

TSA/ UaTg

1982.5 ✓

A Theatre Guild Production

Peter Kenma's

Furtive,  
Love



Nov 25-Dec 11  
Little Theatre

The Theatre Guild  
proudly presents

# Furtive Love

BY PETER KENNA

DIRECTED BY PETER GOERS

## CAST

(in order of appearance)

Joe Cassidy  
George Cooper  
Tom Parkinson  
Marie Smith-Tate  
Doris Dare  
Ned Thomas

GREG SCUDDS  
ROBERT CUSENZA  
JOHN EDGE  
PHYLLIS DIPROSE  
JO PEOPLES  
GORDON COLE

and

Clair, played by  
Cissie, played by  
Norman, played by  
Bob Casey, played by

DORIS  
MARIE  
TOM  
NED

The company would like to dedicate the play to the memory of Gloria Dawn.

The action of the play takes place on the stage of a theatre in Perth, Western Australia, and at Rottnest Island situated off the coast.

The time is summer, 1955.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes.

The bar in the foyer will be open before and after the show and during the interval.

'Furtive Love' is presented by special arrangement with Peter Kenna.

Programmes (50c) and 'Furtive Love' badges (75c) are available in the foyer.



'Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgiastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms further . . . And one fine morning . . . So we beat on, boats against the current, come back ceaselessly into the past'

(*The Great Gatsby*  
F Scott Fitzgerald)

Peter Kenna was born in 1930 into a large Irish Australian working class family who lived in Balmain, Sydney. He was educated at the Christian Brothers' College at Lewisham. His involvement with the performing arts began early. At the age of ten he was entertaining the troops in camps around Sydney and by the fifties he had established a reputation as a radio actor, starring in serials such as 'Portia Faces Life'.

When the Elizabethan Theatre Trust was founded in 1954 he turned his full attention to the stage. He first gained prominence as a playwright in 1959 with his third play 'The Slaughter of St Teresa's Day', which won the General Motors Holdens national playwrights competition. After almost a decade spent overseas in London he returned to Australia in 1971 and in 1973 he completed 'A Hard God' the first part of the Cassidy Album which has now attained the status of a modern classic.

When the Elizabethan Theatre Trust was founded in 1954 he turned

In 1973 he was awarded a grant from the Commonwealth Literature Board to complete the trilogy - 'Furtive Love' and 'An Eager Hope'.

The trilogy was performed in toto at the Adelaide Festival of Arts in 1978.

Peter Kenna's other works include 'Goodbye Gloria, Goodbye', 'Muriel's Virtues', 'Talk To The Moon', 'Mates', and 'Trespassers Will Be Prosecuted'.

He now lives on his home ground, Balmain.

'Furtive Love', originally titled 'Unrequited Passion', richly and imaginatively evokes Kenna's family background and his experiences as an actor in the fifties. Two obvious examples are his treatment of sexuality and Catholicism, and his portrayal of the character Doris who is based largely on the vaudeville artist, Gloria Dawn.

This work however, transcends mere autobiography in its portrayal of universal themes such as man's isolation, guilt, anxiety, his search for identity, and the conflict between his desire for freedom and the need for comfort.

Above all the play is concerned with love and more particularly man's frequently inept confrontations with intimacy whether it be between lovers, siblings or friends. What matters however, is that love is pursued and expressed, albeit furtively.

'The play is memory. Being a memory play ... it is sentimental, it is not realistic ... Memory takes a lot of poetic license. It omits some details; others are exaggerated according to the emotional value of the articles it touches; for memory is seated predominantly in the heart'

- 'The Glass Menagerie'  
Tennessee Williams

- Liz Campbell

Assistant Director/Dramaturg	LIZ CAMPBELL
Set Design	PETER GOERS
Costume Design	TERESA HOWIE
	ANDREA CLARE
Lighting Design	CHRISTOPHER MAHON
Graphic Design	NIGEL MURRAY-HARVEY
Stage Manager	DIGBY GIFFORD
Personal Assistant to Mr Goers	MICHAEL GORDON
Assistant Stage Managers	Roncia Knutsen
	Michael Gordon
Lights	Alison Wonderland
	Steven Knutsen
Sound	Mark Hastings
	Paul Teagle
Production Manager	Angela Turner

## PETER GOERS

Peter is the Artistic Director of the Guild for both this year and next. He is a graduate of Flinders University and has directed for many Adelaide theatre companies, most notably the Q Theatre. His 1982 Festival production of 'The Ruling Class' for the Guild was received with critical acclaim and won the highly coveted 'Advertiser' Critics Fringe Award.

## ROBERT CUSENZA

Rob is a noted Adelaide actor having played everything from Harpo Marx to a victim of cerebral palsy. He received critical plaudits for his performance as Tom Wingfield in 'The Glass Menagerie'. He has played many parts with the Q Theatre, Adelaide Rep and the Metropolitan Musical Theatre Co. He made his debut with the Guild in 'The Playboy of the Western World'.

## GREG SCUDDS

Greg appeared as Ariel in the Guild's recent production of 'The Tempest', and worked on 'The Devils' as Louis XIII and as Assistant Director. Other memorable roles include Mercutio in 'Romeo and Juliet' for SACW Phoenix, and Henry in 'The Skin of our Teeth' for Court Theatre Company.

## PHYLLIS DIPROSE

Phyllis is a well-known Adelaide actress having worked for many companies in such shows as 'Arsenic and Old Lace', 'The London Blitz Show' and 'Jack the Ripper'. This is her most welcome debut with the Guild.

## JOHN EDGE

John is a Lecturer in English at the University of Adelaide. He is a former president of the Guild, has been a member of the Ensemble since 1977, and has appeared in 16 Guild productions. His favourite roles include von Hierlinger in 'Tales From the Vienna Woods', and Phillip in 'Bits and Pieces'. He is currently Chairman of the Acting Company.

## JO PEOPLES

Jo is a favourite Guild performer having played many memorable roles. These include Meg in 'The Birthday Party', Oola in 'The Slaughter of St Teresa's Day' and Thelma in 'After Magritte'.

## GORDON COLE

Gordon began in theatre as an original member of the Melbourne Gang Show troupe. He has played in many plays in Perth including 'Uncle Vanya' and 'A Man For All All Seasons'. He appeared in the Guild's productions of 'The Devils' and 'The Tempest'.



## GUILD '83 GUILD '83 GUILD '83 GUILD '83

The Theatre Guild is pleased to announce its 1983 Season.

Artistic Director Peter Goers has devised an exciting and highly interesting programme for next year. The Season will include an extra production, giving a total of six productions.

Artistic Director  
Guest Directors

Peter Goers  
Jean Marshall  
Christopher Mahon  
George Curry

Next year all Guild productions will be mounted in the Little Theatre.

### GUILD ONE

ROOKERY NOOK by Ben Travers (1923).  
The greatest and funniest farce ever written.  
Opens March 17.

### GUILD TWO

THE WORLD OF CHARLES DICKENS.  
A dramatic potpurri of the writings of Charles Dickens, presented by George Curry. A South Australian Premiere. Opens April 6.

### GUILD THREE

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE by Tennessee Williams (1948). The compelling masterpiece of American theatre. Opens May 26.

### GUILD FOUR

THE ELEPHANT MAN by Bernard Pomerance (1980). The South Australian Premiere of this beautiful and poignant play. Opens July 21.

### GUILD FIVE

GARDEN PARTY by Edgar Metcalfe (1980).  
The South Australian Premiere of an hysterical and satirical Western Australian comedy.  
Opens September 15

### GUILD SIX

ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ?  
by Eric Bentley (1972). A haunting and provocative American investigation of the McCarthy communist witch-hunts. Opens November 10.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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