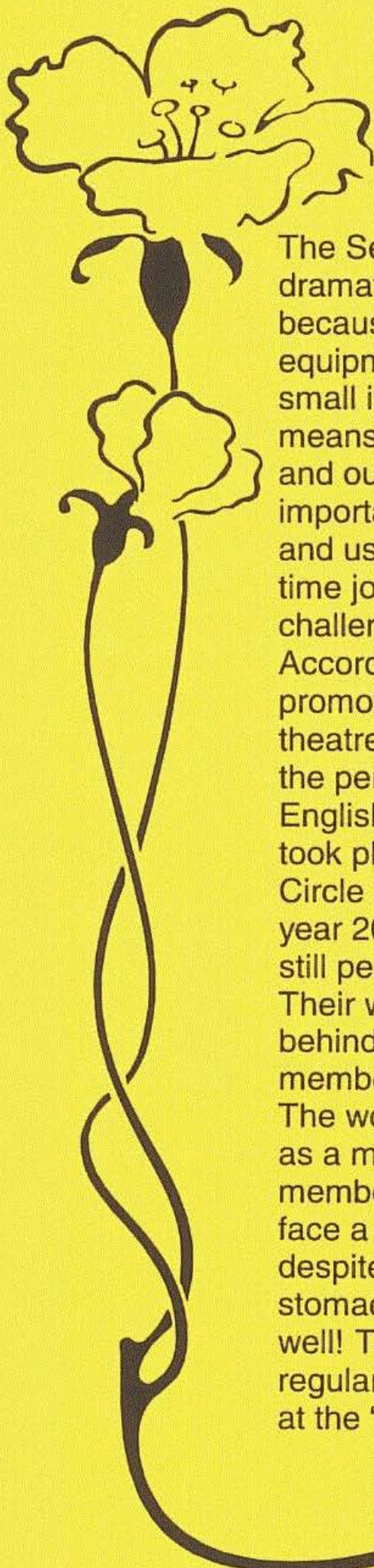
The Problem by A. R. Gurney Jr., directed by S. McKenzie and R. Scriven

March 17, 18, 19, 20 and 24, 25, 26, at 7.30 p.m. At the Cellar Theatre of the Schönes Haus, Nadelberg 6 in Basel. Ticket sales at Bider & Tanner, Aeschenvorstadt 2, 4051 Basel, phone 061/206'99'99 and Box Office.

ALL RESERVED TICKETS MUST BE PICKED UP NO LATER THAN 4 P.M. ON THE DAY OF THE PERFORMANCE.

**Semi
circle**

ABOUT THE SEMI-CIRCLE



The Semi-Circle is a non-profit-making amateur dramatic society. Non-profit-making? Yes, because profits are used to buy much needed equipment such as new spotlights, tools and small items of furniture. And amateur? This means that all our directors, actors, actresses and our backstage helpers, who are just as important, are doing all this on a voluntary basis and usually coping with the demands of a full time job and family life at the same time: a challenge, but well worth taking up!

According to the statutes, the society exists "to promote the appreciation of English-speaking theatre in the region of Basel, mainly through the performance of dramatic works in the English language." The first public performance took place in 1975, which means that the Semi-Circle looks forward to its silver jubilee in the year 2000. Some of the original members are still performing or assisting, as keen as ever! Their wealth of experience both onstage and behind the scenes benefits the club's many new members.

The workshop productions were started in 1986 as a more informal testing ground, enabling members with little or no stage experience to face a smaller audience and discover that, despite the inevitable "butterflies in the stomach", they manage to survive and even do well! The concept has since developed into our regular evenings of one-act plays, almost always at the "Schönes Haus".

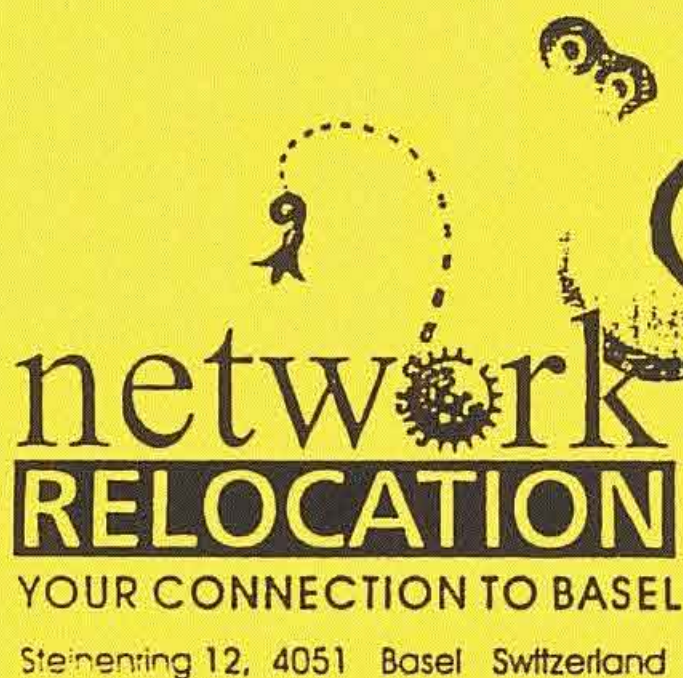


Whilst putting on plays is the main aim of The Semi-Circle, informal events are regularly held throughout the year. These include play readings, acting workshops, a skiing weekend, and our very popular January party.

If all this sounds like something which would interest you, or if you're "stage struck" and want to help, either with productions or with the organization of events, please contact us. New members, with or without experience, are always welcome. Calmness when things get hectic and a flair for team work are the assets which are most appreciated.

The reward for your commitment? Work in a dedicated team for a Semi-Circle event can be an exciting break from everyday life and enormous fun. So please either fill out one of the forms which you will find on the ticket desk or call our Secretary, Ann Maerki, Tel. (061) 481 90 61 for more information.

The Semi-Circle would like to thank NETWORK RELOCATION for their cooperation in connection with this production.



'HELLO BASEL'

Our magazine is packed full of information and articles about Basel and the surrounding area. Its aim is to keep you our client, abreast of everything going on in the area, e.g. traditions, politics, changes in laws and insurance, along with interesting Articles about people, places and activities.

We at Network look forward to meeting you in our office and assisting you with a smooth transition into your new environment. Please telephone for an appointment or drop by during office hours.

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Leslie Rijpstra
Carole Zurbuchen
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OFFICE HOURS

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ADDRESS

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AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD

by Alan Bennett

Directed by Richard Levitt

Guy Burgess

Norman Koeth

Coral Browne

Zuzana Cox

Tolya/Tailor/Shop assistant

Louis van Niekerk

Based loosely upon a true incident, Alan Bennett relates Coral Browne's meeting with Guy Burgess. She was a celebrated actress from Australia who happened to be on tour in a production of "Hamlet" in Moscow in 1958. He was a civil servant who fled to Russia from Britain in 1951 when he was warned that he might be accused of spying.

This is a play of character rather than action. Coral visits Burgess in his somewhat dismal Russian apartment where he lives with his current lover, and they discuss life in England, pointing out the good and bad about English society. Burgess would like to get himself a new suit made by an English tailor.

The action of the play takes place in Burgess's flat in Moscow.

Time: 1958

There will be a break of 20 minutes after this play. Refreshments will be available at the bar upstairs.

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"An Englishman Abroad" is also going to be performed by The Semi-Circle at the Festival of European Anglophone Theatrical Societies which takes place this year in the Forum Theatre, Meyrin, Geneva, on 21st-24th May. A total of twelve plays are being submitted by groups from all over Europe. If you would like to know more about this event, please pick up an information sheet at the ticket desk, or you can contact David Cox, Tel. 741 18 90.

THE PROBLEM

by A. R. Gurney, Jr.

Directed by Sheila McKenzie and Rebecca Scriven

The Husband

Michael Clarke

The Wife

Susannah Todd

After 10 years of marriage, a comfortable couple faces an unexpected challenge that threatens the normal equilibrium of domestic life. Can their relationship possibly survive?

Scene: A suburban home

Time: the present.

All three plays are being performed by permission of Samuel French Ltd., London

HARD AT WORK BEHIND THE SCENES.....

Production Manager: Christine Commerci

Stage Manager: Sonia Dell

Lighting: Roger Kleiber

Publicity/Cover design: David Foggetta

Programme: Sue Stafford

Bar: Peter Berrie

Box Office: Ann Maerki

Set building: Tony Fenn

Plus many willing, indispensable helpers, especially on the bar, the box office, and setting up the stage, without whom this production would not be possible. Thanks to everyone not mentioned by name.

COLD SALMON

by John Bowen

Directed by Joy Scherer

Prompter: Helen Baldomero

Harry Farnham

Eric Collino

Elsie

Valerie Walder

Angie Outhwaite

Diana Zuger

Beth Farnham

Mil Taylor

Liz

Andrea Patient

Janice

Suzan Wilson

Pearson

Tony O'Sullivan

Rosemary

Louisa Breckenridge

Lester

John Gleaves

Dad

Dennis Dell

In the neglected graveyard of a clifftop church we encounter both the quick and the dead. Harry, deceased for nearly 30 years, is waiting for his wife, Beth, to join him. Unable to be seen, or to communicate with the living - except in certain unusual circumstances - Harry can only watch helplessly as his daughter Angie wheels the now ageing Beth to the graveside for their monthly visit. Then a five-strong family arrives to scatter Dad's ashes in his ancestral plot. Angie and Beth are invited to share their picnic and, as family secrets are revealed amid social posturing and discord, Harry sees his chance to reach out to Beth - the cold salmon is the key!

Time: the present. A summer's day.

The Semi-Circle wishes to thank Theatergruppe Reinach for the kind loan of a major prop for the play "Cold Salmon".

NEWCOMERS TO THE SEMI-CIRCLE

The Semi-Circle has great pleasure in introducing four new people on stage tonight.



Louisa Breckenridge

Louisa Breckenridge's only previous theatrical experiences were playing a star and a stone in a primary school production of "The Seven Ravens", and acting as waitress during a school play. In previous years she has put in a valuable contribution working back stage and front of house in Semi-Circle productions.

John Gleaves

John Gleaves is a translator by profession and has been living in Basel for two years. This is his second stage appearance as an actor. In his free time John can be found making or listening to music, roaming the local vineyards or in the kitchen, pursuing his quest for the ultimate curry.

Andrea Patient

Andrea Patient is a native New Mexican. She has been living in Basel with her husband for the past year and has just started a job with one of the pharmaceutical companies. Her acting debut was made at the age of nine when she played Gretel in a school production of "Hansel and Gretel".

Susannah Todd

Susannah obtained a Masters in contemporary French theatre from Grenoble University in 1997. She was first interested in the stage aged 5 and has appeared in amateur productions in England, Belgium and France. A future aim is to explore radio drama.

