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The Little Hut

By ANDRE ROUSSIN
Adapted by NANCY MITFORD



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The Trust's aim is to create a living and vigorous theatre in Australia, and to provide opportunities of professional employment for Australian actors, singers, dancers, authors, composers, designers and technicians.

It plans also to inaugurate schemes for training young actors and actresses and for stimulating interest amongst the younger members of the community.

This is a big undertaking and will require careful planning and a long-term policy, but already the first steps have been taken, and Trust Companies will visit all the capital cities during 1955-56.

The Elizabethan Theatre has a very important place in the Trust's plans, for it provides a home base for its sponsored activities and a centre for rehearsing and training.

However, we intend to offer Sydney audiences a continuous flow of entertainment, even when the Trust Companies are touring other parts of the Commonwealth, and in this connection we are happy to welcome the return of Mr. Garnet H. Carroll to our theatre, this time with his witty presentation of "The Little Hut."

We are confident that by keeping this theatre alive in Sydney and by taking our Companies throughout the nation, the Trust's work will rapidly become more clearly defined and appreciated.



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Peter Gray

Peter Gray conquered Australian theatre audiences with the gay sophistication he brought to the star role of Gary Essendine in Noel Coward's "Present Laughter", when he last appeared here.

Tall, dark and debonair, with a natural, easy charm, more than his share of good looks and a beautiful speaking voice, Mr. Gray has established himself as one of the most popular star comedians of the London stage. The crisp and caustic role of the husband in "The Little Hut" ideally suits his suave, sophisticated manner, highlighted to the point of hilarity by the incongruous South Sea island setting of the play.

Since his last visit to Australia, Peter Gray has been playing leading roles in West End productions of "Seagulls Over Sorrento" and "The Little Hut", followed by a most

successful tour of South Africa in the latter comedy. He returned to England to play in "Escapade", "Relative Values" and "It's Never Too Late".

Off-stage as charming and friendly as in front of the footlights, Peter Gray is a first-class oarsman, a keen swimmer and cricketer, and, on the more intellectual side, a collector of 18th century books.

During the war he served in the Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Navy, a fact which added to the realism and to the enjoyment of his role in "Seagulls Over Sorrento".

By the way, those who saw the recent presentation of "Separate Tables" at the Elizabethan Theatre will be interested to know the Miss Cooper of that production—Daphne Newton—is married to Peter Gray.

Joanne Duff

Vivacious, scintillating Joanne Duff has been engaged by Garnet H. Carroll to play the much-sought-after role of "Susan" in "The Little Hut", because of her sparkling temperament and her undoubted acting ability. Joanne worked for some time in theatre in Scotland prior to going to the United States. In America she studied with Sanford Meisner, one of the foremost directors in the States, and under his direction she played in "The Time Of Your Life".

She has appeared in numerous plays in America, including "Sabrina Fair", "Importance of Being Ernest", "King Lear", "Ideal Husband", "Murder In The Cathedral" and Ibsen's "Ghosts".

She has also proved extremely popular

with television audiences for her clever work in such productions as "Martin Kane", with Mark Stephens, "Danger" with Cornel Wilde, "The Brighter Day", "Suspense", "The Mail Story" and many others. She also appeared with great success in "Philco Playhouse" and "Kraft Television".

Whilst in Hollywood, Miss Duff worked at the famous Universal Studios.

Joanne was delighted to accept the only female role in this cleverly witty French comedy, and Australian audiences who see her in "The Little Hut" will agree with us that she brings youth, beauty, charm, mischievousness and a very fine acting talent to the part of "Susan".



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John Lee



It is six years since John Lee first appeared in "Young Wives' Tale" at the Princess Theatre. Since that time he has earned a solid reputation as a young actor of outstanding talent and remarkably good looks in successive productions.

He appeared in the record-breaking farce, "See How They Run", playing all over Australia and New Zealand on a tour of three years. He appeared also in "Light Up The Sky", "The Hollow", "Reluctant Heroes", "Dial M for Murder", "Worm's Eye View" and "Charley's Aunt", and the pantomime, "Aladdin".

You will remember him perhaps best in his most successful comedy role—that of the "White Sheep" in the gloriously funny play, "White Sheep of the Family", with Edwin Styles.



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THE AUSTRALIAN ELIZABETHAN THEATRE TRUST

PETER GRAY ★ JOANNE DUFF

in

The Little Hut

A Light Comedy

by ANDRE ROUSSIN — adapted by NANCY MITFORD

The Cast

(in order of appearance)

Henry JOHN LEE
Susan JOANNE DUFF
Philip PETER GRAY
A Stranger WILLIAM SALTER
Monkey MARCELLA BURGOYNE

Play directed by LIONEL HARRIS

Synopsis of Scenes

Scene: A desert island somewhere in the South Seas.

ACT ONE: Morning.

INTERVAL

ACT TWO: Evening —
two weeks later.

INTERVAL

ACT THREE: The following morning.



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:
 MA6148, Sydney.

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 THEATRE**

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 JOHN YEATES

The Management reserves the right to make any alteration in the cast which may be
 rendered necessary by illness or any other unavoidable cause.

The Management reserves the right of refusing admission to the Theatre.

Taking photographs during the performance of this production is prohibited.

Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium.

CREDITS.

SCENERY built in Princess Theatre Workshops. GOWN worn by Miss Duff
 created by MAGG. SET DECORATED by HAROLD VIKI. STOCKINGS
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Lionel Harris

After his brilliant direction of the recently-concluded Ralph Richardson season, Garnet H. Carroll engaged Lionel Harris to direct "The Little Hut", a play which depends for much of its hilarity on skilful production.

Young Mr. Lionel Harris has already a full measure of theatrical achievement behind him.

Direct from his student days he joined the Sheffield Repertory Company, and later the Liverpool Old Vic. under Tyrone Guthrie. In 1947, in association with the Arts Council, he started his own repertory company. Under his direction — the youngest management on record — came the Sheffield Repertory and the Southport and Swansea Theatre Companies. Before returning to London, he directed "Winterset" and "King Lear" for the South Wales Festival.

Since 1951, Lionel Harris has directed both for television and the Bristol Old Vic. One of his productions from the latter, a new version of Richard Brinsley Sheridan's "The Duenna," with a musical score by Julian Slade, was transferred to the Westminster Theatre, London, where it received a rapturous reception.

This success was recently repeated at the Phillip Street Theatre, when Mr. Harris delighted both audience and critics with his masterly production.

His film appearances include "Tales of Hoffman," "The Secret People," "Brandy for the Parson," "Laxdale Hall" and "Ivanhoe."



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He is one of the many young Australians who have combined a stage and radio career, as well as taking on the job of stage manager at various times.

William Salter has been connected with Sydney's Phillip Street Theatre for some time, and it was while he was appearing in an "intimate revue" there that Mr. Carroll saw him and engaged him for "The Little Hut."

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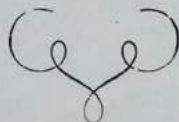
If you wish to join those who are already supporting the Trust venture throughout the Commonwealth, you may do so by paying an initial subscription of £10. Subsequent annual subscriptions are £5 and are due on the 1st July, and are payable before the 31st December. Membership entitles you to priority 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.



This programme was designed for the ELIZABETHAN THEATRE by RON PATTEN PUBLICITY, 793 George Street, Sydney, phone BA 2098, to whom all advertising enquiries should be made, and printed by PEERLESS PRESS PTY. LTD., 558a George Street, Sydney.



..... Marcella Burgoyne

"The Most Versatile Girl of the Year", an entrant in this year's "Miss Australia Quest", Marcella at 21 has already a full measure of theatrical experience behind her. She majored in dramatic art at the Melbourne Conservatorium and has appeared in many roles, demanding extremely varied characterisations, at the Union Theatre, the Arrow Theatre and in a number of Melbourne's "Little Theatres", in plays "Bonaventure", "Private Lives", "Oedipus Rex", "See How They Run", "Rookery Nook", and many others. After a summer tour of Victoria for the Council of Adult Education, in which she appeared in "Our Town" and "Beauty And The Beast", she joined the "Spotlight Company", playing in "Petticoat Fever", "Dodo", and "Cure For Love". She has also done radio work and is a well-known comedienne.

Her hobbies include tennis, at which she has won many tournaments, flying, fencing and ballroom dancing.



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Many patrons have assisted the Elizabethan Theatre in re-seating the stalls of the theatre by donating the cost of a seat or seats. Their names will be affixed to these chairs to stand as a memento of their generosity.

The cost of each stall chair is £10, with the donation being deductible from taxation. Should you be desirous of joining the list of donors, please leave your name and address at the Manager's Office.

The Elizabethan Theatre management, as a mark of appreciation, list below donors to hand at time of this programme going to press.

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