

MICHAEL KAYE IS PRODUCING A
NEW PLAY FOR THE GARRISON
PLAYERS

Chica Mail 15-2-67

The Birthday Party, by Harold Pinter, is due at the City Hall

PREPARATIONS are almost completed for next week's presentation of Harold Pinter's "The Birthday Party" by the Garrison Players in the theatre of the City Hall.

Opening night is February 22, at 8.30 and performances will run through Saturday night, February 25. Booking is now open.

From rehearsals and stage-door gossip, there is little doubt that the presentation will measure up to the usual Garrison Players' standards.

The sets are more than adequate, and the play itself well within the range permitting expert amateur treatment.

Michael Kaye is the producer, and if "Lysistrata" is anything to go by, the play is in good hands.

Locale

The locale is set in a seaside boarding house in the south of England.

At least, Meg, the lady of the house, says it is a boarding house, and Petey, her husband, tolerates this deception.

But even though the house may not be "on the list", there is one "visitor" living there, Stanley.

It appears that Stanley has run away from someone, we don't know who, someone who beat him up after a concert.

Stanley is, or was, a pianist. Now, he is a degraded, filthy man, hiding from "them".

Petey tells Meg that two gentlemen came up to him on the beach while he was performing his duties as a deck-chair attendant and that they are coming to stay.

The die

Lulu, a brash, tarty young woman of undue confidence, is mildly attracted to Stanley (after all, he does wear trousers) and tries to get him to come on a picnic.

Had he done so, he might have saved himself, but he refuses, and with the arrival of the two gentlemen, Nat Goldberg and Sheamus McCann, the die is cast and Stanley is cast to die.

What happens after their arrival is exciting, horrifying and often hilarious.

Goldberg is played by Derek Hill, McCann by Ian Macbeth, Petey by Jack Aberdein, Meg by June Hanna, Stanley by Bob Hanna and Lulu by Maureen Kay.

'Birthday Party'

opens today

The Garrison Players will put on "The Birthday Party" at City Hall for four nights next week, starting today.

Written by Harold Pinter, the play is set in an English seaside boarding house run by Meg and Petey (June Hanna and Jack Aberdeen).

There a visitor Stanley (Robert Hanna) attracts Lulu (Maureen Kaye), a brash tarty type. When two more gentlemen arrive (Ian Macbeth and Derek Hill) the results are "exciting, horrifying and often hilarious".

Ticket at \$10, \$8 and \$5 may be had from the Harry Odell Showbox or, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the City Hall box office.

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