

THE FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE
PRESENTS

THE VISIT

BY FRIEDRICH DÜRRENMATT
ADAPTED BY MAURICE VALENCY

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
NOVEMBER 20 - 28, 1964

THE PLAYWRIGHT ABOUT HIS PLAY

"THE VISIT is the story of an action which takes place in a small town somewhere in Central Europe. It is told by someone who feels himself at no great remove from the people involved, who is not so sure he would have acted differently.

Claire Zachanassian doesn't represent Justice or the Marshall Plan, or even the Apocalypse. She is purely and simply what she is, the richest woman in the world, thus in a position to act as the Greek tragic heroines did - absolutely, terribly. This lady has a sense of humour and it must not be overlooked, for she is quite as detached from people as from saleable objects, as from herself. She has a rare grace, more, she has a wicked charm.

While Claire Zachanassian, fixed and unmoving, is a heroine from the very beginning, her one-time sweetheart, Anton Schill, still has to develop into a hero. At first, a disreputable shopkeeper, he is her unsuspecting victim and, guilty, believes that life has been its own expiation of his sin. He is a simple man in whose mind something gradually dawns - by the agency of fear and terror - something highly personal. Recognizing his guilt he lives out justice and, in death, achieves greatness. His death is both meaningful and meaningless.

The Guelleners who swarm round the hero are people like the rest of us. They must not, emphatically not, be portrayed as wicked. At first they resolutely reject the offer made by Claire Zachanassian, and although they incur debts it is not because they intend to kill Schill, but out of thoughtless irresponsibility, and the feeling that somehow things will come to a happy settlement.

Guellen is a community slowly yielding to temptation. The old lady is a wicked creature, and for precisely that reason must not be played as wicked. She has to be made as human as possible, not with anger but with sorrow and humour, for nothing could harm this comedy with a tragic end more than heavy seriousness."

THE VISIT

a tragi - comedy by Friedrich Dürrenmatt

CAST

THE VISITORS

CLAIRE ZACHANASSIAN	*JOY COGHILL
BOBBY	TOM HUGHES
MAX	PETER GIBB
MIKE	KERRY WHITE
PEDRO	LIONEL LUKIN JOHNSTON
THE FIRST BLIND MAN	GUY PALMER
THE SECOND BLIND MAN	HARTMUT GALLANT

THE VISITED

ANTON SCHILL	*WALTER MARSH
THE BURGOMASTER	*OTTO LOWY
THE TEACHER	*JOHN JULIANI
THE PASTOR	CLIFFORD SMITH
THE DOCTOR	WILLIAM SCHERMBRUCKER
THE POLICEMAN	WILLIAM McWORTER
THE PAINTER	ROBERT ALLEN
FRAU SCHILL	GRETCHEN HUGHES
THE SON	MICHAEL GUTTERIDGE
THE DAUGHTER	NIKI LIPMAN
THE FIRST MAN	JOHN WOLFORTH
THE SECOND MAN	PHILLIP SMITH
THE THIRD MAN	BRIAN PAISLEY
THE FOURTH MAN	PHILLIP ALLINGHAM
THE FIRST WOMAN	JEANETTE McARTHUR
THE SECOND WOMAN	JOY WATSON
FRAU BURGOMASTER	SHIRLEY FLEMING
THE GRANDCHILDREN	EILEEN JO GREENBERG
	WAYNE GREENBERG
THE STATION MASTER	ERIC GREEN
THE FIRST CONDUCTOR	STEPHEN CHITTY
THE SECOND CONDUCTOR	JIM MOFFETT
THE BAILIFF	RICH LANDON

REPORTERS and CAMERAMEN	GERRY POTTER
	KENNETH MORRISON
THE RADIO ANNOUNCER	MALCOLM CRANE
THE AHTLETE	DONALD ELLIOTT
THE YOUTH CHORUS, TOWNSPEOPLE	LOYOLA BUNZ
	ART CASPERSON
	DOUGLAS EDGAR
	ELIZABETH GREEN
	BARBARA HAYMAN
	BASIL HOUTMAN
	ANGUS MacDONALD
	PATRICIA MALLEK
	ELIZABETH MURPHY
	DALE PERSIS
	JAN POOLE

* Appearing by permission of Actors' Equity Association

TIME : THE PRESENT

SCENES

ACT I: Scene 1 The Gullen Railway Station
 Scene 2 The Golden Apostle Hotel
 Scene 3 The Konrads Village Wood
 Scene 4 The Golden Apostle Hotel

ACT II: Scene 1 Anton Schill's Store
 Scene 2 The Police Station
 Scene 3 The Town Hall
 Scene 4 The Sacristy
 Scene 5 The Gullen Railway Station

ACT III: Scene 1 The Great Barn
 Scene 2 Anton Schill's Store
 Scene 3 The Konrads Village Wood
 Scene 4 The Gullen Railway Station

THERE WILL BE TWO INTERMISSIONS

DIRECTED BY KLAUSS STRASSMANN
SETTINGS BY CLIFF ROBINSON
COSTUMES BY JESSIE RICHARDSON

PRODUCTION

Technical Director & Stage Manager	NORMAN YOUNG
Assistant Technical Director	IAN PRATT
Assistant Stage Manager & Flyman	RAE ACKERMAN
Costume Execution	JESSIE RICHARDSON
	GERALDINE RICHARDSON
	JEAN CAUSEY
Properties	JOYCE SOBELL
	AVERY HUYGHE
Assistant to the Director	SANDI WALTON
Prompter	LUCINDA PILLSBURY
Stage Carpenter	RON WHITCOMBE
Stage Crew	JIM BLAKE
	DON ELLIOTT
	JIM GASKILL
	SHERRY MILNE
	PENNY MITCHELL
	KERRY RAINES
	SHEILA SMYTHE
Make-up	ROBERT GRAHAM
House Management	NIRMAL GILL
Ushers	PEGGY SAYLE
Box Office	MARJORIE FORDHAM
Production	DOROTHY SOMERSET
	JESSIE RICHARDSON