

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
THEATRE GUILD

“A Hundred Years Old”

By S. and J. ALVAREY QUINTERO

English Version by HELEN and HARLEY GRANVILLE-BARKER

AT THE HUT
14th September
15th September
1944

THE AUTHORS AND THE PLAY

In 1941 the Guild gave much appreciated performances of "The Lady from Alfaceque", by the same authors of the present day. "A Hundred Years Old" was presented about twelve years ago in Adelaide; but it is a play of such merit that its revival will, we feel, be greatly enjoyed, especially by those already acquainted with the work.

The Quintero brothers—Serafin and Joaquin—are, among modern Spanish playwrights, probably the best known to English-speaking theatres. The Quinteros are natives of Seville; Serafin born in 1871; Joaquin in 1873. They provide an extraordinary example of combined and successful fraternal effort in the writing of drama. They have always collaborated, and well over one hundred and fifty plays, long and short, stand to their credit.

Mention must also be made concerning the available English versions of these plays. Harley Granville-Barker (noted English producer of modern times and an admirable playwright) and his wife have made excellent translations, which provide for ample enjoyment and appreciation of the Quinteros' works.

"A Hundred Years Old" was written in 1909. It is a simple story of Spanish family life; but the characters are handled with extreme simplicity, poetry, and charm, and provide a fine example of expert technique in smooth and facile play writing. Nothing is forced; no labouring for effects. The story concerns the preparations for the birthday celebration of a most likeable and discerning centenarian.

The scene of the play is a room in the house of Don Juan Del Campo in the small Andalusian town of Arenales.

Act I—A morning in May.

Act II—About a week later.

Act III—Another week later.

The performance is under the direction of

BARBARA HOWARD

The characters as they appear are:

MANUEL	-	-	-	-	-	-	DAVID BARNES
CARMEN CAMPOS	-	-	-	-	-	-	STELLA SOBELS
DONA MARCIALA	-	-	-	-	-	-	ELISABETH CAMPBELL
DON EVARISTO	-	-	-	-	-	-	JAMES GLENNON
PAPA JUAN	-	-	-	-	-	-	FRANK PART
DONA FILOMENA	-	-	-	-	-	-	JESS LYNE
EULALIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	MIGNON MICHELL
TRINO	-	-	-	-	-	-	OWEN EVANS
CURRITA	-	-	-	-	-	-	ENID BROWN
ROSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	JANET PAINE
ANTONON	-	-	-	-	-	-	SYDNEY A. DOWNIE
ALONSO	-	-	-	-	-	-	KENNETH MATTHEWS

Setting by	-	-	-	-	MICHAEL JAMES
Lighting by	-	-	-	-	THOMAS KEEN
Paintings by	-	-	-	-	GWEN WALSH
Producer's Assistant	-	-	-	-	JANET PAINE
Electrician	-	-	-	-	HERBERT KOLLASCHE
Stage Mechanics	H. WATSON, F. PENGILLY, T. VOGELSANG				

THE THEATRE GUILD

Patrons:

Professors E. Harold Davies, J. I. M. Stewart, and J. G. Cornell
Dr. Charles Fenner and Mr. Frank Johnston.

Committee:

Dr. T. D. Campbell	Miss Mignon Michell
Mr. Sydney A. Downie	Miss Janet Paine
Mr. Brian Elliott	Miss Enid Petrie
Miss Patricia Hackett	Mr. Allan Sierp
Miss Barbara Howard	Miss C. Teasdale Smith
Mr. Herbert Kollosche	Miss Gwen Walsh
Mr. Roy Leaney	Mr. Bruce Williams
Dr. E. McLaughlin	Mrs. Roma Williams

Communications and enquiries may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary and subscriptions sent to the Hon. Treasurer, care University. Subscriptions may also be paid on the evenings of performances.

NOTICE.—In order to encourage serious study in various branches of the theatre arts, the Guild is sponsoring a series of study groups, discussions, and lectures arranged by University students and mainly carried out by them. Any non-student member of the Guild is invited to join in these studies. Enquiries concerning these groups can be made to Mrs. Bruce Williams at the University.

Concerning the evening arranged specially for children. At the performances given on 28th and 29th July, the audiences consisted of selected groups of school children, by special arrangement with the Education Department. It was an interesting experiment designed to ascertain something of the children's reaction to, and opinion of, the varied items making up the programme. In response to the request for personal critiques by the children, a large number of written replies has been received; these are being examined and analysed, and will form extremely valuable evidence for study by those interested in this matter of what the theatre has to offer for children.
