

PRODUCTION TEAM

Arsenic & Old Lace
Salon Varietes Theatre 2008

Producer	Howard John
Stage Manager	Gloria Harding
Asst. Stage Managers	Alan Hogarth Mike Souter
Technical Stage Manager	Dave Mills
Props.	Pauline Naylor
Set Design	Peter Brooks
Set Construction	John Pyne John Beaurain Damien Burton Michael Lawrence TonyMorton
Lighting Design	Dave Carney
Sound Design	Dave Mills
Dialect Coach	Bobbye Aaron
Wardrobe	Sian Hopkins & Cast
Poster & Programmes	John Gale / Peter Brooks
Publicity Photographs	Miffy Smith
Production Photographs	Brian Hindley

FOR SALVA

Technical Stage Manager	John Pyne
Lighting Engineer	Dave Carney
Sound Engineer	Dave Mills
Property Master	Gina Foster
Publicity Co-ordinator	Lizz Freeman
Front of House	Norma Wilson
Box Office	Brian Hindley

GRATEFUL THANKS TO

O.C.I. Radio, REM Radio, Peter Arnott, Des Kirkpatrick, Central Radio, ACE Radio, Fred Green, J. Worrall Thompson, Peter John and Jon Badminton

ABOUT THE PLAY

Arsenic & Old Lace
Salon Varietes Theatre 2008

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

by **Joseph Kesselring**
Directed by **Peter Brooks**

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Abby Brewster	Bobbye Aaron
The Rev. Dr. Harper	Colin Pollard
Teddy Brewster	Francis Butler
Officer Brophy	Kurt Nock
Officer Klein	Douglas Hall
Martha Brewster	Jan Wallis
Elaine Harper	Martina McCormack
Mortimer Brewster	John Foulkes-Jones
Mr. Gibbs	Mike Souter
Jonathan Brewster	Stephen Burns
Dr. Einstein	Robert Saint
Officer O'Hara	Geoffrey Stansfield
Lieutenant Rooney	Ronan Holdsworth
Mr. Witherspoon	David Radford

The entire action takes place in the living-room of the Brewster home.

Time: Autumn 1942

- Act 1.** An afternoon in September
Act 2. The same night
Act 3. Scene 1 Later that night
Scene 2 Early the next morning

There will be one interval of fifteen minutes between Acts One and Two

MEET THE CAST

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BOBBYE AARON – Abby Brewster Bobbye has performed a wide variety of roles, including Joy Gresham in SHADOWLANDS, Zelda in the one-woman show THE LAST FLAPPER, Daisy Werthan in DRIVING MISS DAISY and most recently ROSE, in the one-woman show of the same name. She is delighted to be on stage again, finding it a challenge trying to help these “foreigners” speak American!

STEPHEN BURNS – Jonathan Brewster Stephen has played very diverse roles including Robert Browning, Dr. Sloper in THE HEIRESS, George in WHO’S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF and Oscar Wilde in three different productions including one he wrote himself which was performed for Princess Caroline in Monaco. He has appeared in a number of productions at the Salon including UNCLE VANYA, AN INSPECTOR CALLS, and HOLIDAY SNAP also directed by Peter Brooks.

FRANCIS BUTLER - Teddy Brewster Francis first performed at the Salon in NOISES OFF in 1990, and since then has appeared in numerous productions over the years. Francis is still in a state of shock for no longer qualifying as a young romantic lead! Appeared most recently in Ms Slater’s productions of THEN THERE WERE NONE, THE HEIRESS and COUNTLESS OTHERS (!). Appearances in various ad hoc TV series, humiliating documentaries, spaghetti westerns and restaurant reviews have all but rendered him senseless in recent years. He is 55 and seeking a vacant position

JOHN FOULKES-JONES – Mortimer Brewster John recently returned from Scandinavia and Germany to take up the role of Mortimer Brewster. Between 1995 and 2003 he appeared many times in a wide variety of roles at the Salon as well as for the International Theatre Studio and in the Gibraltar Drama Festival. He has made stage and television appearances in Tokyo and was also awarded the Best Actor prize in Buenos Aires

DOUGLAS HALL – Officer Klein Douglas is making his Salon debut as Abe Klein. He once played Cowboy in I’M NOT RAPPAPORT many years ago in a community theatre in Northern Virginia and also studied acting with Gene Frankel in NYC’s NoHo.

RONAN HOLDSWORTH – Lieutenant Rooney In 2001, after some T.V. work and a two year drama course, Ronan moved to Spain and began singing on the cabaret circuit in Benidorm. 2002 saw him singing in bars and clubs on the Costa. He and his wife Sharon then started their own business COSTA LIFE MAGAZINE. This is Ronan’s second appearance at the Salon and we look forward to seeing more of him in the future

MARTINA McCORMACK - Elaine Harper Martina hails from Ireland where she was a drama teacher with a masters in Theatre Studies and is making her debut at the Salon as Elaine. She has played a vast variety of roles from Maggie in DANCING AT LUGHNASA to Rosie Probert in UNDER MILKWOOD. She is looking forward to “drama life” on the coast and would like to thank all the cast and crew for making her feel so welcome!!

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KURT NOCK – Officer Brophy For the past five years Kurt has been a regular at the Salon having appeared in a number of musicals including GREASE and EVITA. He enjoys panto, having been in the last three, and this is his second venture into “straight” theatre.

COLIN POLLARD – The Rev. Dr. Harper Colin, a well known face at the Salon, has appeared in many productions at the Salon. His Master of Ceremonies in the Old Time Music Hall is a treat not to be missed. He makes his directorial debut in November with the thriller SUSPECT

DAVID RADFORD – Mr Witherspoon Having appeared in many previous productions here at the Salon, he now finds himself in charge of an Institution for the Mentally Disturbed. Some may say “Not before time”, others might observe that some from the group could do well to join him. Which or whatever he hopes you will enjoy it.

ROBERT SAINT – Dr. Einstein This is Rob’s fourth year with the Salon and in that time he has appeared in a number of musicals including SOUTH PACIFIC, EVITA, THE BOY FRIEND, and the annual Christmas shows and pantos. He has enjoyed his many comic roles and looks forward to whatever new roles and challenges the directors can throw at him

MIKE SOUTER - Mr Gibbs Mike first appeared at the Salon in 2002 in TWO INTO ONE. This will be his fifth time under Peter Brooks’ direction. He presented MIDDAY WITH MIKE SOUTER on REM. He now pursues a successful career as a freelance broadcaster and travel writer, and as a consultant to his former REM sponsors, Petchey Leisure.

GEOFFREY STANSFIELD - Officer O’Harais 60 and comes from Manchester. He likes playing tennis, squash, guitar and performing in the theatre. Geoffrey taught French and German in England before teaching English in W. Germany and the USSR, finishing up in Saudi Arabia where he appeared in numerous pantos, dramas, comedies, revues and bands.

JAN WALLIS - Martha Brewster Jan’s stage experience before coming to Spain 11 years ago was in Amateur Operatics, having principal roles in operettas and musicals. Here she sings with Collegium Musicum, the local choral society, and is a keen line-dancer. Her past appearances in plays at the Salon include A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL and KEY FOR TWO. Jan is pleased to be working with Peter Brooks again and is relishing this murderous role!

PETER BROOKS – Director After a successful professional theatrical career in London, Canada and Australia Peter is pleased to be starting his sixteenth year as an Actor/Director at the Salon with the wonderful comedy ARSENIC AND OLD LACE. He has found it a real pleasure working with such an excellent cast which includes four faces new to the Salon. Welcome, Martina, Geoffrey, Ronan, and Douglas. Let’s hope we will be seeing a lot more of you. In January he will be directing another Ray Cooney hilarious comedy IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY, auditions for which will be in late October. Large cast, ages from 30 – 70, plus a marvellous role for a nineteen year-old male. Interested? Please telephone Peter on 95 288 73 72.