THE FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE
PRESENTS

THE VISIT

BY FRIEDRICH DÜRRENMATT
ADAPTED BY MAURICE VALENCY

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
NOVEMBER 20 - 28, 1964
"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
THE STATION MASTER  WAYNE GREENBERG
THE FIRST CONDUCTOR  ERIC GREEN
THE SECOND CONDUCTOR  STEPHEN CHITTY
THE BAILIFF  JIM MOFFETT
RICH LANDON
REPORTERS and CAMERAMEN
GERRY POTTER
KENNETH MORRISON
THE RADIO ANNOUNCER
MALCOLM CRANE
THE ATHLETE
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

SANDI WALTON

LUCINDA PILLSBURY

Ron WHITCOMBE

Assistant to the Director
JIM BLAKE

Prompter
DON ELLIOTT

Stage Carpenter
JIM GASKILL

SHERRY MILNE

Stage Crew
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