

ARTS ROUND-UP

Heavy weather

COMEDY relies so heavily upon the actor understanding the comic potential of a line that it can often fall totally flat if that potential is not realised.

"Out of the Question" by Ira Wallach is certainly not a great play but it does contain a large amount of material that could be very funny. Unfortunately Bletchingley Amateur Dramatic Society made very heavy weather of it. It may have simply been a lack of sufficient rehearsals, for the text was often shaky.

This in turn had the effect of slowing the pace of the play and standing between the actors and the characters they were portraying. This was a pity for the group has shown in the past that they have considerable expertise and have produced many excellent performances.

The play centres on the home of Celia and Andrew Pilgrim. Wendy Preston was quite credible as Celia. I had a Middle English lecturer very similar to her! Her attitude and the attack in her voice were quite right for the part

though as with the others her timing often misfired. Norman Perry seemed ill at ease as Andrew.

Emma from next door was far more comfortable than he ever was. It is often difficult to get to work in the actual set until the last minute but it is essential for the actors to work in the set for as long as possible if they are to convince us that it really is their home. Daphne Neville has the right stance and presence for Marian.

Joyce Jones gave the best performance of the evening as Emma.

It was refreshing to find that Geoff Cowperthwaite was able to maintain an American accent throughout the evening.

Felicity Lund radiated bouncy confidence as Joanna. It was difficult to see just why she was written in as she is killed off by the author so early in the play.

Costuming was of a high standard. The audience seemed smaller than usual and the play was only on for two nights.

BRIAN HICK

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

BOOK OF THE MONTH
MY THREE ANGELS
GOODNIGHT MRS. PUFFIN
WHEN WE ARE MARRIED
HAUL FOR THE SHORE
LOVE FROM A STRANGER
TILLY OF BLOMBSBURY
QUIET WEEKEND
HOME AND BEAUTY
THE RAPE OF THE BELT
THE BURNING GLASS
ON MONDAY NEXT
DEAR CHARLES
DANGER INSIDE
THE TRIAL OF MARY DUGAN
AND THIS WAS ODD
TRAVELLER WITHOUT LUGGAGE
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
I'LL GET BY MAN
MIDSUMMER MINK
QUIET WEDDING
A MURDER HAS BEEN ARRANGED
WHEN WE ARE MARRIED
HAY FEVER
LORD ARTHUR SAVILLE'S CRIME
BOOK OF THE MONTH

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We welcome new members who are interested in any aspect of amateur dramatics. Please contact the Hon. Secretary for further details: Mrs. Delia Hurrell, Chesterton, Godstone Road, Betchingley, Surrey. (telephone Godstone 3034)

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OUT OF THE QUESTION

by Ira Wallach

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Produced by Michael Wilson

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May 1977

Programme 5p.
Coffee 10p.

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A donation from the proceeds of the play will be made towards charity.

OUT OF THE QUESTION

By Ira Wallach

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CHARACTERS

CECILIA PILGRIM Wendy Preston
ANDREW PILGRIM Norman Perry
MAFIA JELICOE Daphne Neville
JOANNA PILGRIM Felicity Lund
EMMA LITTLEWOOD Joyce Jones
PETER LITTLEWOOD David Barker
OTIS CLIFTON Geoff Cowperthwaite

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The action of the play takes place in the living room of Andrew Pilgrim's home in London.

Act 1

Late one evening

Act 2

Next morning

Act 3

Next morning

Time: The Present

SET DESIGNER XXXXXX Marian Buck
STAGE MANAGER John Buck
SET DRESSED BY .. Meriel McLaughlin & Stuart Packer
SET BUILT BY John & Marian Buck, David Barker
PROPERTIES Stuart Packer
LIGHTING & MUSIC John Rodgers
PROMPT Joan Perry
WARDROBE the cast
MAKE UP Peggy Wheeldon
FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER Stanley Hurrell
BOX OFFICE Allan Bristow
COFFEE ARRANGEMENTS Mollie Simmonds
BUSINESS MANAGER Valerie Faulkner

**BLETCHINGLEY
AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

presents

'Out of the Question'

A Comedy by Ira Wallach Producer: Michael Wilson

at Bletchingley Village Hall
on FRIDAY and SATURDAY,
6th and 7th May 1977
at 8 p.m.

Doors Open at 7.30 p.m.

The Cast includes:—

DAVID BARKER, GEOFF COWPERTHWAIT, E,
FELICITY LUND, JOYCE JONES, DAPHNE NEVILLE,
NORMAN PRESS-PERRY, WENDY PRESTON

TICKETS 50p & 40p (Numbered & Reserved)

Obtainable from Bletchingley Post Office,
(Godstone 3201) or Society members.

Reduction of 5p per seat on block bookings of 12 or more.

A Donation from the proceeds will be made to Charity.

BOOKING FORM

Applications on this Form, sponsored by a member, will have priority
Please supply the undermentioned tickets, for which I enclose
the sum of £.....p (and stamped, addressed envelope)

Name.....

Address.....

| | 50p | 40p |
|-------------------|-----|-----|
| Friday, 6th May | | |
| Saturday, 7th May | | |

Member's Name.....

Address