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Programme

**Autumn
Season 1972**

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Mid-Pennine Association for the Arts,
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THEATRE MOBILE

MID-PENNINES PROFESSIONAL TOURING

THEATRE COMPANY

Good Evening!

I would like to welcome those of you who already support TheatreMobile and those who may be seeing a Theatre-Mobile production for the first time to a new and exciting season.

A word of introduction about the company. TheatreMobile is a peripatetic, professional theatre company attached to the Mid-Pennine Association for the Arts. We have our administrative headquarters at 28 Back St. James's Street, Burnley. The company consists of a director, two actresses, five actors, two technical staff, and an administrative assistant to the director. Although we have an office in Burnley, the rehearsal room and workshops are at present in the Community Centre at Barnoldswick. As each venue we visit has different technical facilities we are a self sufficient company, carrying our own acting area, lighting and sound equipment. All we need to perform is a space, your support and a licence! We possess two vehicles. In the larger van we convey the lighting and sound equipment, props, costumes, settings and staging. We travel in a smaller mini bus.

As you will meet us in the evenings perhaps you would like to know how we spend the daylight hours. Our working day commences at 10 a.m. in Barnoldswick with a "limber" session. These daily sessions are to develop the company through a programme of movement, voice-work, improvisation and related skills. These sessions are taken by members of the company. This programme of work is designed to progress the individual and the ensemble. The "limber" is followed by a quick "cuppa" and then rehearsals for the next production start. Lunch is eaten sometime in the day, followed by more rehearsal. The time we finish, or "break" as we say, depends on how far



GLORIA PARKINSON,
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

we have to travel for the evening performance. The whole company loads the van and off we go. When we arrive at the venue we unload and "set-up" for the evening production. Tea, and then we prepare for the evening performance. After you leave us, we pack up, load the van and off we go again, but this time to bed. A 12-14 hour day.

We need your help. If you enjoy tonight's performance, next time you come could you please bring at least two more people with you; or, instead of chocolates, you could give a play ticket as a gift—less fattening.

Finally, thank you for your support and, on behalf of myself and the company, may I say how much we look forward to seeing you many times in the future.

GLORIA PARKINSON was born and brought up in Liverpool. To the horror of her patient parents, she ran away from school and joined the Liverpool Playhouse as student assistant stage manager, where she quickly learned that the theatre was hard work and no glamour. She completed a three-year course at drama school and spent the following four years as an actress in theatres up and down the country. During this period television and radio engagements were fitted around her theatre commitments. It was while working as an actress that she decided to change streams and enter the somewhat male dominated area of theatre direction. In the year that followed she phased acting out and direction in. She

has had considerable experience working with young people both in schools and on the streets. She has written and directed three theatre documentaries, each with a cast of eighty teenagers. She has designed the lighting for several productions. In 1970 she was awarded a Director's Bursary by the Arts Council of Great Britain. She spent it as Assistant Director at the Manchester Library Theatre. This was followed by an assistant directorship at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln. The last year has been spent mainly as a freelance director. Immediately before her appointment as Artistic Director of TheatreMobile, she directed three productions at the East 15 Acting School in London.

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Michael Scaife



Penelope Cherns



George Owczarski

GEORGE T. OWCZARSKI. Aged 23, born and bred in Manchester. Having been bored at school he left and joined the Manchester Library Theatre in 1966, under the pretence of wanting to be an actor. After his first and last walk-on part he was shunted to the technical side — much to his delight. It was there that he learnt his basic stage management and technical graft of professional theatre. In 1968 he joined Granada T.V. and worked as stage manager for the Stables Theatre, Manchester, after which he took over the position of chief technician. This was followed by a season of touring with "Orbit" of the Nuffield Theatre Studio, Lancaster. He then moved to London to East 15 Acting School as technician to the Corbett Theatre and tutor to the technical students. It was from there that he came to join TheatreMobile as head of technical staff. He has studied the art of lighting design and worked with many lighting designers, he himself now does free-lance lighting design. He is also sound recordist as one of four members of "Orange" films. This is a privately set up company based in Manchester, where all members are professionals in their own right and produce films for commission.

PENELOPE CHERNS. Born and bred in Cambridge, educated and nurtured in

London, she moved even further south for her university education at the University of Kent at Canterbury where she became heavily embroiled in the University Dramatic Society on the technical and directing side, also helping to launch the Gulbenkian Theatre at the university. This was interrupted by a drama course in America and was followed by a two-year director's course at the Drama Centre, London. After leaving drama school in July she worked briefly at the Royal Court Theatre in London as a showman. Her parents moved to the Midlands in 1966, but her attachment to TheatreMobile marks her first real association with the north of England.

MICHAEL SCAIFE left grammar school in 1963 after fiasco over "O" levels, then worked around for four years (nineteen varied jobs). Became a D.J., then spent a year stage managing and lighting in night clubs and video-taped commercials. In September, 1968, went to Octagon Theatre, Bolton. Became stage manager. Left in March, 1970, and did a season with Century Theatre touring the north-west, then a short spell at the Stables Theatre Club, Manchester. Later in 1971 went to Victoria Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent. Left there and came straight to TheatreMobile.

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Peter Lorenzelli



Catherine Terris



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JOHN EASTHAM. John grew up in London but moved to Bath when he was twelve. He studied French and Spanish to "A" level before returning to London to train at the Webber-Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. His repertory experience includes seasons at Bournemouth, Minehead and St. Andrews, where he played such parts as Buddy in "Come Blow Your Horn" and Walter Langer in "Five Finger Exercise". Most recently he appeared as P.C. Boot in the 1972 tour of the musical "Salad Days". On television he has taken parts in "Zarabanda" and "The Lotus Eaters".

Outside the theatre his interests include football: — he describes himself as a mad Arsenal supporter: Chess — stimulated by the Spassky-Fischer games: and music — he can just about play the guitar.

PETER LORENZELLI. Peter, who is 24, was born in Manchester and up to now has spent his life in and around Manchester. His very first theatrical experience was at the age of eleven, when he played a burglar in a one-acter at school called "Queer Street".

After pursuing various jobs, including strawberry picking, serving chips, slicing (and selling) bacon and washing other people's dishes, he went to drama school in Manchester in 1968 for a three year course. His main characters whilst at college included a lunatic, a vicar (two, in fact), a schoolteacher, an ex-boxer and, finally, a lawyer. During his first year at college he visited and performed at the Edinburgh Festival, where one of the productions was a late night revue in which he took a leading part.

He also visited the Leeds Arts Festival and in his second year was involved in a children's programme at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, which was worked out and directed by a computer!!

After completing his course, where he became interested in modern dance and fencing, he worked in children's theatre from October, 1971 until June, 1972. He married one of his fellow students on September 2nd and started work for M.P.A.A. on September 4th. Honeymoon? Said Peter, when I spoke to him the other day, "That'll have to wait. M.P.A.A. comes first with me".



CATHERINE TERRIS. Catherine is 23 and was born in Sunderland, County Durham and spent her childhood around the North of England and Scotland. Her only pre-drama school acting experience was playing Mr. Bumble in Oliver Twist while at school. At the age of 18 she joined the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art where she trained for three years.

Since then she has worked in rep. at Sheffield Playhouse, Newcastle University Theatre, Manchester Library Theatre, Chester Gateway and Orchard Theatre, and most recently worked in television and radio. Her mother now lives in Lytham, Lancs.; with Tango the dog!

She has worked with Gloria Parkinson at Manchester Library and Orchard Theatre.

Whilst working for TheatreMobile she would like to learn to drive and buy an inexpensive car.

Her brother Malcolm is also in the theatre.



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Taylor McAulay



Sheila Kelley

SHEILA KELLEY. She is 22 years old and has lived most of her life in Birmingham. At the age of 18 she started a two year dance and drama training at the Italia Conti Stage School in London. On leaving in September, 1970, she worked at the Lincoln Theatre Royal. Some parts included Princess Daphne in "Old King Cole" (Panto.), Miss Bennett in "The Unexpected Guest", and Old Time Music Hall. Also choreographed and sang in a late night show of "An Evening of Noel Coward". Then, after a five month successful season on the dole, she worked at the

Castle Theatre in Farnham, Surrey, playing the soothsayer in "Julius Caesar" and Ellen in Pinter's "Silence", which was also taken into schools. She left Farnham at Christmas, 1971, with chickenpox, after which she worked on a six week tour of the Premiere of "Pre-Paradise, Sorry Now" — a play about the moors murderers which also played in London for one week.

Prior to TheatreMobile she did a lunch-time show in London in a pub — The Lamb and Flag — called "Of the Feast", by Colin Mortimer,

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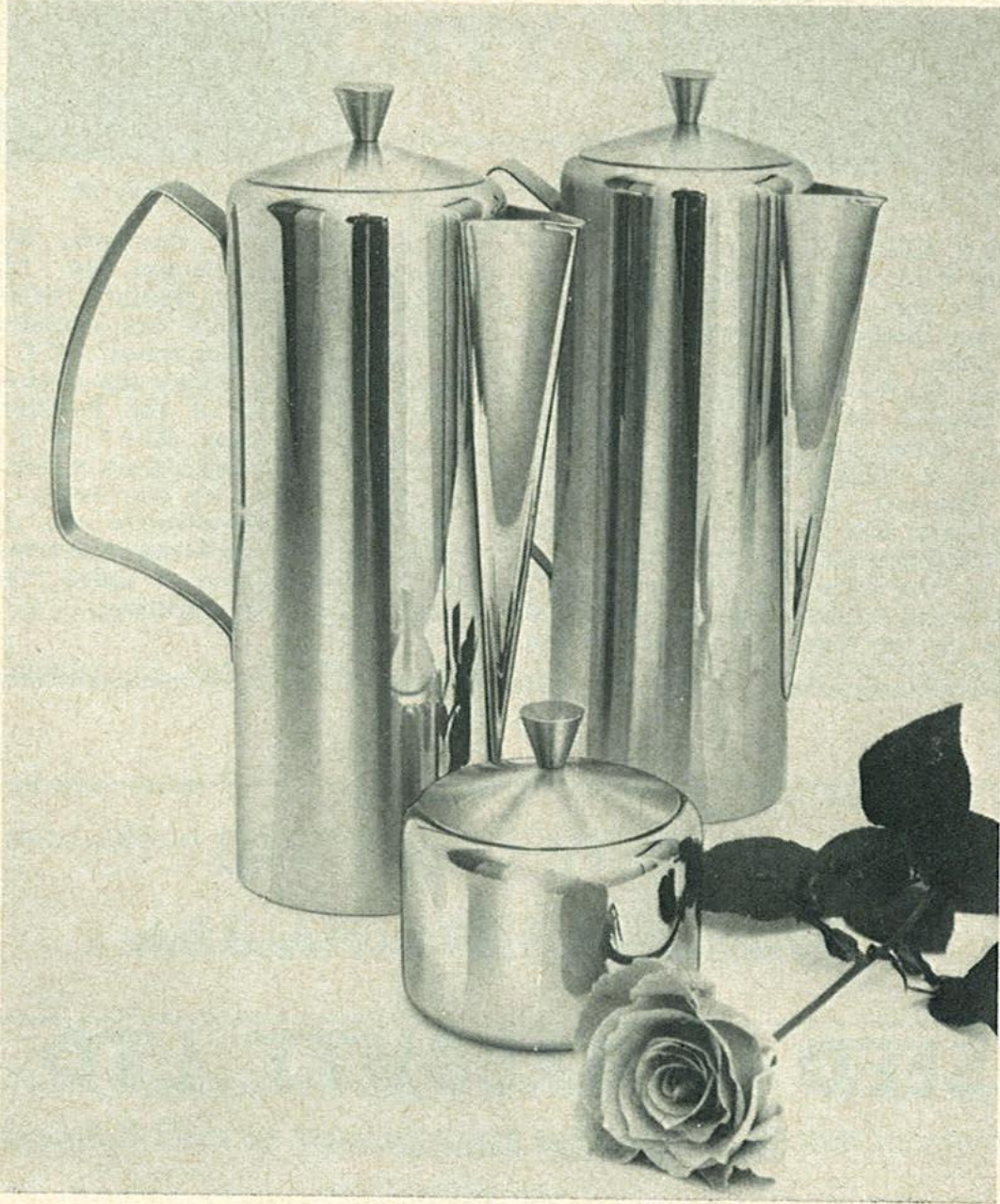
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