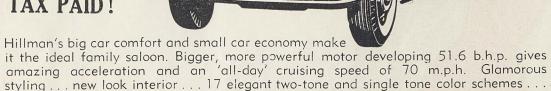


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Recently I had occasion to go through some old files in search of some material which seemed to be hiding from me, when out fell a Souvenir Programme of HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, a show that we presented some years ago at this theatre. How well I remember all the beauty, gaiety, glamour and entertainment of it.

Then one scene leaped vividly to my memory, and once more I heard that great American artist, Willie Howard, portraying the character of Eddie Cantor, asking, "Please tell me Mr. Ziegfeld which of all your productions gave you the greatest pleasure?"

Well, if anyone were to ask me that same question I am afraid the answer would not be as readily on my lips as on those of the great Ziegfeld.

But I do know that AUNTIE MAME could possibly be one. It has the potential. The book by Patrick Dennis is a world-wide best seller. The play is written by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee (a team famous for their "Inherit the Wind," "Look, Ma, I'm Dancing," "The Gang's all Here" and "Shangri-la"). Originally staged by America's foremost director, Morton Da Costa (of "No Time for Sergeants" and "The Music Man" fame), it has been a success wherever it has played.

Immediately after its Broadway opening, John Carroll visited New York and secured the Australasian rights of "Auntie Mame." Our star is a grand person and a proven brilliant artist, our director from U.S.A. thoroughly experienced with this play, our Melbourne production being the fifth with which he has now been associated. The cast selected to support Shirl Conway represents the cream of our talent, stars of the Australian theatre of the future.

Speaking of the future, I am happy to announce that we have secured for presentation later this year the superb, record-breaking, multiple-award winner, THE MUSIC MAN, about which you may read more on other pages of this programme.

But to return to AUNTIE MAME. We have endeavoured to stage it here on a scale comparable to its original Broadway production. We believe we have succeeded.

And, finally, we hope that you, our audience who visit this theatre to be entertained, will agree by the end of this performane that we have been successful in doing just that.

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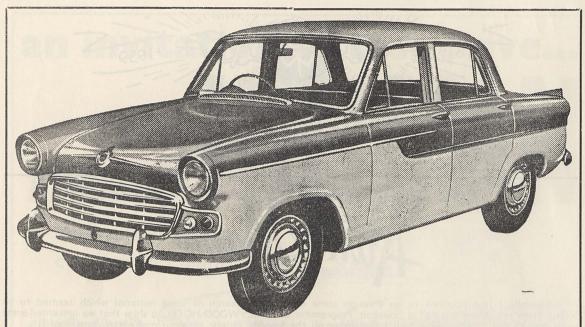
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SHIRL CONWAY

"Auntie Mame"

Dear Audience: It is seldom that an artist has the opportunity to write her own bibliography. The responsibility entailed and the sheer weight of conscience gives small margin to any possible embroidering of the truth.

For example, it is necessary to include the fact that one has been born somewhere at some time. I was born in a little house just outside of a town called Franklinville, which is located in the western part of New York State, in the year 1916. I arrived on the full crest of one of the worst floods that territory has ever seen. This was a natural birth with a vengeance, because there was no help available.

Surviving all minor cuts and bruises, including a broken arm due to experiments in flying from the top of our apple tree without benefit of parachute, I scrambled my way, through the University of Michigan for a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Speech Therapy. The reason the major wasn't in Theatre Arts was about six feet three inches tall with an authoritative voice and an eye of fire, whose name was father.

Perhaps it was sheer wilfulness that propelled me into my career, which is now my very life. From my first show with Eddie Cantor in 1941, where I thought I was very large in the chorus, right up until now, my life has been immeasurably enriched by the theatre.

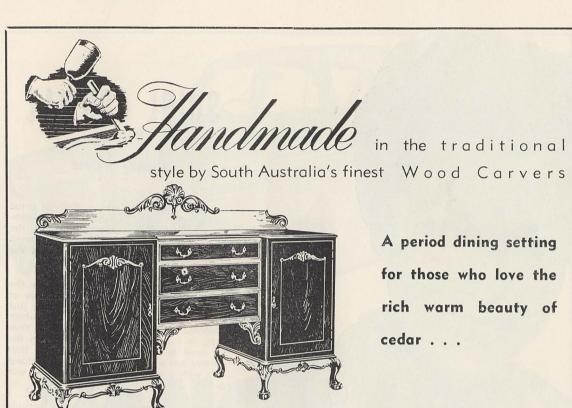
My apprenticeship was served under people like Ethel Merman, Rodgers and Hammerstein and Lerner and Loewe. I have never arrived "over night," as the expression goes. "Over the years" is much more like it.

I've been what they term a "star" for some ten years, both in New York and in London. And what a joyful sprinkling of stardust for this American artist to "top the bill' at theatres like the Drury Lane in London with "Plain and Fancy" and the Theatre Royal here in Adelaide with my beloved "Auntie Mame."

I don't feel like a star, and never have, simply because I haven't a clue as to how one is supposed to feel. If it has anything to do with surface pageantry, it makes me feel uncomfortable. If it has anything to do with portraying a satisfying role, I'm right at home and happy as a lark.

That rather sums up the way I feel right now: right at home and happy as a lark.

It is my privilege, and my intention, and incidentally also in my contract, that I make you feel exactly the same. I hope I can, and I hope you do.





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CARL BLEAZBY (Mr. Lindsay Woolsey)



PAT McDONALD (Doris Upson)

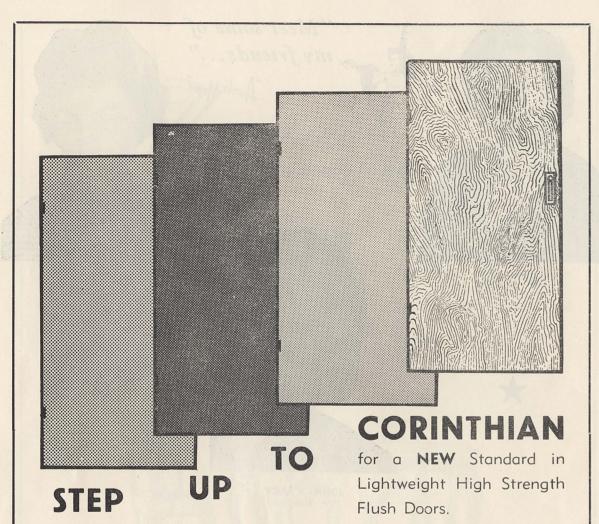


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AUDINE LEITH (Sally Cato MacDougal)



JEFFREY HODGSON (Patrick Dennis, as a young man)



BARRY ANDERSON (Patrick Dennis, as a boy)



IAN TURPIE "Emory Macdougal"



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Australasian Premiere: 19th February, 1959 PRINCESS THEATRE Melbourne

CAST

(in order of appearance)

NORAH MULDOON	MARGARET REID
PATRICK DENNIS (boy)	RAPPY ANDERSON
ITO	DILL WATERS
DOROTHY	BILL WATERS
DOROTHY	GLADYS ANDERSON
VERA CHARLES	JUNE CLYNE
OSBERT	JOHN FINLAYSON
RALPH DEVINE	IVOR BROMLEY
BISHOP ELEFTHAROSEES	FREDERICK DADSLOW
M. LINDSAY WOOLSEY	CARL RIEATRY
AUNTIE MAME	CHIDI CONWAY
Mr. WALDO	IOUNI FINIL AVEON
Mr. BABCOCK	JOHN FINLATSON
AL LINDEN	JOHN D'ARCY
AL LINDEN	KEVIN PALMER
A THEATRE MANAGER	BRETT PANNELL
ACTOR	LEON HOWARD
A MAID	RETTY DATDICK
A FOOTMAN	CTEDUEN HALL
A LEADING MAN	IVAN VINC
LORD DUDLEY	IVOD ROOMI EV
A CUSTOMER	IEANINE DATENE
A CUSTOMER'S SON	JEANNE BAILTE
Mr LOOMIS	IAN TURPIE
Mr. LOOMIS	STEPHEN HALL
BEAUREGARD JACKSON PICKET BURNSIDE	KEN WERNER
COUSIN JEFF	LEON HOWARD
COUSIN FAIN	GIADVC ANDEDCON
COUSIN MOULTRIE	STEPHEN HALL
	C. S. HINEL

Direction of Production: EDMUND BAYLIES

Production designed by ROGER RAMSDELL from original designs by OLIVER SMITH

ADELAIDE SEASON:

Commencing 7th July, 1959 THEATRE ROYAL

CAST (CONTINUED)

	SALLY CATO MACDOUGALL	AUDINE LEITH
-	EMORY MACDOUGALL	IAN TURPIE
	MOTHER BURNSIDE	LORNA FORBES
,	A HUNTSMAN	BRETT PANNELL
	FRED, A GROOM	
	SAM, A GROOM	IVAN KING
	Dr. SHURR, a vet	JOHN FINLAYSON
	PATRICK DENNIS (man)	JEFFREY HODGSON
	AGNES GOOCH	JOAN HARRIS
	BRIAN O'BANNION	FREDERICK PARSLOW
(GLORIA UPSON	PAMELA GREENALL
	DORIS UPSON	PAT McDONALD
	CLAUDE UPSON	
	PEGEEN RYAN	DIANA GOLLER
	MICHAEL DENNIS	
	and a great many friends of AUNTIE	MAME.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action of the play takes place in Auntie Mame's Beekman apartment and various other locales in which she becomes involved during a period of years from 1928 to 1946.

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PATRICK DENNIS

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CREDITS

KEITH COURTENAY dress wear, suits, overcoats and sportswear were exclusively chosen for the male members of the "Auntie Mame" cast.

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The Management reserves the right to make any alteration in the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or any other unavoidable cause.

The Management reserves the right of refusing admission to the Theatre.

Patrons are respectfully asked to refrain from conversation while the performance is in progress.

Taking of photographs during the performance of this production is prohibited.

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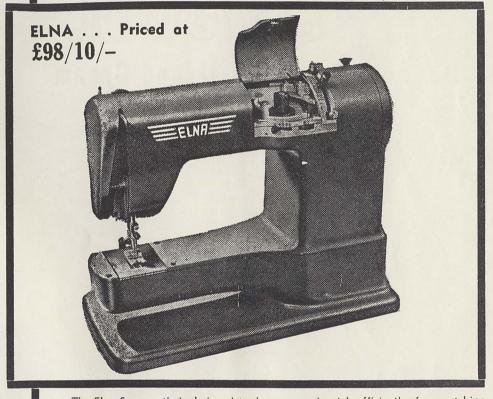
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