# The Adelaide University Theatre Guild

in conjunction with

THE S.A. BALLET AND ARTS CLUB

PRESENT

# "THE BEAUTIFUL ONE"

By T. B. MORRIS



AT THE HUT
Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th,
Thursday 12th, Friday 13th of
December, 1946

# "The Beautiful One"

## PRODUCER'S NOTE

All the main characters in this play are historical and the author has given careful and detailed research to the drawing of each. King Akhnaton reigned over the Egyptian Empire from 1341-1358 B.C. He was the most remarkable of all the Pharaohs and the first individual in human history. An amazing original thinker, he dared to be the first pacifist and a monotheist with ideals strangely similar to those of Jesus of Nazareth who followed him more than 1,300 years later. His ideals and his "teaching" cost him his Empire and his life, but they inspired with new vigour the art of Egypt.

The deep love between him and his lovely Queen Nefertiti, festivals, special functions and charming incidents of daily life, both at Court and among the people, are immortalized by the murals, bas reliefs, and statuary that have remained to delight us.

The well-known portrait bust of the Queen by the sculptor Thutmis is an example of the new feeling of realism that the king's seeking after "truth" infused into the hitherto conventional and stereotyped Egyptian conception of royal portraiture.

The translations of the portions of the Amarna letters used are James Baikie's, as is also the opening of Akhnaton's great hymn of praise to Aton.

The action attributed to Nefertiti in the final scene is possible but has no definite authority to substantiate it. In this production we have tried to give as naturalistic a picture as available research will allow of the Egypt of this period. P.H.

The action takes place in the city of the Horizon of the Disk (now known as Tel-et-Amara) in 1358 B.C.

# ACT I

- Scene 1. A room in the house of Thutmis, a sculptor, just before sunset on a day in summer.
- Scene 2. A Council Hall in the Palace the following morning.

### ACT II

- Scene 1. A Council Hall in the Palace at dawn, next day.
- Scene 2. At the "Golden Disk" wine shop, later in the day.
- Scene 3. A Council Hall in the Palace, three days later.
- Scene 4. The same Council Hall a few minutes later.

### ACT III

- Scene 1. At the "Golden Disk" wine shop later in the day.
- Scene 2. A Council Hall in the Palace immediately after the last scene.

# "The Beautiful One"

THE CHARACTERS in order of appearance are

THUTMIS (the first sculptor of the age)

AY (a rich Councillor many years later to occupy the throne)

TY (his wife; once Royal Nurse to Akhnaton)

PALACE SCRIBE

HAYA (Secretary of State)

RAMES (Commander of the Army)

MERITATON (the King's eldest daughter and Prince Smenkhara's wife)

PRINCE TUTANKATON (afterwards King Tutankamon)

AKHNATON (King of Egypt)

NEFERTITI (Queen of Egypt, called "The Beautiful One")

AZA (Chief Lady-in-waiting to Nefertiti)

NAKHT (Chief of Council)

MERIRA (High Priest of Aaton, the King's God)

YAKEB (Proprietor of the "Golden Disk" wine shop)

CHIEF DANCING GIRL at the "Golden Disk"

AN OFFICER of the Guard

LEISA GUNNELL

# THE PLAYERS are

ELISABETH CAMPBELL

PATRICIA HACKETT

VIVIEN MUTTON

# BARBARA SHANAHAN

HERBERT ALDRIDGE
ODELL CROWTHER
WYLTON DICKSON

DAVID GEORGE FRANK GUNNELL MAX HILLIER

ROBERT DONALDSON ROBERT ELLENBY

ARTHUR HUTTON MYKEL MALLACHE

JOHN PRESCOTT

# Play under the direction of Patricia Hackett

The introductory music was composed for "The Beautiful One" by Margaret
Sutherland and is played by Jean Cook

# UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

Patrons:

Professors E. Harold Davies and J. G. Cornell Dr. Charles Fenner and Mr. Frank Johnston

### Committee:

Miss Thelma Baulderstone

Mr. John Horner

Mr. Tom Brown

Professor C. Jury

Mr. Herbert Kollosche

Mr. Alan Dunstan

Miss R. Fitch

Miss Patricia Hackett

Miss Barbara Howard

Mr. Allan Sierp

Miss Gwen Walsh

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## Notices

Communications, enquiries, and subscriptions may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, care of The University

Anyone interested in active theatre work should communicate with the Hon. Secretary, stating their particular interest

In the new year, instruction and class work will be available in stage, vocal, and production studies. Those interested in taking this course should communicate with the Hon. Secretary at an early date.

Programme linocuts by Gwen Walsh