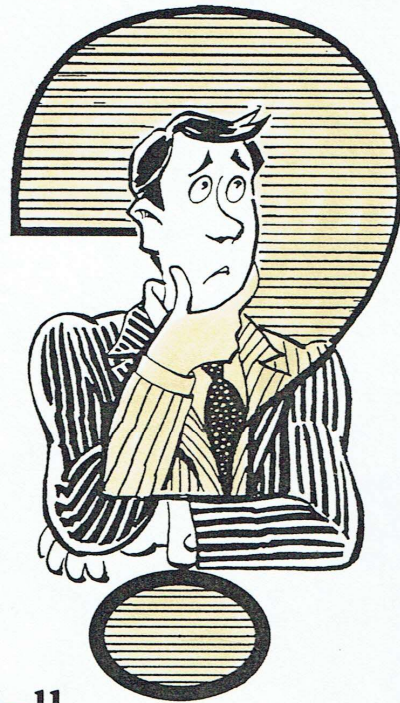


North Shore's COMPANY THEATRE
presents:

WHY ME



A Comedy by
Stanley Price

St Michael's Hall
King Edward Ave, Bayswater

25 - 28 March 1 - 4 April
Tickets \$9-10 Bookings Ph 445 6939

COMPANY THEATRE
presents.....

WHY ME



St Michaels Hall, Bayswater
25-28 March 1-4 April

PRIORITY!

APPOINTMENTS

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Most of us at some stage have been faced with the prospect of losing our job, particularly in recent times. Some of you may have actually lost your job, or know someone who has; all too common phenomena these days.

Unemployment has a profound effect on one's life, one's family and friends and this play serves as a reminder that a job is so much more than a weekly wage or monthly salary. Although society is changing as a result of more or less endemic unemployment, it still attaches a great deal of status to being employed, to the work ethic and to success.

"Why Me?" takes a lighthearted look at some of these issues, as a civil engineer in his late forties struggles to come to terms with redundancy. His reaction is one of non-acceptance - why me? and what I find particularly interesting in this play is the effect his situation has on his family and friends.

All of us associated with the play have, I think, been affected by it in some way. I hope you too find rich food for thought behind the comedy, and are entertained by our interpretation.

"WHY ME?"

by Stanley Price

directed by MARK OSWIN

CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

JOHN BAILEY	Neil Burgham
MARY (his mother-in-law)	Wendy Kristensen
HELEN BAILEY	Yvonne Burgham
GWEN HOLLIS	Sue Connolly
ARTHUR HOLLIS	William Barnett
TOM BAILEY	Gray Kirkbride



SYNOPSIS

The action takes place in the living room of a professional couple, living in Herne Bay, Auckland.

ACT ONE	<i>Scene One</i>	<i>Early evening</i>
	<i>Scene Two</i>	<i>Morning - several weeks later</i>
	<i>Scene Three</i>	<i>Morning - a few days later</i>
	<i>Scene Four</i>	<i>Early evening - a few days later</i>
ACT TWO	<i>Scene One</i>	<i>Morning - a few days later</i>
	<i>Scene Two</i>	<i>That night</i>
	<i>Scene Three</i>	<i>Next morning</i>
	<i>Scene Four</i>	<i>Morning - a couple of weeks later</i>

THERE WILL BE A TWENTY MINUTE INTERVAL BETWEEN ACTS

MARK OSWIN

Mark first appeared in a Company production in 1988 in a one-act play, playing a man in his eighties. Having taken on his first full-length play as director, he has maybe had a taste of what he will feel like when he is eighty! Since his stage debut, Mark has both acted ("MURDER ON THE NILE", "WAIT UNTIL DARK') and helped out in almost all other facets of production. It was with pleasure we welcomed him to our team of directors last year when he served his apprenticeship, as it were, on a one act play ("BARBECUE").

NEIL BURGHAM

Neil's association with Company goes back to 1983 when he appeared as Dr. Bradman in "BLYTHE SPIRIT'. Since then he has both directed ("FIFTY FIFTY", "WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY", "WAIT UNTIL DARK") and acted in several others ("DEAR DEPARTED", "DEAR DELINQUENT", "MOVE OVER MRS MARKHAM", "NOT NOW DARLING", "BARBECUE"). The role of John Bailey presents Neil with quite a challenge, but also the more serious role he has always wanted to try.

YVONNE BURGHAM

This the fifth time Yvonne has acted in a Company production with Neil, and the third time as his stage wife! Yvonne, too, first appeared for Company in "BLYTHE SPIRIT" and since then in "DEAR DEPARTED", "ONE HOUR TO DUSK" "DEAR DELINQUENT", "FIFTY FIFTY", "MOVE OVER MRS MARKHAM", and "NOT NOW DARLING".

SUE CONNOLLY

A relatively recent arrival in Auckland, Sue first took part in local theatre in the Manawatu (Ashhurst Amateur Theatre) & Wellington (Newtown Corner Theatre). She has appeared in a number of plays including "FRITZ THE BARMAN", "AS BLACK AS SHE'S PAINTED", as well as several MUSIC HALLS.

WENDY KRISTENSEN

A long-time member of Company, Wendy has appeared in two of our MUSIC HALLS and has had acting roles in "BON AVENTURE", "NOT NOW DARLING" and "BARBECUE". Wendy has also had singing and dancing roles with North Shore Operatic and Music Theatre Company.

GRAY KIRKBRIDE

Gray's first love is rock music, but he has found time on occasions to squeeze in a bit of acting for Company ("MURDER ON THE NILE" and "WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY"). He's not sure his reputation will survive his current role!

WILLIAM BARNETT

William is making his acting debut in this current production, having made his 'over-acting' debut in a melodrama in our 1991 MUSIC HALL. Welcome to the club, William!

PRODUCTION

stage manager	TONY SANDY
set design & construction	CATHIE SANDY DOUG BOURKE TONY SANDY
lighting design	ALISTAIR BIBBY
wardrobe	GAIL CARRAN JANINE JUDGE
publicity	BARBARA SIMPSON
sound & lighting crew	MARTIN JUDGE WAYNE SHEPHERD LAWRENCE ANTILL
stage crew	ROS CLEWS NEIL HARRISON
prompt	JULIA KAISER
make-up	DAVID KEMP
graphic art	KAREN GILLAM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Company Theatre thanks ...
the JUDGE and SIMPSON families for the loan of
furniture used on the set,
Mrs ELIZABETH CUFF for the supply of cheesecakes.*

NORTH SHORE COMPANY THEATRE & DRAMATIC SOCIETY INCORPORATED

President - Neil Burgham
Vice-President - Ruth Segrove
Secretary - Barbara Simpson
Treasurer - Peter Segrove

Committee - Cathie Sandy, Tony Sandy, Doug Bourke
John Palmer, Gordon Currie, Ros Clews

NEXT PRODUCTION ROSE CENTRE THEATRE

"Why Me?" is the last but one production we will stage in St Michael's Hall. As our finale in this venue we have decided to stage what might be called an "in joke". The play is a light-hearted thriller involving members of a drama society who rehearse and put on plays in a church hall. It's title - "Murder in Company"!

This production is now in rehearsal and will open on May 22nd.

If you have passed through Belmont recently, you may have noticed that construction of the new Rose Garden Community Centre & Theatre is well advanced. Opening day is expected to be in mid-August.

This is an exciting development for the people of this community, and for Company Theatre in particular, as we contemplate the reality of a brand-new performance venue and club rooms.

NEW MEMBERS

Company Theatre needs more members in all capacities. This is a great time to join - phone Ruth Segrove on 445-6939.

If you would like to support this project, in any way at all please give Paddy Stafford-Bush a call - telephone 445-3073.