## LEEDS LEISURE SERVICES Civic Theatre

# LEEDS ARTS CENTRE presents



23rd - 27th JUNE, 1981

"The Norman Conquests" is a trilogy of plays concerning a group of related people. The plays, consisting of "Table Manners", "Round and Round the Garden" and "Living Totgether", are not consecutive, but all occur during a single weekend in different parts of the same house.

The plays, which are complete in themselves, and can be seen in any order, were first presented by the Library Theatre Company, Scarborough, in June 1973.

"Round and Round the Garden" is the first of the trilogy to be presented at the Civic Theatre.

"The Norman Conquests are the result of several days and nights of almost continuous writing in the Spring of 1973. It's difficult for me to remember why I chose to tackle this most ambitious and, frankly, seemingly uncommercial project. Trilogies, I was informed by my London sources as soon as the news leaked out that I was writing one, are not Good Things for the West End.

When I first considered the trilogy, I was aware that it would be optimistic to expect an audience to be able to give up three nights to come to one theatre. Any suggestion that it was essential to see all three plays to appreciate any one of them would probably result in no audience at all. The plays would have to be able to stand independently. Once I had sorted out the scheme, the problem of how to write it arose. I'm not one of those careful, methodic over-all planners. When I start a play, beyond an entirely general pattern, I have little or no idea what will become of my characters individually at the end. I generally follow their progress with a more or less benign interest and hope that the staging and construction will be taken care of by some divine subconscious automatic pilot."

#### Alan Ayckbourn

Alan Ayckbourn was born in London in 1939 and has worked in the Theatre, one way or another, since leaving School at the age of 17. Acting jobs came and went in rep., and between 1965 and 1969 he produced radio drama from the BBC Leeds Studios. Since 1969 he has been Director of Productions at the Library Theatre and later the Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round, Scarborough. His plays include "Relatively Speaking", "Absurd Person Singular", "Bedroom Farce" and most recently, "Season's Greetings".

#### **CAST**

Tom Malcolm Brown

Annie Maggie Holt

Norman David Scott

Reg George Teale

Sarah Ann Benson

Ruth Anne Robinson

DIRECTED BY JOYCE M. KING

The action of the play passes in a Victorian country Vicarage-type house during a weekend in Summer.

Time: The Present

Act 1 Scene 1 Saturday 5.30 p.m.

Scene 2 Saturday 9.00 p.m.

**INTERVAL - 15 MINUTES** 

Act 2 Scene 1 Sunday 11.00 a.m.

Scene 2 Monday 9.00 a.m.

The Theatre bar will be open during the interval and ice creams will be on sale in the Theatre foyer.

#### FOR LEEDS ARTS CENTRE:

Stage Manager George Westmoreland

Assistant Stage Manager Les Wormald

Set Design Malcolm Brown

Prompt Jean Davey

Properties Gillian Thresh

Doreen Parker

Sound Malcolm Holmes

Publicity Robin Clayton

Front of House Chris Wilson

**Denise Swift** 

Box Office John Pemberton

Liaison Maggie Rhodes

#### FOR LEEDS CIVIC THEATRE:

General Manager & Licensee Brian Goddard

Assistant Manager &

Resident S.M. Nicholas Morris

Assistant Stage Manager Anthony McManus

Deputy Stage Manager Pauline Mower

Theatre Electrician Peter Waddicor

In accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Sub-Committee of Leeds City Council:

- a) The public may leave at the end of each performance by all exit and entrance doors and such doors must at that time be open.
- b) All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions.
- c) Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the intersecting gangways or stand in any unseated space in the auditorium unless standing space has been specially allowed by the Licensing Committee. A notice is exhibited in that part of the auditorium in which standing has been sanctioned.
- d) The safety curtain must be lowered and raised once immediately before each performance to check that it is in proper working order.

### OUR FIRST PRODUCTION OF THE 1981/82 SEASON WILL BE:—

#### "THE HOLLOW CROWN"

an anthology by JOHN BARTON

Producer - GORDON CARLIN

29th September — 3rd October 1981

#### WE SHALL ALSO BE PRESENTING ......

"THE IMAGINARY INVALID"

by MOLIERE

Producer - MALCOLM BROWN

8th - 12th December 1981

NEXT WEEK .....

Leeds Silver Liners A.O.D.S.

present

"CALAMITY JANE"

#### **LEEDS ART CENTRE**

LEEDS ART CENTRE was formed in 1945 as an amateur society to encourage and foster interest in the arts.

THE DRAMA GROUP presents five productions at the Civic Theatre each year — usually including a musical or revue type show.

THE GREEN ROOM GROUP puts on plays and other forms of entertainment in the rehearsal rooms to give members value experience of acting and producing before tackling major parts or productions in the Civic Theatre.

THE FINE ARTS GROUP meets twice each week throughout the year for drawing, painting and other creative work.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES are organised for members, such as theatre visits, outings, parties etc.

NEW MEMBERS are always welcome so if you are interested in joining or would like more information please ask our members at the Box Office this evening or write to:

The Secretary,
Leeds Arts Centre,
Stansfeld Chambers,
Great George Street,
Leeds 1.

BOOKINGS: Advance bookings for any of our shows may be made at the Tourist Information Office in Calverley Street adjoining the Central Lending Library during the month before a production, or at the Bond Street Centre. Alternatively you may ask at the Box Office this evening or telephone Leeds 892346.

COSTUME HIRE: Many different periods are available for hire from the Leeds Art Centre costume collection at reasonable rates.

If you are interested please telephone Leeds 756796 and discuss your requirements with Mrs. Margaret Rhodes, our wardrobe mistress.