

FROM THE AUTHOR

I'd had the idea in my mind for nearly twenty years — ever since, way back in the Sixties, I read a short article in an American newspaper about a mysterious and badly disfigured stranger in a wheelchair on a remote Greek island: nobody seemed to know who he was but it was fun guessing. 'To the Island' isn't set in Greece or America nor does it take place in the Sixties and if by chance you spot any similarities between the play and some of the historic happenings of '63 — well — best really to ignore them. It's just a *story*, invented by me but inspired by that article. In other words nothing that happens in the play is either historically accurate or a representation of *fact*.

I really have to thank Mr. Tony Rushforth, Head of Drama at St. Mary's College in Twickenham (where the play first saw the light of day) for it was he who suggested I might like to write and direct a play with the then first year drama students as part of their B.A. project. 'Write a play for twenty-odd students,' I thought, 'he must be mad!'. I had images of a drama about striking miners — dole queues — women brandishing strongly worded banners — none of which are really my cup of tea. But then . . . 'To the Island' came back to me and we were away! It was an exciting few weeks — giving the students the basic idea — improvising the various scenes — putting it all together to make a workable and interesting play — sitting up till all hours typing. I am indebted to all those students for their hard work and encouragement just as now I am indebted to Eric Yardley and his talented company of young actors for giving me the opportunity to re-write and re-shape the piece into what you will see tonight.

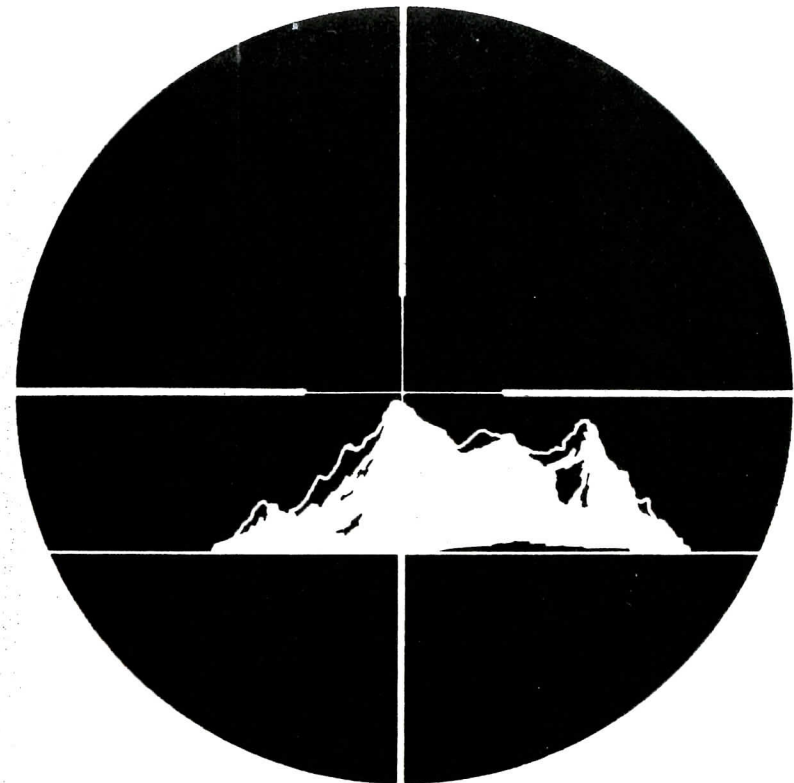
No matter what you think of the play I'm sure you will agree — it's a very good story!

J.C.

FROM THE GROUP

Youth Action Theatre feels very privileged at being chosen to work with Jimmie Chinn and to help him develop this very fine play. We hope he enjoys a great deal of success with it and we shall watch with great interest any future productions whether it be on stage, on film or on T.V. We wish him success and express our thanks for being allowed to be part of its development. Perhaps there will be a future opportunity when we may work together again.

This is YAT's 37th major production. Two or three productions are presented every year and some of these have been taken abroad. Membership is open to any young person in this locality, over the age of sixteen who is enthusiastic to take part on stage and wishes to improve his acting techniques. Throughout the year, the group meets every week, holding drama workshops when not in rehearsal. Information can be obtained by telephoning 979-7904.



To the Island

by

Jimmie Chinn

at Hampton Court Theatre

Sat. Oct. 26th to Sat. Nov. 2nd 1985

YOUTH ACTION THEATRE

presents a new play

"TO THE ISLAND"

by Jimmie Chinn

The Girl	<i>known as Girda, first island</i>	NATALIE STRINGER
The Woman	<i>known as Leni, first island</i>	NINA McKELLAR
Agnes	<i>first island</i>	WHIMSEY MEARA
Williams	<i>security</i>	JERRY GUNN
Anderson	<i>security</i>	GILES PORTER
Sylvi	<i>second island</i>	DE CHANTAL ADDLEY
Anna	<i>second island</i>	WENDY RABBETTS
Poppi	<i>second island</i>	ELEANOR BAKER
The Man	<i>second island</i>	CHRIS IVEY
The President		DAVID BOWN
His Wife, Jeanne		ABIGAIL LEE
O'Conner	<i>secretary to President</i>	DAVID HANNIGAN
Miss Gormley	<i>secretary to O'Conner</i>	CAROLINE DABNEY
Ernie Poole	<i>newspaper editor</i>	AIDAN PADDICK
A Doctor		MARK JENKINSON
The Boy		NICK HOPE
Redlich	<i>a valet</i>	JOEL ARYEETEEY
Turner	<i>Vice President</i>	MARTIN DUNNING
Pragolis	<i>a revolutionary leader</i>	JOE EARLY
Vitas	<i>his right hand</i>	WILLIAM ELIOT
Alan Marsh	<i>a reporter</i>	DAVID WHEATLEY
The Rich Man	<i>known as Kruger</i>	DAVID GRAY
Sadie	<i>at Kruger's nightclub</i>	LESLEY HANN
Judy	<i>at Kruger's nightclub</i>	REBECCA SHAW
The Singer	<i>known as Grace</i>	ZOE ROSS
Glorious	<i>in charge at the club</i>	RUFUS SEWELL
The Assassin		SIMEONE PICKFORD
His Mother		SARAH YOUNG
Laura Williams	<i>wife to Williams</i>	SONYA PESKETT
Sally O'Conner	<i>wife to O'Conner</i>	MARION CHAMPION
Anne	<i>sister to the President</i>	RONEY VINEY
Liz	<i>newspaper office</i>	LUDMILLA WARD
Rose	<i>newspaper office</i>	LIZ RYAN
Mary	<i>sister to Judy</i>	JULIE COOKSON
An Undertaker		JUSTIN SPEAR

Whores, Hoodlums, etc. LOUISE HICK, SARAH SAWYER, JONATHAN WHEATLEY, ALAINE ADDLEY, LUDMILLA WARD, RONEY VINEY, LIZ RYAN, JUSTIN SPEAR, WILLIAM ELIOT.

The play is set in a small and distant country and on two small islands just off the mainland and covers a period of about six months.

TIME: Perhaps the Thirties.

There will be an interval of fifteen minutes

The Play will conclude at approximately 10.15 p.m.

The Play directed jointly by Jimmie Chinn & Eric Yardley

Setting designed and constructed by Graham Osborne

Lighting designed by Mike Elgey and Chris Davies

Costumes designed by Eleanor Baker

Stage Management

Stage Manager — Fiona Andrews

Assistant Stage Manager — Carol Pain

Properties — Sarah Wilkins and Bronwen Davies

Sound — Richard Eliot

Lighting operated by Chris and Annie Davies,
Mike Elgey and Marie Coleman

Wardrobe — Eleanor Baker

Dressing Room Wardrobe Assistant — Micheala Channing

Programme Cover design by Graham Osborne

F.O.H. Manager — Nick Wilson

YAT acknowledge help from:

Thames Television Ltd., Teddington

J. Alsford Ltd. of Twickenham

YAT appreciate the help of the T.T.C. Bar Staff for making these facilities available and thanks Mrs Bidy Osborne for the Box Office arrangements.