

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

Three Ballets

DEvised AND PRODUcED

by

JOANNE PRIEST



AT THE HUT

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY

29th Sept., 30th Sept., 1st Oct., 3rd Oct., 1953

NERIDA and BERWAIN

Music A. BLISS
Choreography JOANNE PRIEST
Decor FRANCIS FIGWER

Characters:

NERIDA ALISON KETLEY
BERWAIN JOHN HARMER
WAHWEE (disguised as hag), CECILY RYMILL
Corps de Ballet of Aboriginal Children
JUNIOR COMPANY



SYNOPSIS

The poignant aboriginal legend from Victoria which has been "realised" in this ballet might also be called "The Waterlily and the Bulrushes." In the dances, the choreographer has not imitated aboriginal totemic ceremonies, but has simply used the motivation of the aboriginal dance, of which the steps are few and limited. The corps de ballet expresses in mime rather than in dance, children's play, lyre birds, dogs, and kangaroos, and a vision of destruction.

The story is that of two young lovers, Nerida and Berwain, about to marry. The young girl Nerida has aroused desire in Wahwee, the spirit of thunder who lives in the old mud pool where they gather mussels. The spirit appears to Nerida in the form of an old hag and threatens her tribe with destruction by fire and flood if she does not give herself to him. She pleads for her life but in vain. Berwain attempts to kill the spirit but is repulsed by the power of magic, and the two dance together in the tenderness of despair. Again the children crowd past Nerida—again leave her alone, fighting the overwhelming power of Wahwee who evokes in her a dream depicting the sufferings of her tribe, helpless before the elements unleashed by him. She succumbs and is transmuted. Berwain, in search of her, gives way to despair and suffers the same fate.

"When you pick a water lily, pick also a clump of rushes. Do not divide them in death."

STUDIES IN CLASSICAL STYLE

Music	3 Nocturnes	CHOPIN
Pianiste		JUDITH POWELL
Choreography		JOANNE PRIEST
Dancers	{	Lynette Tuck
		Glen Pearson
		Honor John
		Maxine Aldrich
		Marlene McGillivray
		Helen George
		Prudence Coffey

FINAL ANALYSIS

Music	from Carnival des Animaux	SAINT SAENS
Choreography		JOANNE PRIEST
Decor and Costumes		JACQUELINE HICK

Characters	Dancers	Music
The Professor	Catherine Wall	<i>Introduction et marche royale du lion</i>
Spinster	Marlene McGillivray	<i>Poules et coqs</i>
Broken-down Actor	Glen Pearson	<i>Tortues</i>
Giggling Girls	Cecily Rymill, Beverley Chapman	<i>L'elephant</i>
Sad Young Thing	Helen George	<i>Kangourous</i>
Mother and Child from Country	{ Prudence Coffey Lynette Tuck	<i>Aquarium</i>
Youth	John Harmer	{ <i>Personnages aux Lorgues</i> <i>Oreilles</i> <i>Le coucou au fond des bois</i>
Girl with a Band-box	Patricia Harvey	<i>Voliere</i>
School-marms	{ Maxine Aldrich Honor John Rosemary Andrews	<i>Fossiles</i>
Exercises, Romp and Conclusion		{ <i>Pianistes</i> <i>Finale</i>

The "Professor of Psychiatry," on being consulted by various patients, bends his great mind to the solving of their problems. He then prescribes exercises for them all and, while trying to make off when they are exhausted, he is cornered and finally hoist with his own petard.

SENIOR COMPANY

Lynette Tuck	Prudence Coffey
Helen George	Patricia Harvey
Honor John	Rosemary Andrews
Maxine Aldrich	John Harmer
Marlene McGillivray	Glen Pearson

JUNIOR COMPANY

Robin Arthur	Diana Swift
Cecily Rymill	Deirdre Jones
Beverly Chapman	Lorraine Irving
Alison Kettley	Jennifer Woods
Marjorie Bungey	Elizabeth Barrett
Anne Buckett	Heather Batchelor
Susan Hamilton	Janice Monten
Jocie Freeman	Caroline Steele-Scott
Margaret Eberhard	Andrienne Thomson
Kendy Snowden	Josephine Pedler

Designs for costumes carried out by Iris Harvey.

Make-up by Helen George.



ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

The Theatre Guild is a private theatre and admission to all performances at the Hut is by presentation of the Membership Vouchers at the door for unreserved seats, or by exchanging vouchers at Allan's Ltd. Box Office for reserved seats.

The Guild is precluded from selling admission tickets at the door of The Hut, or elsewhere, to non-members. This is not due to any rule of the Guild, but to circumstances quite beyond its control.



Subscriptions for membership are payable to Miss E. J. Humphries, Hon. Secretary to the Guild.



Next and final production of the 1953 season will be James Bridie's "IT DEPENDS WHAT YOU MEAN," early in November. The actual dates will be supplied later.