

LEEDS LEISURE SERVICES  
LEEDS ARTS CENTRE

# THE WAY OF THE WORLD

WILLIAM CONGREVE

DIRECTED BY MARGARET RHODES



CIVIC THEATRE, COOKRIDGE ST., LEEDS 1  
7<sup>TH</sup> TO 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 1982, AT 7-30 P.M.

## **THE PLAY**

“Way of the World” is the way of life of a select society, where witty conversation, malicious gossip and quick repartee were common to everyone in that group.

The plot is a complex interweaving of relationships, friendships and family, and manipulation of law and marriage settlements.

The romantic interest centres on a prodigal Mirabell proving his worth to marry Lady Wishfort’s niece, Millamant, a young lady with firm ideas of what she required married life to be. Those who oppose him or finally help him do so with wit and elegance, where anything may happen in a comedy of manners.

## **THE AUTHOR**

William Congreve was born in Bardsey, near Leeds, in 1670, but spent his youth in Ireland. In 1686 he went to Trinity College, Dublin, as a classical scholar. The revolution of 1688 drove him back to England.

In 1691 he entered the Middle Temple to read law. From 1692 onwards, Congreve wrote four plays, the last of which, “The Way of the World”, was coolly received at its first performance. He resolved to write no further plays.

Modern audiences find the play more to their taste, possibly because of its complexity of plot, interesting characterization and mastery of dialogue.

# THE WAY OF THE WORLD

by Wm. Congreve

Produced by MARGARET RHODES

## CAST

FAINALL, in love with Mrs. Marwood	Mr. Scott
MIRABELL, in love with Mrs. Millamant	Mr. Mitchell
WITWOUD } followers of	Mr. Mallinson
PETULANT } Mrs. Millamant	Mr. Wormald
SIR WILFUL WITWOUD, nephew to Lady Wishfort	Mr. Barker
WAITWELL, servant to Mirabell	Mr. Cook
SERVANT, to Mirabell	Mr. Money
MESSENGER	Mr. Haigh
COACHMAN	Mr. Teale
LADY WISHFORT, enemy to Mirabell for having falsely pretended love	Mrs. Stevenson
MRS. MILIMANT, a fine lady, niece to Lady Wishfort, likes Mirabell	Mrs. Hadley
MRS. MARWOOD, friend to Fainall, likes Mirabell	Mrs. Wilson
MRS. FAINALL, daughter to Lady Wishfort, formerly friend to Mirabell	Mrs. Robinson
FOIBLE, woman to Lady Wishfort	Mrs. Triggs
MINCING, woman to Mrs. Millamant	Mrs. King
BETTY, Chocolate house maid	Mrs. Mitchell
PEG, Servant to Lady Wishfort	Mrs. Hamer
SERVANT, to Mirabell	Mrs. Swift
ENTERTAINERS	John Armitage, Martyn Drake, Michael Haigh, Nicolas Money, Susan Braime, Miriam Fletcher, Denise Forton, Nina Goldthorpe, Shirley Hamer, Julie Mitchell, Dorriene Pemberton, Denise Swift, Gillian Thresh, Julie Woods.
Songs arranged and played by	Diana Hunt
Dances arranged by	Jean Blundell
Prompts	Mary Nelson Jean Davey

## **FOR LEEDS ARTS CENTRE**

Stage Manager	Laurie Ball
Assistant Stage Manager	Jim Young
Music and Sound Effects	Simon Harding
Lighting	Peter Waddicor
Properties	Shirley Hamer Julie Mitchell Denise Swift
Peruques by	Jean Blundell
Costumes by	Elsie Bell Peggy Daker George Judd Christine Wilson
Wardrobe Mistress	Elsie Bell
Publicity	Stuart Mitchell Anne Robinson
Programme Cover	Malcolm Brown
Booking Manager	Peggy Daker
Box Office	John Pemberton
Front of House Manager	Dennis Stevenson

## **FOR LEEDS CIVIC THEATRE**

General Manager & Licensee	Brian Goddard
Resident Stage Manager	Anthony McManus
Deputy Stage Manager	Pauline Mower
Theatre Electrician	Peter Waddicor

### **SCENE: LONDON**

Act I – A chocolate House

Act II – St. James's Park

### **INTERVAL**

Act III – Lady Wishfort's House

There will be one interval of 15 minutes,  
when refreshments will be served in the bar.

**OUR NEXT PRODUCTION:—**

**“TEN TIMES TABLE”**

*by Alan Ayckbourn*

**15th – 19th February 1983**

**WE WILL ALSO BE PRESENTING:—**

**‘MY SISTER EILEEN’**

**19th – 23rd April 1983**

**NEXT . . . .**

**12th December “Incredible Night of Magic”**

**14th & 15th December “Smile”**

**17th December “A Fantasy of Dance”**

**18th December “Christmas Sparkle”**

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.

## **LEEDS ARTS CENTRE**

**LEEDS ARTS 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 valuable 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 575967.

**COSTUME HIRE:** Many different periods are available for hire from the Leeds Arts 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.