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From 5th to 20th July, 1974

# PRESENT LAUGHTER

by Noel Coward



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From 5th to 20th July, 1974

#### PETER WYNGARDE

HILDEGARD
NEIL

SUE

JOYCE GRANT

and

MARK WYNTER

in

NOEL COWARD'S

## PRESENT LAUGHTER

with

DAVID KILLICK

DIANA
OXFORD

MICHAEL DANVERS-WALKER

BELL

and

**DELIA SAINSBURY** 

Directed by PETER WYNGARDE

Designed by TERRY PARSONS

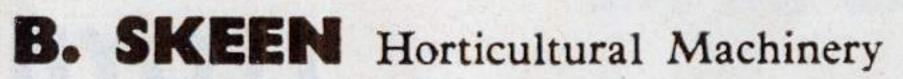
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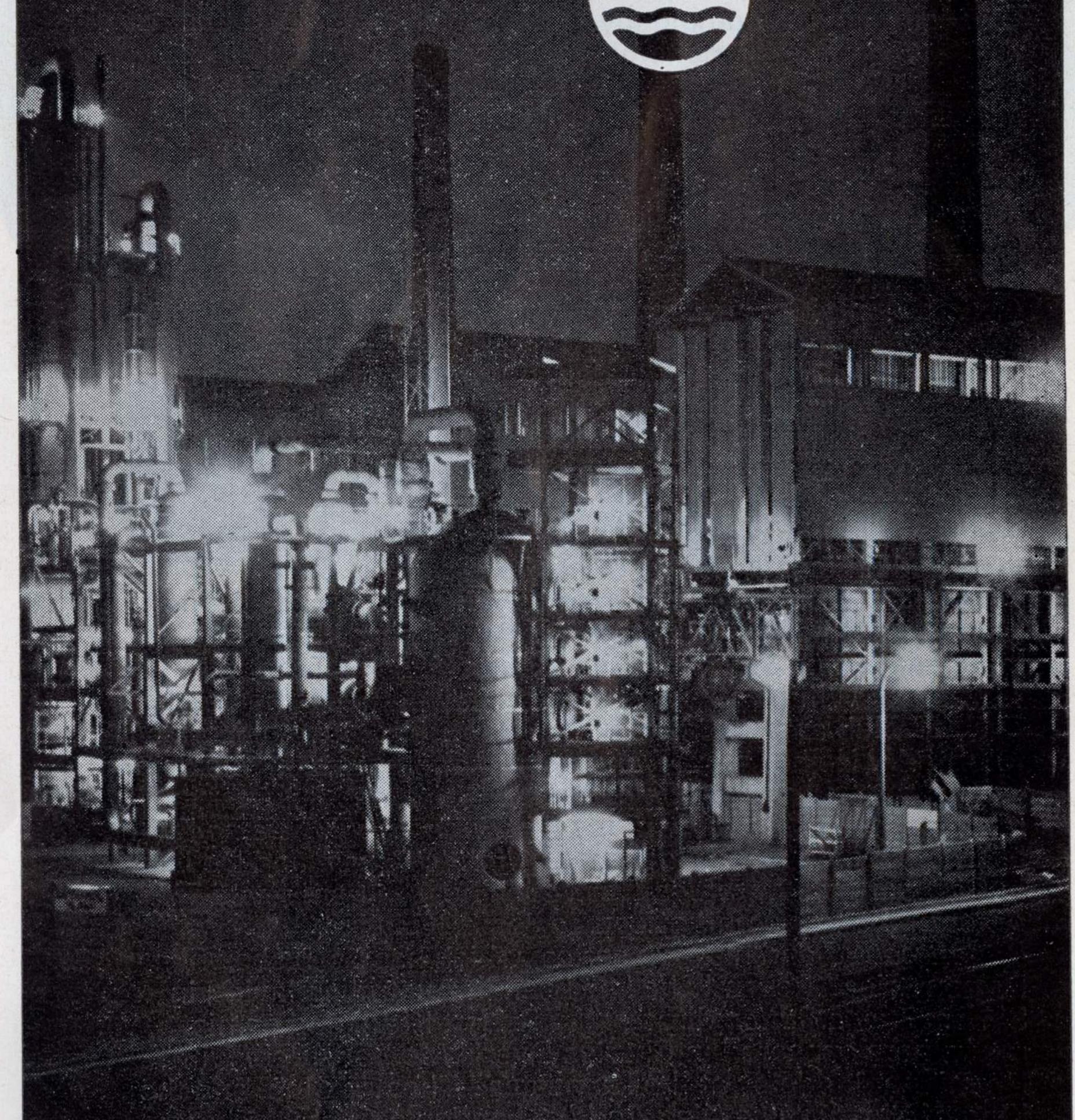
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#### PETER WYNGARDE

... began his acting career at the age of eight in an internment camp in the Far East. He played Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde after stealing the Japanese Commandant's dinner — a rabbit who was cast as the guinea pig in Dr. Jekyll's elixir of youth experiment. Unfortunately, the Commandant attended the performance and recognised the octagenarian Dr. Jekyll even before he changed into the youthful Mr. Hyde. Wyngarde's first performance ended with two weeks in the camp prison; the menu consisted of bread and water. In spite of this he persevered in repertory at Colchester, York, Windsor, Richmond and Nottingham 'on a not much improved diet'. He stayed at each of these places for about three months when he was not involuntarily sacked for playing every part in humble imitation of John Gielgud, Noël Coward or Laurence Olivier. He was 14 years old. At the age of 16 he played the weakling friend in Rope on television, which at that time "made me look older than Dr. Jekyll and casting directors had a fascinating time ignoring me completely." However, Peter Hall, then at the Arts Theatre, came to his rescue and Wyngarde played Dunois in Shaw's St. Joan, the Ghost in Giraudoux's Intermezzo, but it wasn't until he played the husband in Salacrou's Historie de Rire (directed by Peter Wood) that he felt, for the first time, something more than the blatant insecurity of personal exhibitionism. This was followed by Osric in Alec Guinness's Hamlet and Young-sun at the Royal Court Theatre with Dame Peggy Ashcroft in Brecht's The Good Woman Of Setzuan which was seen by Vivien Leigh and led to his playing opposite her in Giraudoux's Duel Of Angels at the Apollo Theatre in London, on Broadway and on an American tour, winning him an award for Most Promising Newcomer in New York. When he returned to England he joined the Bristol Old Vic where he directed Eugene O'Neill's Long Day's Journey Into Night and played Cyrano de Bergerac and also Petruchio in The Taming Of The Shrew, which was televised nationally, Night Conspirators at the Saville Theatre, Anouilh's Time Remembered (with the late Dame Margaret Rutherford playing her original part), Robin Maugham's The Servant at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Tennessee Williams' two character play at the Hampstead Theatre Club and Chekhov's The Duel at the Duke of York's followed. He has played a variety of characters on television - Sydney Carton in A Tale Of Two Cities, the deserter in Christopher Fry's The Dark Is Light Enough (with Dame Edith Evans), Oberon in A Midsummer Night's Dream and De Levis in Galsworthy's Loyalties (for which he was nominated TV Actor of the Year) and of course Jason King in both Department S and his own series, which has been shown in 53 countries. Recently he has been in Australia playing in Simon Gray's Butley directed by Robert Kidd, and on his return here appeared in Charles Dyer's Mother Adam with Hermione Baddeley at the Hampstead Theatre Club, and the King of Siam in The King And I at London's Adelphi Theatre.

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#### HILDEGARD NEIL

studied at R.A.D.A. Repertory work followed, then in 1969 she was chosen to play Helen of Troy in *Troilus And Cressida* with the Royal Shakespeare Company in London. In 1971 she played Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* at The Greenwich Theatre followed by various other theatre and television work and in 1973 she played Mrs. Hesseltine in *Conduct Unbecoming* at The Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham. Her television credits include Calpurnia in *Julius Caesar*, Mariette in Tolstoy's *Resurrection*, Gracie Savott in the *Imperial Palace* serial. Lady Dianna in Maugham's *A Casual Affair*, and the recent *Boy Dominic* series. Filmwise she has been seen in *The Man Who Haunted Himself* with Roger Moore, *Antony And Cleopatra* with Charlton Heston, *England Made Me* with Peter Finch and *A Touch Of Class* with Glenda Jackson and George Segal.

#### SUE LLOYD

... among her many television appearances are the long running series *The Baron, His And Hers, The Two Ronnies, Hadleigh* and *Justice*. Filmwise she has been seen in *The Ipcress File* with Michael Caine, *Innocent Bystanders* and *That's Your Funeral*. On stage her work includes *The Avengers* at The Prince of Wales and most recently the national tour of *Signs Of The Times* with Francis Matthews.

#### DELIA SAINSBURY

has since appeared in numerous West End shows including Funny Girl, Four Musketeers, the Revue G.B. at The Westminster Theatre and Cockie at The Vaudeville Theatre. In 1971 she toured in England in the musical Casanova, followed by Music Hall and Pantomime. In 1973 she played Alison in The Canterbury Tales at The Bristol Old Vic and she has recently been starring in Cabaret at The New London Room. Her films include Half A Sixpence, Up The Front, Ooh, You Are Awful, and Free Life playing the lead, soon to be released.

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#### DAVID KILLICK

helped set up, with Caryl Jenner, the first permanent Children's Theatre Company in this country at The Arts Theatre Club. He has appeared in repertory all over England and recently played in Not Now Darling at The Manchester Library Theatre and toured with Irene Handl in Dead Easy. He has just finished a long run in The King And I at The Adelphi Theatre with Peter Wyngarde. Other tours include Hay Fever with Dulcie Gray and The Late Christopher Bean with Wilfred Brambell.

Miss Priparty billetin belli

Monica Reed

#### MARK WYNTER

eighteen. From that launching he has starred in films, cabaret, television, stage and radio. His most famous records were Image Of A Girl, Venus In Blue Jeans, Go Away, Little Girl, Shy Girl, It's Almost Tomorrow and many more. In recent years he has turned more to the straight theatre and his work includes Butterflies Are Free at Northampton, Five Finger Exercise, Never Too Late, Voyage Around My Father and in the West End in Phil The Fluter and Conduct Unbecoming in which he played for over a year, and then went to Australia with it.

#### JOYCE GRANT

Evening Of British Rubbish, Nymphs And Satyrs, Fieldings
Music Hall, Once Upon A Time, The Happy Apple, Tonight
At Eight. On Broadway she starred opposite Frankie Howerd
in Rockerfella And The Red Indians. She has played leading
roles at The Oxford Playhouse and The Nottingham Playhouse
Most recent theatre work includes Lady Carrier Bag in
Papertown Paperchase at Greenwich and Mrs. Vealfour in
The Good And Faithful Servant at The King's Head.

## PRESENT LAUGHTER

by NOEL COWARD

Characters in order of appearance:

Daphne Stillington DELIA SAINSBURY

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Miss Erikson EILEEN BELL

Monica Reed JOYCE GRANT

Garry Essendine PETER WYNGARDE

Liz Essendine HILDEGARD NEIL

Roland Maule MARK WYNTER

Henry Lyppiatt MICHAEL DANVERS-WALKER

Morris Dixon DAVID KILLICK
Joanna Lyppiatt SUE LLOYD

Lady Saltburn DIANA OXFORD

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THE SHAPE WAS L

THORIS BARDIN

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THE VENEZUE STREET

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ENGRACE CONTROL

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ACT ONE

Morning

ACT TWO

Scene 1 Evening. Three days later

Scene 2 The next morning

ACT THREE

Evening. A week later

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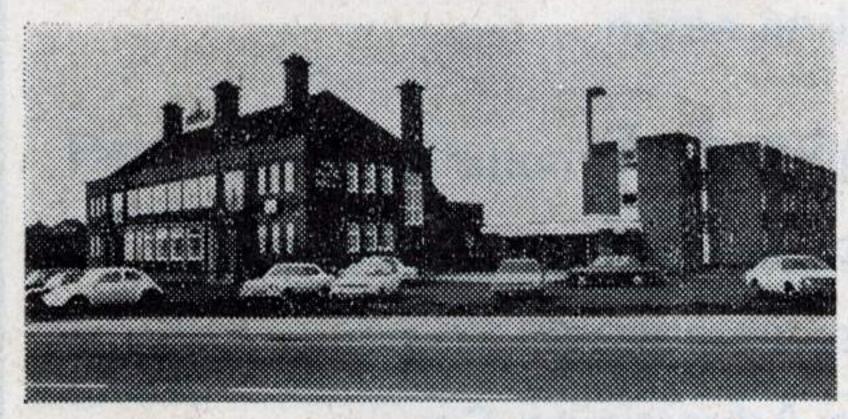


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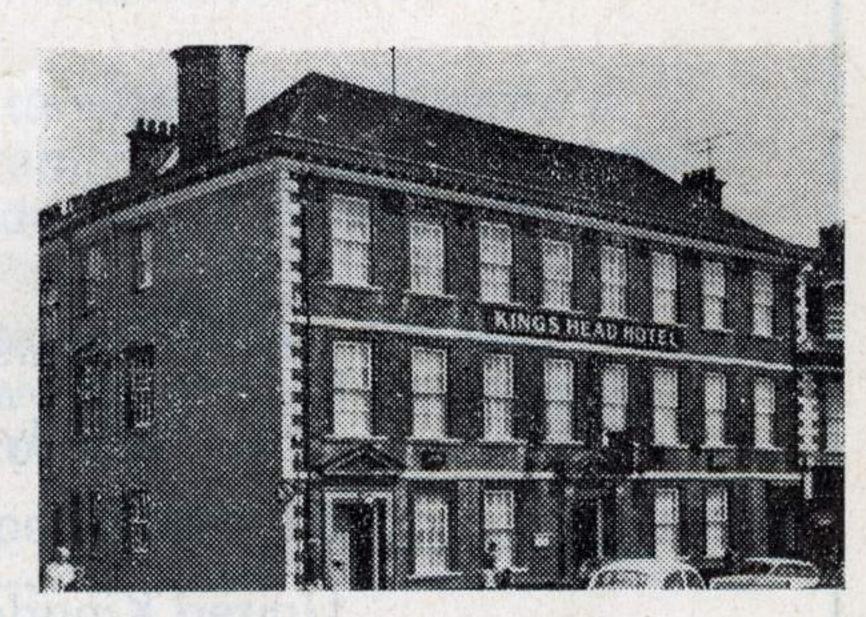


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