

Elizabethan Theatre

in the presence of

His Excellency the Governor of N.S.W.

Lt.-Gen. Sir JOHN NORTHCOTT, K.C.V.O., K.C.M.G., C.B.

Gala Opening

July 27, 1955

Prologue for the opening performance specially written by
JAMES McAULEY and spoken by DAME SYBIL THORNDIKE.

Fanfares for the opening performance specially composed by
SIR EUGENE GOOSSENS and played by members of the
N.S.W. STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust

Patron: H.M. The Queen

The object of the Trust is to further the development of drama, opera and ballet in this country; to provide greater opportunities for Australian artists to earn a living in their own land and for Australian audiences to enjoy the pleasure that live theatre can bring.

The opening of the Elizabethan Theatre is an integral part of the Trust's policy. Here, in this fine playhouse—once more resplendently restored to its legitimate use—we hope to present all that is best from overseas and to develop the wealth of talent that exists in Australia itself.

In accordance with this policy, the Elizabethan Theatre is happy to welcome as its first guests, such renowned artists as Sir Ralph Richardson, Dame Sybil Thorndike, Miss Meriel Forbes, and Sir Lewis Casson. We are proud, also, to announce that the first all-Australian company to be sponsored by the Trust will visit this theatre early in October, led by Australia's most distinguished artist—Miss Judith Anderson.

Those of you who wish to promote the interests of the Trust and to obtain the advantages of priority booking for special events, will find particulars of membership on another page of this programme.

In the meantime, we record our debt of gratitude to those who have generously contributed by donations and advice towards the restoration of the old "Majestic." In particular, we wish to thank the N.S.W. Government and the City Council of Sydney, who have helped us to acquire and renovate this theatre, and the firms and individuals who have contributed towards the decoration of the auditorium and the comfort of the artists.

Many of the seats in the stalls are gifts of well-wishers both in Australia and overseas. We regret that pressure of work has prevented us from fixing the plaques recording the donors' names in time for the opening night.

The support that has been accorded so generously is a living proof of the love of good theatre in this country and of the desire to see the Australian theatre taking its rightful place in the world.

We are proud to present the Elizabethan Theatre to the people of Sydney.

GARNET H. CARROLL in association with H. M. TENNENT LTD.

proudly presents by arrangement with

THE AUSTRALIAN ELIZABETHAN THEATRE TRUST

*The
Sleeping Prince*

an occasional Fairy Tale

by

TERENCE RATTIGAN

Programme

"The Sleeping Prince"

By Terence Rattigan

CAST IN ORDER OF SPEAKING

The First Footman	ALAN HARVEY
The Second Footman	PHILIP ELLERTON
The Third Footman	HARRY STARLING
Northbrook	LEWIS CASSON
Mary	MERIEL FORBES
The Major-Domo	REG DELL
The Butler	JEROME WHITE
The Regent	RALPH RICHARDSON
The King	FREDRICK GIBSON
The Grand Duchess	SYBIL THORNDIKE
The Countess	JUNE COLLIS
The Baroness	LILY MOORE
The Archduchess	WINIFRED GREEN
The Princess	JANE CASSON

The Play Directed by LIONEL HARRIS

SYNOPSIS OF SCENERY:

ACT I

Scene 1	Wednesday, 21st June, 1911, about eleven-thirty p.m.
Scene 2	Thursday, 22nd June, 1911, about eight a.m.

Interval

ACT II

Scene 1	Thursday, 22nd June, 1911, about seven p.m.
Scene 2	Friday, 23rd June, 1911, about one a.m.
Scene 3	Friday, 23rd June, 1911, about ten a.m.

The Scene throughout is the Royal Suite of the Carpathian Legation in London.

Special Music by Vivian Ellis—

"The Coconut Girl" and "The Sleeping Prince Waltz"

Duo Pianists—

Eunice Lloyd and Joan Chartres

Head Office for Garnet H. Carroll productions: Princess Theatre, Melbourne. Sydney Representative, Lionel Preston, Fullers Theatres Pty. Ltd., 233 Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Secretary to Garnet H. Carroll—Miss G. Laurance. Telephone— MA 6148, Sydney.

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STAGE MANAGER
ASSISTANT STAGE
MANAGER
CHIEF ENGINEER
CHIEF MECHANIST
PROPERTY MASTER ..
WARDROBE MISTRESS }

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GARNET H. CARROLL**

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Alan Harvey

Jerome White
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CHIEF PROPERTY
MASTER }

**EXECUTIVE FOR THE
ELIZABETHAN
THEATRE**

{ John Sumner
Ron Patten Publicity
Mary van Eyssen
Ron Field
Robert Cunningham

John Yeates

"SEPARATE TABLES" by Terence Rattigan

will open at the

ELIZABETHAN THEATRE . . . AUGUST 5

The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust

Patron: H.M. The Queen

PRESIDENT: The Rt. Hon. Sir John Latham, K.C.M.G. Q.C.

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Hon. Dame Enid Lyons, C.B.E., Sir Arthur Rymill, Mr. R. J. F. Boyer.

CHAIRMAN: Dr. H. C. Coombs.

BOARD MEMBERS—New South Wales: Miss E. F. Beyer, M.B.E., Mr. W. I. Fairfax, Mr. J. N. Kirby, Sir Daniel McVey, C.M.G., Mr. C. J. A. Moses, C.B.E., Mr. Clive Ogilvy, Dr. Lloyd Ross.

Victoria: Mr. F. E. Lampe, M.B.E., Miss M. E. Roper, Mr. A. T. Smithers, C.B.E., Mr. A. H. L. Gibson, Mr. E. C. Daum, Mrs. I. L. Massy-Burnside, Mr. A. Monk.

Queensland: Mr. J. H. G. Blakeney, Professor F. J. Schonell.

South Australia: Mr. R. E. Jacobs, Mr. L. C. Waterman.

Western Australia: Professor Frederick Alexander, Mr. A. J. Reid, C.M.G., I.S.O.

Tasmania: Sir Richard Harris, K.B., C.M.G., Mr. G. F. Davies.

HON. SECRETARY: Mr. M. Parker.

ELIZABETHAN THEATRE DIRECTORS

James N. Kirby (Chairman).

John W. Goodsell

John R. Kitto.

John Glass.

Company Secretary: John Stephens.

TRUST OFFICERS

Executive Director Hugh Hunt

General Manager, Drama: Miss Elsie Beyer,
M.B.E.

General Manager, Theatre John Sumner

General Manager, Opera Robert Quentin

Administrative Officer John Stephens

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to join those who are already supporting the Trust venture throughout the Commonwealth, you may do so by paying an initial subscription of £10. Subsequent annual subscriptions are £5 and are due on the 1st July and are payable before the 31st December. Membership entitles you to priority booking for two seats at any given performance. Information regarding the work of the Trust and coming productions will be regularly sent out to members.

You may also assist the work of the Trust by giving a donation and the Trust welcomes all donations whether they be large or small.

Many of the Theatre seats have been given by friends of the Trust both in Australia and overseas. A donation of £10 will provide one seat, and a plaque bearing the name of the donor will be fixed to the arm of the chair.

Prologue for the Opening of the Elizabethan Theatre

Spoken by Dame Sybil Thorndike.

Here Drama used to live; and now once more
She breathes, she wakes, far lovelier than before.
Years past as Melodrama she held sway
With Nellie Bramley and with Marie Ney;
Then Virtue wept, while Villainy leered and frowned
Until the Hero dashed him to the ground.
Later, when Allan Wilkie stamped the boards
She rendered Shakespeare to the restless hordes
Of lolly-chewing children from the schools.
Another time (what memories!) those great fools
Jim Gerald and George Wallace won her heart
And turned her to the vaudevillean art:
A comic hoyden, pert from top to toe,
She giggled helpless in the hands of Mo.
But then times changed. Alas, she had to go,
To make room for a moving-picture show:
For crooners, cops and cowboys, and (O bliss!)
The glutinous splendours of a Harlow kiss.
So living Drama slept. The wise foretold
She'd waken only to a flow of gold
From private chequebooks and the public purse.
Who worked this wonder and removed the curse?
Our Queen and Patron, she alone had power:
Timing her progress in a lucky hour,
She broke the spell, she summoned up delight,
And led us to the triumph of this night.

James McAuley.

