

Leeds Arts Centre present

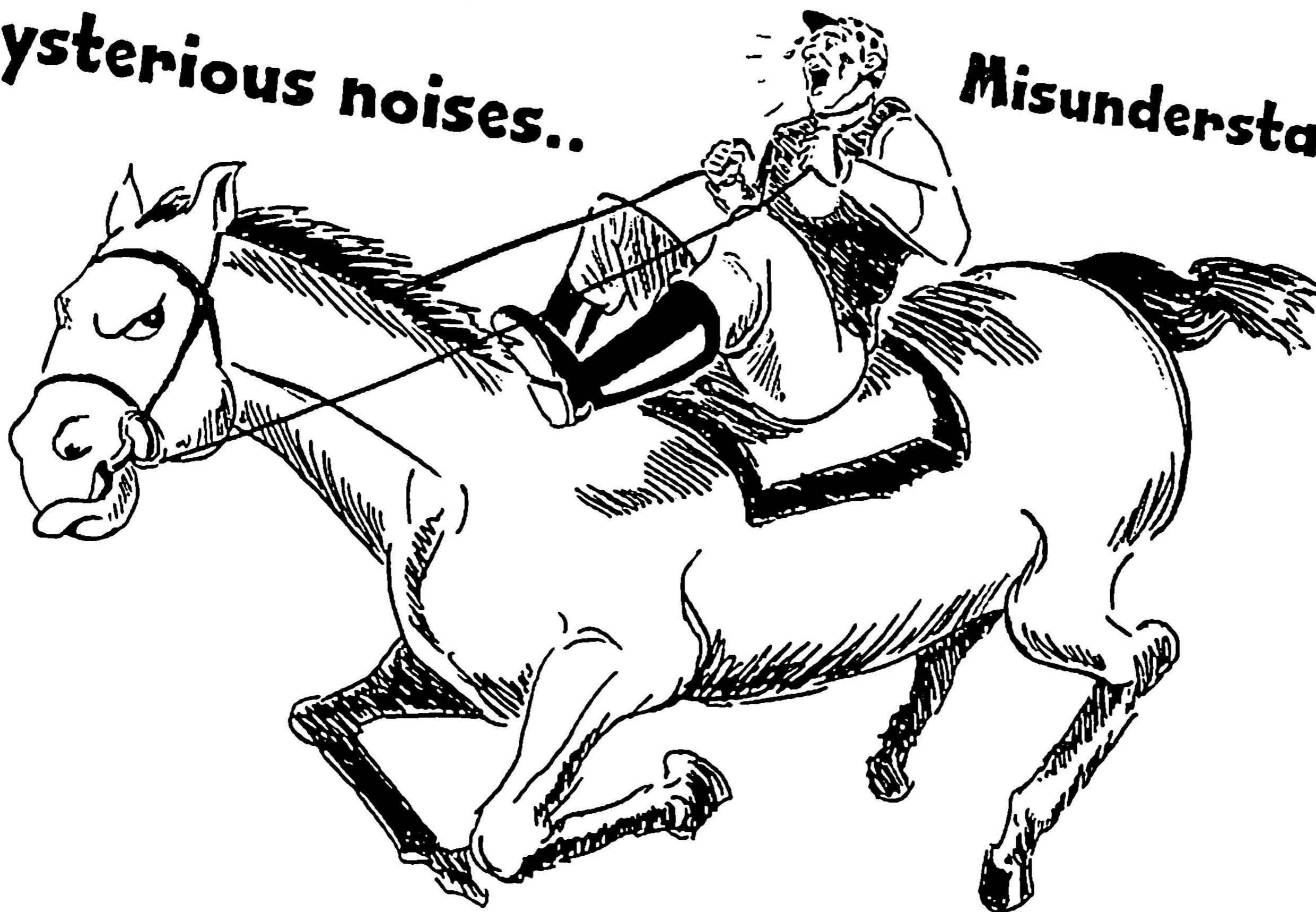
A farce by John Chapman

DRY ROT

directed by Margaret Davey

Mysterious noises..

Misunderstandings...



...and a lethal staircase!

Thursday 20 June - Saturday 22 June 2013



Leeds Arts Centre uses McCarthy's Storage World for all their storage needs and we are pleased to support the society and their productions.

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Phil Dodgson & Partners Limited



Phil Dodgson & Partners are Pudsey based accountants offering services throughout West Yorkshire and surrounding areas and are pleased to work with Leeds Arts Centre in the preparation of their annual accounts.

49 Chapeltown, Pudsey, West Yorkshire, LS28 7RZ
Tel: 0113 255 7406



Leeds Arts Centre is a prestigious amateur theatre group founded in 1945, and member of the Leeds Civic Arts Guild.

We are a friendly society, working together to maintain the high standards for which our productions are known. We produce four to five plays each year at the Carriageworks Theatre, as well as organising workshops to help members to develop their acting, directing and production skills.

We offer opportunities to all who are interested in becoming involved with any aspect of drama, including acting, directing, stage management, props, designing, costumes, lighting, sound, publicity and front of house.

New members are always welcome!

If you are interested in acting, directing, designing or making scenery or costumes, helping backstage with stage management or props, or lending a hand with publicity, then please speak to one of our members front of house this evening, or in the theatre bar after the show.

You can also write, with contact telephone number, for further information to:

The Secretary, Leeds Arts Centre
c/o The Carriageworks Theatre
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
or e-mail us at: publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

To find out more about the activities and forthcoming productions of the Leeds Arts Centre visit our website at www.leedsartscentre.org.uk.

Leeds Civic Arts Guild



The Leeds Civic Arts Guild is the 'umbrella' association of various amateur dramatic, musical, operatic and other voluntary arts societies & companies, that are based in the centre of Leeds, at the Carriageworks Theatre. Each group has their own identity, however they all come together as part of the Guild, working with Leeds City Council and the Carriageworks. The member societies are:

Cosmopolitan Players
Leeds Amateur Operatic Society
Leeds Arts Centre
Leeds Art Theatre
Leeds Children's Theatre
Leeds Gilbert & Sullivan Society
LIDOS
Leeds Writers Circle
Leeds Youth Opera
Morley Amateur Operatic Society
Shatterproof Theatre Company
STARS
St. Mary's Youth Theatre
West Riding Opera

To learn more about the groups and societies, why not come along to the Carriageworks Theatre bar on the second Tuesday of each month at 8.00pm where you can meet a member of the Guild Executive for an introductory chat, and a tour of the facilities at the Carriageworks Theatre.

For more information please visit <http://www.lcag.btck.co.uk/> or <http://lcag.boards.net>



**LEEDS ARTS
CENTRE**

DRY ROT

BY JOHN CHAPMAN

DIRECTED BY MARGARET DAVEY

Set in the 1950s, all of the action takes place in the main hall of The Bull & Cow country hotel. Having recently bought the hotel, the Wagstaff family, headed by the eccentric retired Colonel Wagstaff, has to contend with forthright and flirtatious country chambermaid Beth, incompetent Cockney criminals, a French guest who speaks no English and, of course, dry rot.

Bookie, Alfred Tubbe, along with his assistant, Fred Phipps, arrive as the first guests at The Bull & Cow. Putting on 'is airs and graces, Alfred Tubbe pretends to be a respectable businessman. Yet he is actually planning to switch the favourite horse at the big race with a docile replacement, so that he makes a fortune by betting on the favourite losing.

Secret rooms, sliding panels, mysterious noises in the night, an almost lethal staircase and a nice little bit of romance are some of the main ingredients of this timeless farce.

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION IS:

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest

by Dale Wasserman, from the novel by Ken Kesey

Thursday 24 October to Saturday 26th October 2013

7.30pm, Carriageworks Main Auditorium

Tickets on sale now £12, £9 concessions

Cast

Colonel Wagstaff

Ken Taylor

Mrs Wagstaff

Maureen Willis

Susan Wagstaff

Lindsey Whitehead

Beth Barton

Tori Morgan

John Danby

James Underwood

Alfred Tubbe

Jonathan Byrne

Fred Phipps

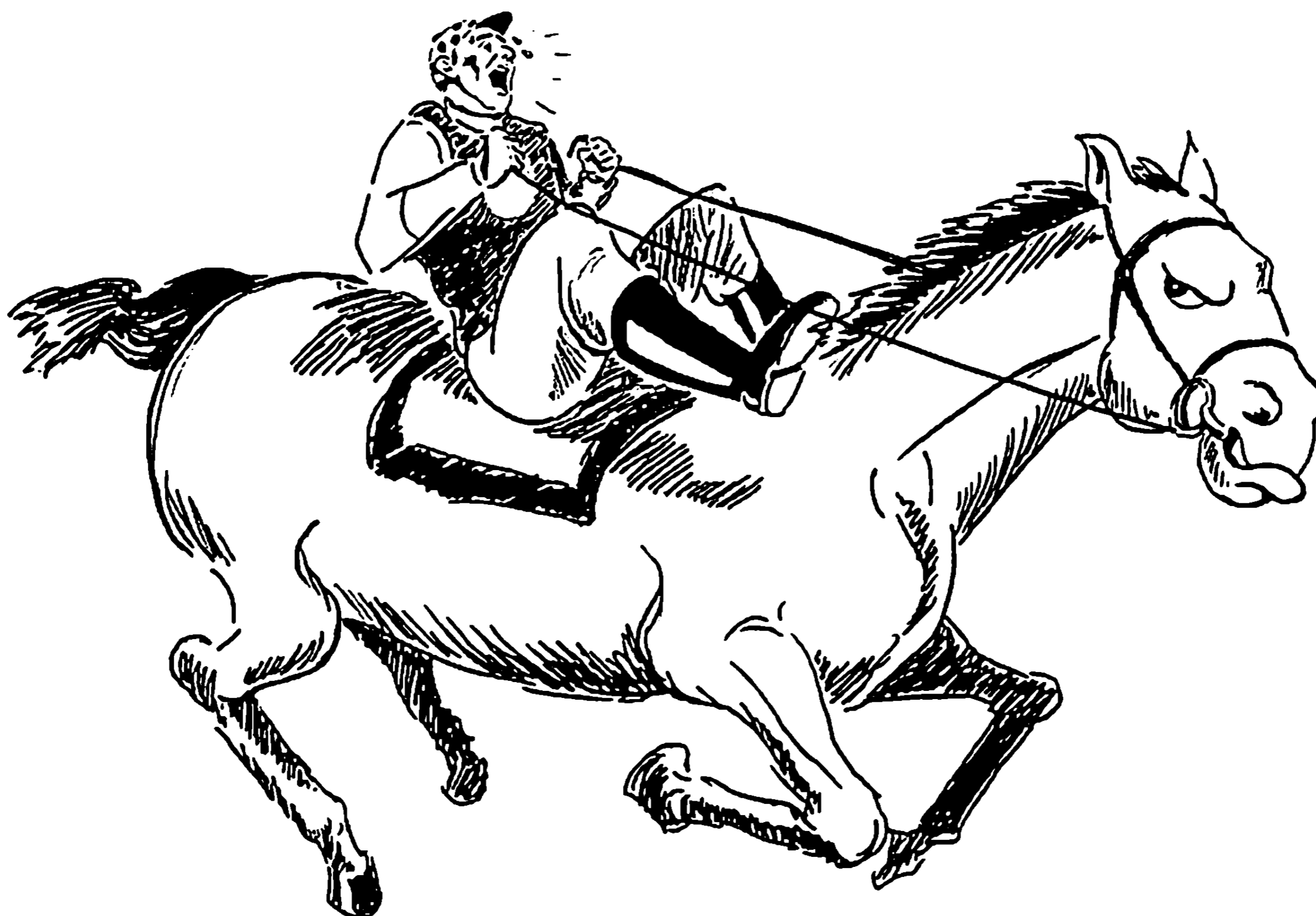
Ian Noble

Flash Harry

Ed Corbet

Albert Polignac

Alan Buttery



Production Team

Director	Margaret Davey
Production Manager	Margaret Savage
Stage Manager	Steve Fryatt
Assistant Stage Managers	Ben Hopwood, Dan Clarke
Set Design	Steve Fryatt, Pete Sandles
Set Construction	Rich Francis, Steve Fryatt, Pete Sandles
Set Painting	LAC Team
Furniture and Set Dressing	Pam Wilson
Props	Fiona Galloway, Rebekah Johnston
Costumes	Zoe Freedman, Caroline Barlow
Sound Recording and Operation	Christopher Watson
Lighting Technician	Peter Waddicor & Carriageworks Theatre Staff
Fly Operator	Pete Sandles
Prompt	Debs Sandles
Front of House Manager	Robin Thornton
Front of House Team	LAC Members
Publicity	David Wheatley
Poster Design	Dave Gannon
Photography	James W Bell



Notes from the Director

This is the second time I have directed *Dry Rot*. The first time was two years ago for Scholes Village Players. It was a huge success, playing to full houses every night and was great fun for both the actors to perform and the audience to watch. It was this success that gave me the urge to direct the play for the Leeds Arts Centre and the wider audience that it attracts.

Listed in the National Theatre's top 100 plays, John Chapman's sophisticated farcical comedy *Dry Rot* was first staged at the Whitehall Theatre in 1954 starring Brian Rix as Fred Phipps. It ran for three years and was one of the most successful farces ever to have appeared in London's West End. Written by John Chapman, who wrote over 200 TV comedies including *The Liver Birds* this hilarious farce is one of the finest examples of the genre.

Dry Rot is reminiscent of the *Carry On* franchise at its very best and two years later in 1956 it was made into a film featuring Sid James as Flash Harry and Peggy Mount as Sergeant Fire and the film became just as popular as the play. It also contains many of the cheeky slapstick elements typical of the period which seem all the cheekier now.

Even on the second time of directing this play still has the ability to make me laugh and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I do.

Margaret Davey



Social Media

Facebook



[http://www.facebook.com/
groups/LeedsArtsCentre/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/LeedsArtsCentre/)

News and info

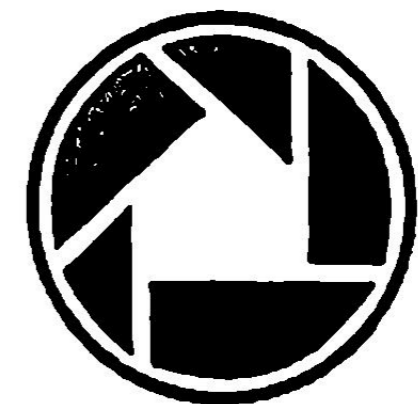
Twitter



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Updates on the go

Picassa



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Archived artwork

Visit www.leedsartscentre.org.uk

Acknowledgments

The director would like to thank Diaego for providing the whiskey bottle labels.

DIAGEO

www.diageo.com

The programme for this production was produced with the kind assistance of

Lewis Francis Blackburn Bray
solicitors

14-16 Paradise Square Sheffield S1 2DE

0114 272 9721

www.lfbbsolicitors.co.uk

Advertising and Sponsorship

Leeds Arts Centre is a registered charity and non-profit making organisation. We are currently looking for companies and organisations that would benefit from advertising in our programmes or sponsoring our productions.

To find out more, contact:

The Publicity Officer, Leeds Arts Centre

c/o The Carriageworks

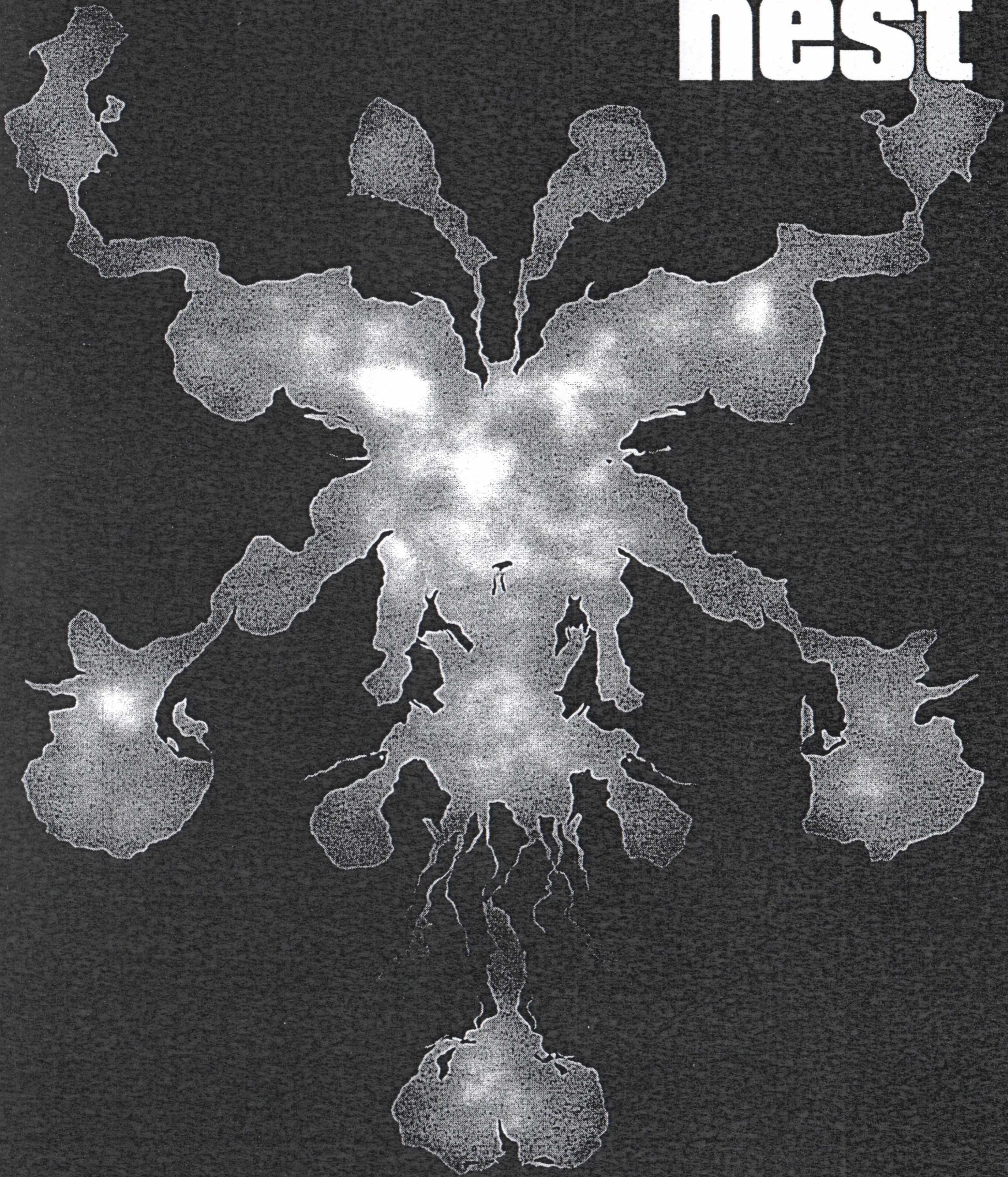
Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD

or e-mail us at: publicity@leedsartscentre.org.uk

Coming Soon

Leeds Arts Centre present

one flew over the cuckoo's nest



A play by Dale Wasserman, based on the novel by Ken Kesey



THE NEXT LEEDS ARTS CENTRE PRODUCTION IS

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST

by Dale Wasserman, from the novel by Ken Kesey

Thursday 24 October to Saturday 26th October 2013

7.30pm, Carriageworks Main Auditorium

Tickets on sale now £12, £9 concessions

Contact the Carriageworks Theatre Box Office on 0113 224 3801

Future productions:

FEBRUARY 2014

Money in the Bank

by Curth Flatow, translated by Alan Buttery

APRIL 2014

Picasso at Lapin Agile

By Steve Martin

JULY 2014

Oleanna

By David Mamet

Upcoming Leeds Civic Arts Guild productions at the Carriageworks

Leeds Youth Opera present

CARMEN

3 to 6 July 2013

<http://www.lcag.btck.co.uk> <http://lcag.boards.net>