

Youth Action Theatre History and Information

Youth Action Theatre is dedicated to stimulating the love of drama and theatre through drama workshops and production experience in young people aged 15 to 25. Other than age, there is no restriction on membership. Whilst the work is thoroughly enjoyed, a strict disciplined approach is maintained and dedication required to achieve the maximum possible professionalism and the highest standard in the final production.

Founded in 1970, YAT's first production in spring 1971 was *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Since then, it has presented more than seventy major productions of a full range of plays including classical, modern, progressive and musical.

Since 1981, YAT has taken a production abroad approximately once every two years. The first was *Godspell*, which was taken to Hamburg; Berlin has been visited three times along with trips to Vienna, Leipzig and Kiev (when still part of the Soviet Union). The summer 1995 tour of *Cider with Rosie*, the summer 1996 tour of *Juno and the Paycock* and the summer 1998 tour of *Adam Bede* were all taken to the Eastern Connecticut State University, USA.

In the last few years YAT has performed several World Premiere plays. All of these plays were written by members of YAT. The first was *Genghis Khan - Child of the Blue Wolf* written by David Wheatley, followed by *Briticanna* and *The Great Gatsby* both written by Colin Smith.

After this production, YAT will next meet at its regular workshop / rehearsal space at Collis School, Fairfax Road, Teddington. This first meeting will take place on Monday 27th November 2000 at 7:30pm and continue every week on Mondays and Thursdays up to Christmas. Newcomers are more than welcome!

For more information about our forthcoming activities:

You can call
Eric Yardley on 020-8979-7904
Look us up on the Internet at
www.yat.org.uk
or, Email us at
backstage@yat.org.uk



Eric Yardley
Founder of Youth Action Theatre

III The Madness of George

Directed by
Bill Compton

Written by
Alan Bennett

Cast

King George III	Scott O'Brien
Queen Charlotte	Dominique Crowley
Prince of Wales	Anjum Dosai
Duke of York	Sarah Watson
William Pitt	Rosie Waters
Henry Dundas	Nadia Hanbury-Aggs
Lord Thurlow	Natasha Puszczynska
Charles Fox	Karyn Scott
Sheridan	Cheryl Stockman
Captain Fitzroy	Sophie Vickers
Captain Greville	Geraldine Taylor
Lady Pembroke	Trine Taraldsvik
Margaret Nicholson	Mayumi Kawai
Papandiek	Miles Orrú
Fortnum	David Hookings
Braun	Adam Green
Sir George Baker	Emma Donaghy
Dr Richard Warren	Tim Read
Dr Willis	Mark Wren
Sir Lucas Pepys	Mayumi Kawai
Sir Boothby Skrymshir	David Hookings
Ramsden Skrymshir	Adam Green
Willis' Henchman	Bjarne Lyshede

Crew

Director	Bill Compton
Set Designer	Sophie Vickers
Stage Manager	Ben Davies
Production Assistant	Alex Beauchamp
Lighting Designer	Simon Roose
Sound Designer	Robin Nurse
Assisted by	Richard Eliot
Wardrobe	Eileen Baker
Assisted by	Alison Barker
	Margaret Boulton
Queen's Dresser	Pam Rooke
Set Construction	Dennis Baker
Assisted by	Various cast members

Special Thanks to:

Dennis & Eileen Baker, Sophie Vickers, Cyril Vickers, Joy McQuade, Linda Brignall, Robin Nurse, Richard Eliot, Steve Hogben, Ben Davies, Simon Roose, Dave Lewsey, Chris Ivey and of course Eric Yardley.

Production Notes

George III's behaviour has often been odd, but now he is deranged, with rumours circulating that he has even addressed an oak tree as the King of Prussia. Doctors are brought in, the government wavers and the Prince Regent manoeuvres himself into power.

Alan Bennett's play explored the court of a mad king, and the fearful treatments he was forced to undergo. It is about the nature of kingship itself, how by subtle degrees the ruler's delirium erodes his authority and status.

Director's Notes

I was conned into joining YAT back in early 1994 by David Wheatley, and I am pleased to say it was a decision I've never regretted. Since then I have always thought of YAT as my second home, so it was a great honour to be asked by Eric if I would direct this production.

Despite a few early difficulties, it has been an absolute pleasure to have this opportunity to work with such a strong cast and crew.

Bill Compton, November 2000