

**ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
THEATRE GUILD**

EVENING of SHORT PLAYS

**AT THE HUT
Wednesday, August 29
Thursday, August 30
Friday, August 31
1945**

JOHAN AUGUST STRINDBERG was born in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1849. His father was first a small tradesman, and later a successful merchant and shipping agent. August's earliest years were spent in the worst kind of poverty. His early education was at the Technological Institute where he studied zoology, anatomy, botany and physics. At nineteen he gave up the role of schoolmaster to become a student of medicine. But other powers undermined his application to science. The Dramatic Theatre was near at hand—he met writers and artists. By the end of the century, he was one of the most renowned of European dramatists. However much one may agree or disagree with the substance of his plays, he remains almost always unsurpassed technically and was practically the founder of the modern impressionistic theatre. His life, in many ways, was a varied and unhappy one; but as a dramatist, one writer states:—"he raised modern Swedish to the utmost potency of beauty and power." He died in 1912.

"The Stronger," written in 1890, is one of his briefest dramatic works. He called it "a scene."

LADY GREGORY was a woman of middle age when the Irish Dramatic Movement began. She had had wide experience of men and affairs in many countries; she was a great landowner, a widow of a distinguished Colonial Governor. Within a few years of commencing to write plays, she was the most popular comedy writer of the movement. She was the grand old lady of The Abbey Theatre, and contributed much to its development and to modern Irish drama—activities which she worked for and vitalised for thirty years. She published her last volume of plays in 1928. In 1932 she died at Coole in Galway.

"The Gaol Gate" is one of several brief plays which best depict the graver side of her imagination.

ANTON CHEKHOV (1860-1904) one of the most conspicuous writers of his period, was born in Taganrog in Russia. His father came from a family of liberated serfs. After receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Moscow, Anton started a literary career by sending short humorous sketches to the newspaper. His life was very quiet and uneventful. In 1890 he visited the convict prisons on the Island of Sakhalin, near Japan. In a later period he wrote a number of notable and still popular plays. Chekhov was more of a realistic painter, and his aim was to show life as it is, rather than to preach a new salvation.

"The Bear," written in 1890, may be taken as a good example of the sort of humour admired by the average Russian. It is interesting to note that in 1914 it was put on as a "curtain-raiser" to a cinematograph entertainment at a London theatre, and, it is stated, "had quite a pleasant reception from a thoroughly Philistine audience."

THE PLAYS

I. STRINDBERG.

"The Stronger"

Miss Y	-	-	-	-	-	ENID BROWN
Mrs. X	-	-	-	-	-	MARGARET WARD
The Waiter	-	-	-	-	-	TONY TAVERNA

Scene: Corner in a ladies' restaurant on Christmas Eve.

Directed by Kester Berwick.

II. LADY GREGORY.

"The Gaol Gate"

Mary Cahel	-	-	-	-	-	JESS LYNE
Mary Cushin (her daughter-in-law)	-	-	-	-	-	FAY NOBBS
The Gatekeeper	-	-	-	-	-	FRANK GARGRO

Scene: Outside the gate of Galway Gaol.

Directed by Thelma Boulderstone.

III. CHEKHOV.

"The Bear"

Elena Popova	-	-	-	-	-	HAYETTE MINTHER
Grigory Smirnov	-	-	-	-	-	SYDNEY A. DOWNIE
Luka	-	-	-	-	-	F. H. DAY

Scene: A drawing room in Popova's house.

Directed by F. H. Day.

Settings	-	-	MICHAEL JAMES
Lighting	-	-	BRUCE WALTON
Stage Management	-	-	F. J. WATSON

THE THEATRE GUILD

Patrons:

Professors E. Harold Davies and J. G. Cornell
Dr. Charles Fenner and Mr. Frank Johnston

President:

Professor J. I. M. Stewart

Committee:

Dr. T. D. Campbell	Dr. E. McLaughlin
Mr. Sydney A. Downie	Miss Mignon Michell
Miss Patricia Hackett	Miss Janet Paine
Miss Barbara Howard	Mr. Allan Sierp
Mr. Leo Howard	Miss Gwen Walsh
Mr. Herbert Kollosche	Mr. Bruce Williams
Mr. Roy Leaney	Mrs. Roma Williams

Notices

Communications and enquiries may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary and subscriptions sent to the Hon. Treasurer, care University. Subscriptions may also be paid on the evenings of performances.

On Monday and Tuesday, September 10 and 11, in association with the Conservatorium Opera Class, the Guild will present performances of Acts I and II of Mozart's opera, "The Marriage of Figaro." Performances will commence at 8.15 p.m. A limited number of guest tickets will be available at the University front office from Monday, September 3.

PLAYBOX PRODUCTION. This well-known amateur theatre group under the direction of Lloyd Prider, will give performances of "Lightning Strikes Twice", by an Australian author, Rex Rienits, in The Australia Hall on Thursday, September 20 and Friday, September 21.

UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 29th, 30th, and 31st August at 8.15 p.m.
in The Hut

The Guild will present an evening of special short plays

Strindberg: "The Stronger" directed by Kester Berwick

Lady Gregory: "The Gaol Gate" directed by Thelma Baulderstone

Tchekov: "The Bear" directed by Frank Day.

Note: The Friday evening performance is provided for Service personnel; any members who find Friday evening more convenient will be admitted. But members are asked to attend on the Wednesday or Thursday evenings if possible.

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On Monday and Tuesday evenings, 10th and 11th September, at 8.15 p.m. in The Hut

In association with the Guild, the Conservatorium Opera Class
will present

Acts I and II of Mozart's Opera "The Marriage of Figaro"

N.B. No further notice will be sent to members concerning this
opera production.

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A limited number of guest tickets will be issued at the University Front Office.
One guest ticket will be allowed on presentation of Guild Membership card. Will
those members who have already had guest tickets this year kindly allow other
members the opportunity of taking a guest.

GWIEN WALSH,

Hon. Secretary.