

In 1484 Pope Innocent III denounced witchcraft as heresy. From then until about 1750 when persecution died away as scepticism increased, some 200,000 supposed witches were tortured, burnt or hanged in Western Europe.

In Britain witchcraft was made a capital offence in 1563. However, it was during the years proceeding 1600 that saw the greatest number of prosecutions in this country. The rise was mainly due to the increasing influence of uncompromising Protestant sects and their interpretation of Exodus XXII, v. 18: 'Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live'.

Witchcraft was almost invariable a crime of the very poor. According to trial records most witches were impoverished women who got little out of and alleged pact with Satan.

Tragically for those accused of witchcraft, innocence was extremely difficult to prove. Evidence was twisted and corrupted; confessions were extracted by brutal means; and the sentence was invariable death.

Graphic artwork for posters, flyers & programme was created by Becky Stoddart.

Hampton Hill Playhouse

Rules & Regulations

For reasons of safety, glassware must not be taken into any part of the auditorium.

Latecomers will be admitted at the first convenient moment provided that no interruption or distraction to the performers might be caused.

All gangways, passages and stairwells must be kept free from obstruction. Persons are not permitted to sit or stand in any gangway.

Smoking is permitted solely in the downstairs foyer bar and no other part of the Playhouse.

The taking of photographs and the making of sound and/ or video recordings in the auditorium are not permitted.

Please turn mobile phones off during the performance.

An induction loop system is installed in the Main Auditorium to assist those who use hearing aids with the relevant setting.

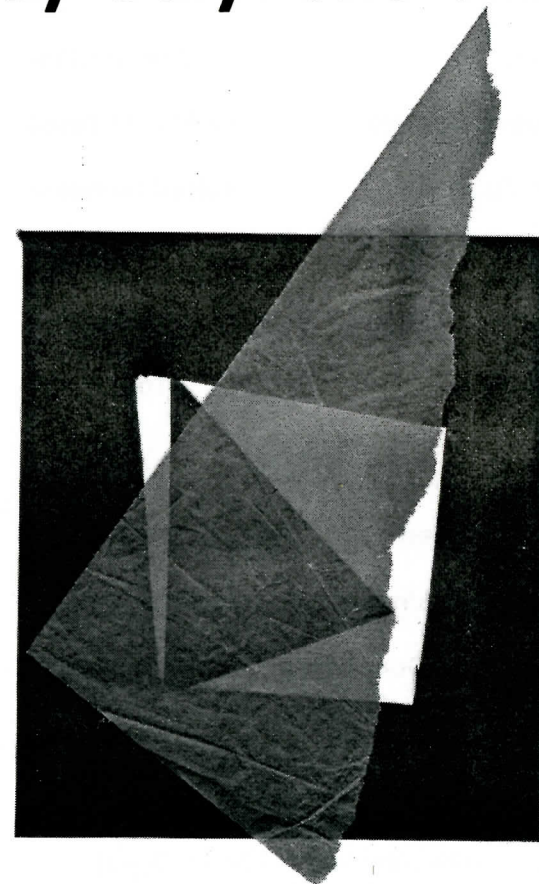
First aid facilities at the Hampton Hill Playhouse are provided by members of the St. John's Ambulance.

YAT would like to thank Turks Film services Ltd. for lending us the ropes.

**Youth Action Theatre
presents**

Vinegar Tom

By Caryl Churchill



An Amateur Production

Cast

Alice	Sarah Stewart
Susan	Trine Taraldsvik
Joan Noakes	Eleanor Manwell
Margery	Geraldine Taylor
Jack	Adam Green
Betty	Alana Huson
Ellen	Cheryl Chitty
Goody Haskins	Catherine Burkill
Mr. Packer	Robert Drummer
Man	Tim Read
Doctor/ Bellringer/ Kramer	Miles Orru
Sprenger	Tom Wright

Band

Scott O'Brien	Piano
David Hookings	Guitar & singer
Nishantha Gunatunga	Keyboard
Michael Bishop	Singer
Laila Marrie	Singer

Music written by Scott O'Brien, David Hookings and Bjarne Lydhede.

Crew

Director	Andy Thackeray
Musical Director	Scott O'Brien
Stage Manager	Eirin Taraldsvik
Assisted by	Alice Morgan
Set Design	Emma Donaghy
Constructed by	Den Baker, Emma Donaghy, Cast & Crew
Costumes	Eileen Baker & Margaret Williams
Assisted by	Alison Barker
Lighting	David Buffham
Assisted by	Andy Vere & Sam Crook

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 to 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 70 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 3 times (*Cabaret*, *Merrily we roll along* & *Pippin*) along with trips to Vienna (*Accrington Pals*), Leipzig (*The musical of Billy Liar*), and Kiev (when still part of the Soviet Union) with the first ever amateur production of *Blood Brothers*. The summer tours of 1995 (*Cider with Rosie*), 1996 (*Juno and the Paycock*) and 1998 (*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 were written by members of YAT, the first was *Genghis Khan-Child of a blue wolf* by David Wheatley, followed by *Briticanna* and *The Great Gatsby* both by Colin Smith. We have also performed three plays by Jimmy Chinn; *To the Island*, *Home Before Dark* and *Albert Make Us Laugh*.

After this production YAT will meet at its regular workshop/ rehearsal space at Collis School, Fairfax Rd, Teddington on Monday 12th August at 7.30 pm and every Monday and Thursday thereafter. Newcomers are more than welcome!

If you have any further questions on YAT or our forthcoming activities you can call Eric Yardley directly on **020 8979 7904**.

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