

You can join **YOUTH ACTION THEATRE (YAT)** if you are over fifteen and under twenty five. It won't cost you anything but you must have enthusiasm, commitment and be prepared to work hard. Now in its 30th. year, YAT provides experience in all aspects of acting and onstage and backstage skills through drama workshops and performances, under experienced leaders. We meet nearly every Monday and Thursday evening from 7.30 - 10.00 p.m. at Collis Junior School, Fairfax Road, Teddington. We have done nearly 70 major productions and 10 Summer overseas tours to Hamburg, Berlin (3), Vienna, Leipzig and Kiev and latterly, to the USA, at Eastern Connecticut State University (3).

YAT re-assembles after Easter, on Thursday, April 27th to start a new session of workshops. New members are welcome. Just come along to Collis School at 7.30 and join in or phone 0208-979-7904 for more details.

YAT is affiliated to - THE TEDDINGTON THEATRE CLUB and YAT members and ex-members can be found involved in most TTC productions. Founded in 1927 by a group of Teddington teachers, it has always been among the foremost local amateur groups, providing a full and varied programme of plays. TTC's goal has always been to have its own 'home', its own "little theatre". And last year this was finally achieved with the opening of THE HAMPTON HILL PLAYHOUSE. An appeal by TTC for funds, had been launched by TTC in 1991, to construct a small theatre on a piece of undeveloped land, on offer from the Richmond Council, in Hampton Hill High Street. More than three quarters of a million pounds was raised, mainly from local organisations, businesses and the community, enabling a 125 year lease to be signed and a building contract to construct the 'shell' of the new theatre. By 1995, a new player had appeared on the scene: the National Lottery. An application for funding to complete the interior and equip the theatre was approved. YAT played its part in achieving this goal and as an affiliated group, is able to perform here TONIGHT !

LEAFLETS ON - YAT - TTC - HHP are available in the Foyer or ask a member of staff.

NEXT T.T.C. PRODUCTION 6TH-13TH May 2000
"THE VISIT"

by Friederich Durrenmatt

YOUTH ACTION THEATRE Presents

"THE BIRCHAE"



ECM NEW SERIES

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Asiatic Women

Rosie Waters, Dominique Crowley,
Cheryl Stockman, Karen Scott

Dionysus

Faye Jameson

Guards

Mark Wren, Andrew Field

Teiresias

Richard Gilpin

Cadmus

Scott O'Brien

Pentheus

Jeremy Sachs

Herdsmen

Mark Wren, Tim Read, Scott O'Brien

Messengers

Mark Wren, Tim Read, Richard Gilpin

Agave

Sophie Vickers

There will be an interval of 15 minutes

CREW

Production designed and created by
Sarah Faulkner and Chris Kelly

Lighting designed and created by Jean Goodwin

Play directed by David Lewsey

"Ritual" movement created by David Wheatley

Sound constructed by Nick Eliot and David Lewsey

Sound operated by Robin Nurse

Stage-managed by Lynn Howes

Play produced by Eric Yardley

Thanks to:

Linda Brignall, Laurie Coombes,
Nick Eliot and Gary Stevenson at TTC;
the Performing Arts Department of Brooklands College
and Collis School - Teddington.

I am indebted to Professor R P Winnington-Ingram's classic interpretation of the Bacchae, "Euripides and Dionysus". It was written in 1938 and is now published by Bristol Classical Paperbacks. A word of caution, though, to students studying the play: in her introduction to the contemporary edition, P.E. Easterling comments that "the whole framework within which Dionysus is viewed has changed as perceptions of religious practice have changed with the emphasis shifting from theology and ethics to the analysis of cult and ritual as phenomena of social structure..... neither the women of the chorus nor any of the other characters are best understood as representing human beings in some more or less naturalistically conceived situation". So be it: we treated the characters as "real" and their situation as "real"; (it suited our strengths and weaknesses to do so) and, though our "interpretation" is very much our own, it was reassuring to find our approach supported, in essence, by Winnington-Ingram's reading.

David Lewsey