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ANN MILLER in "Blithe Spirit"

September 18-30, 1973

Guy S. Little, Jr.

Presents

ANN MILLER

in

"Blithe Spirit"

By **NOEL COWARD**

Also starring

MARGARET HAMILTON

and

JANE HOUSE

with

RALSTON HILL

John Kelso

Brina Rodin

Kathy Taylor

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Production Designed by **ROBERT D. SOULE**

Lighting Designed by **PAUL EVERETT**

Costumes Designed by **MATHEW JOHN HOFFMAN III**

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ROBERT NEW

Technical Director
PAUL EVERETT

ENTIRE PRODUCTION UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF MR. LITTLE

CAST

Edith.....	KATHY TAYLOR
Ruth.....	JANE HOUSE
Charles.....	RALSTON HILL
Dr. Bradman.....	JOHN KELSO
Mrs. Bradman.....	BRINA RODIN
Madame Arcati.....	MARGARET HAMILTON
Elvira.....	ANN MILLER

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No Pictures Please - Cameras Not Permitted in Theatre

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action of the play passes in the living-room of Charles Condomine's house in Kent.

ACT I

SCENE 1. Before dinner on a summer evening.
SCENE 1. After dinner.

ACT II

SCENE 1. The next morning.
SCENE 2. Late the following afternoon.
SCENE 3. Early evening. A few days later.

ACT III

SCENE 1. After dinner. A few days later.
SCENE 2. Several hours later.

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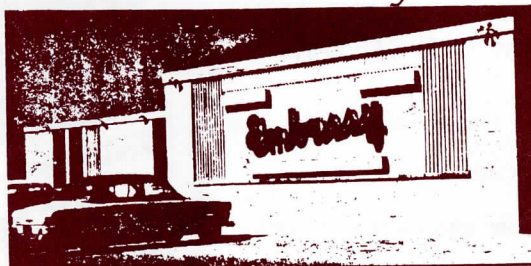
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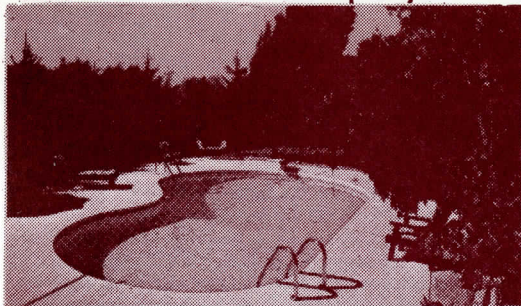
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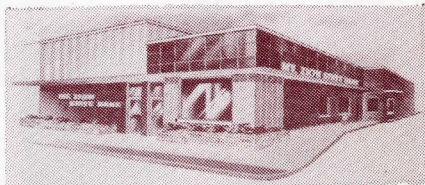
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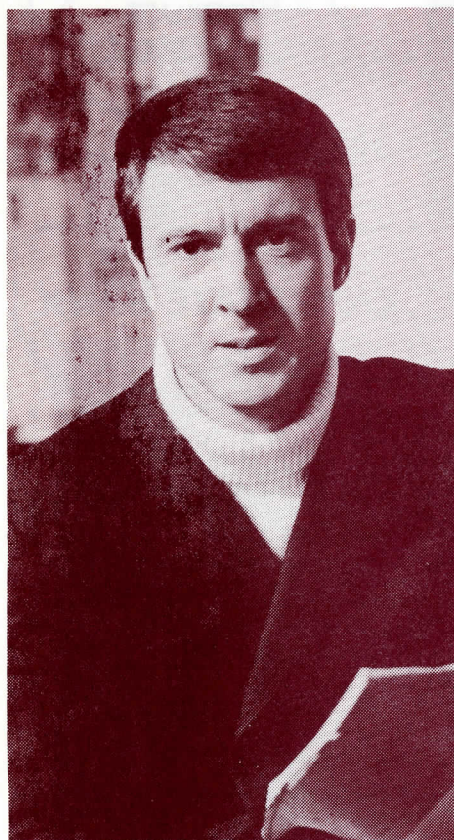


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WELCOME TO THE SEVENTEENTH SEASON!



Much to its surprise, in July, 1957, the little town of Sullivan, Illinois became the home of a "live" stage theatre. Guy S. Little, Jr., native of Sullivan, opened the old Grand movie house with a "Summer Of Musicals" which began with "Brigadoon". Determination and an interesting schedule that first year established that Mr. Little was going to bring theatre art to Central Illinois, come what may! The first season continued with "WONDERFUL TOWN", "ROBERTA", "KISS ME KATE", "SONG OF NORWAY", "CALL ME MADAM", "WISH YOU WERE HERE", "FINIAN'S RAINBOW" and "GUYS AND DOLLS". In 1962, two straight plays were incorporated into the season's schedule, "THE TUNNEL OF LOVE" and "THE GLASS MENAGERIE".

Although Mr. Little was "new" in the position of being a producer, his educational and working background prepared him well for the purpose. While at the University of Miami, he spent three seasons with the

famed Miami Opera Guild, appearing in support of leading Metropolitan Opera singers. While still in high school, he completed three seasons as a performer and technician at leading theatres in the East. Now, after sixteen years, he has become a pivotal influence in the world of professional stock theatre and in the lives of hundreds of young theatre-minded aspirants. He has brought one hundred and eighty one major productions to Central Illinois audiences. From a total attendance in 1957 of 8,000, 1972 brought nearly 100,000 patrons to The Little Theatre-On The Square!

In addition to casting, staffing and producing all of the productions at The Little Theatre-On The Square, Mr. Little has presented musicals on tour throughout the Mid-west and has served as producer at the Sombrero Playhouse in Phoenix and the Piccolo Playhouse in Joliet. This past winter, Mr. Little served as Production Stage Manager at the Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami for three months, working with Howard Keel, Frank Gorshin, Hume Cronyn, Jessica Tandy, and Shelley Winters. 1973 marks Mr. Little's 22nd year of working in professional theatre.

In February and March each year, the busy producer auditions and interviews over four hundred people for performing talent and staff positions in New York, Chicago and Sullivan. Approximately one hundred and fifty of these are apprentice applicants out of which twenty to thirty are selected for professional training in Sullivan in all phases of theatre. Only the most experienced and talented staff heads are engaged to assist in training the young apprentice company each season.

Although Mr. Little occasionally appears in a production, little does the general public know the "behind-the-scene" story about this energetic man. He assists in all areas of the theatre, giving a helping hand in any and all departments. He might be seen working at his desk a few moments before a performance, greeting patrons as the doors are opened, taking orders on the box office phones, sewing the last minute touches on a costume, putting on make-up for a walk-on part in the show, dashing home to put some delectable dish together for later in the evening for the star and company after the show, taping a radio or television interview or one of a hundred other things!

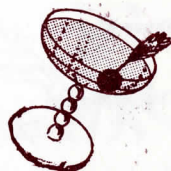
Mr. Little has been blessed with a family, mother, father, wife and children who are all talented in varied fields. Mr. Little, Sr., actually is a Farm Manager although, he laughingly refers to himself as "a-dollar-a-year-man" as he goes about the duties of business manager for the theatre. Mrs. Little, Sr. has appeared in several earlier productions as well as handling the duties of box office manager. Jerili Little has appeared in over sixty productions at The Little Theatre-On The Square and is acclaimed in other leading theatres for starring roles. Vanessa has held her professional Actors' Equity Card for seven years and has appeared in many Sullivan productions and Sean has also been in many of the major shows and Children's Theatre productions.

Each season as the curtain rises on THE opening night of the year, Guy S. Little, Jr. receives applause after his personal welcoming message to the first-nighters but, as he accepts this applause, he is also applauding his loyal patrons for making his theatre a success for the past sixteen years!

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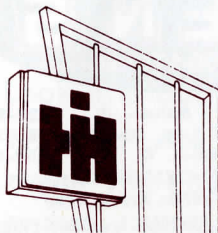
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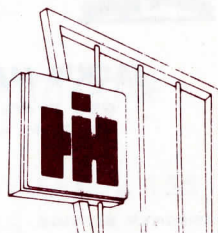
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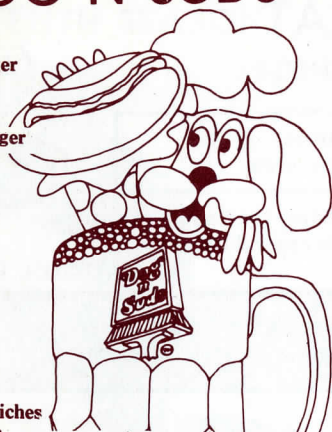
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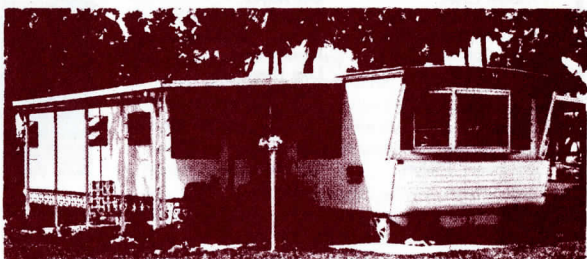
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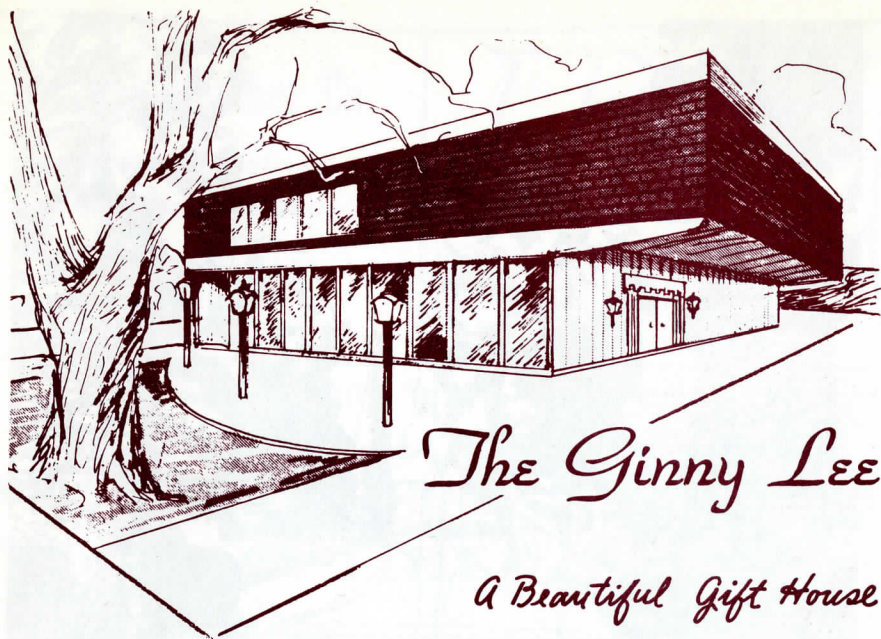
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Who's Who In The Cast

ANN MILLER (Elvira) is making her first appearance in the Midwest since she was injured opening night of *Anything Goes* at the St. Louis Municipal Opera last summer. To quote her, "It is lovely, lovely to be going again."

Miss Miller is a legend in her own time. She began her dancing career at the age of three and by the time she was thirteen, was seen by Lucille Ball who brought the tall, black-haired beauty to the attention of a talent scout, starting her on her way to motion picture stardom. At the age of fifteen, she starred on Broadway in George White's *Scandals* in which her two show-stopping numbers won her critical acclaim.

Her motion picture career of over forty films included long term contracts at Columbia where she appeared in the Academy Award Winner, *You Can't Take It With You* and MGM cast her in highly successful films including *Easter Parade*, *On The Town*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Lovely To Look At* and *Hit The Deck*. From dancing roles, she progressed to smart, flip-tongued comedic parts in numerous movies including *The Great American Pastime* and *The Opposite Sex*.

She made her straight play debut in *Glad Tidings* in Chicago, and in 1969-70, she returned to Broadway to star in *Mame*, again to rave reviews. She toured in *Mame* for two seasons and then toured in *Hello, Dolly* and *Can-Can*. Virtually all major television shows have guest-starred Miss Miller and she is known as an "Ambassador Of Good Will" for her two world tours, entertaining in Europe, South America, Turkey, Israel, Arabia, Egypt, Australia, Fiji, Cuba and Mexico. This past December, Miss Miller represented the U.N. at The Paris Opera House Gala where she introduced Ballet companies from all over the world - it was televised throughout Europe. She recently starred in the television special of *Dames At Sea* with Ann Margaret; her plans for the future include another Broadway show which is still in the negotiation stage.

MARGARET HAMILTON (Madame Arcati) returns to The Little Theatre-On The Square for her fourth appearance and after an absence of seven years. She first appeared on the Sullivan stage as the star of the musical, *A Tree Grows In Brooklyn* in 1960, returned the following year in *Bloomer Girl* and was last seen in *Lullaby* with Rosemary Prinz in 1966.

Miss Hamilton is one of Broadway, Hollywood and TV's most popular and beloved actresses with friends from coast to coast. Her face is familiar to millions as the Wicked Witch of the West in the film, *The Wizard of Oz* with the late Judy Garland and as Cora in the current Maxwell House Coffee commercial. She has appeared in over seventy-five films including *Wabash Avenue* with Betty Grable, *My Little Chickadee* with W.C. Field and Mae West, *Guest In The House* with Anne Baxter and *State of The Union* with Spencer Tracy, Katherine Hepburn and Van Johnson. She made her Broadway debut in *Another Language* with Dorothy Stickney and other Broadway shows include *The Farmer Takes A Wife* with Henry Fonda, *Goldilocks* with Elaine Stritch, *UTBU* with Thelma Ritter and *Come Summer* with Ray Bolger. She was featured at New York's Lincoln Center in revivals of *Show Boat* and *Oklahoma!*

One of America's busiest actresses, Miss Hamilton was seen this year in ABC's *Movie of the Week*, *Night Strangers* and on *Guns, Smoke*. She has recently appeared in three episodes of the new NBC series for children, *Sigmund and the Sea Monster*, has completed one episode on *The Partridge Family* and will be seen again on the series in the near future. Most recent movies in which she has been seen are *The Anderson Tapes* and *Brewster McCloud* and several months ago she had a running role on *As The World Turns*.

JANE HOUSE (Ruth) is making her first appearance at The Little Theatre-On The Square although her face is well-known to millions of television viewers. Many will remember her as Liz Stewart on *As The World Turns* and others will recognize her as Maggie on *Love Is A Many Splendored Thing*. Also, she may be familiar for her co-starring and featured roles in many films including, *The Friends Of Eddie Coyle* with Robert Mitchum, *The Werewolf of Washington*, *Up The Sandbox*, *Coming Apart*, *Funnyman* and *Killers Of The Dream*.

On Broadway, Miss House played the part of Racy Rusty Ingram in *Lenny* and Off-Broadway, played the lead in *Folie-A-Deux*. She has made repertory appearances in *You Know I Can't Hear You When The Water's Running*, *Tartuffe*, *The Recruiting Officer*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Prometheus Bound* and *Our American Cousin*.

Miss House's father is a member of the British Foreign Service and she has travelled to Panama, Bulgaria, Africa, Switzerland and England, coming to the United States in 1956. She studied in England and Switzerland, received her B.A. from Stanford University and is fluent in French as well as having a good knowledge of Russian.

RALSTON HILL (Charles) made his Broadway debut as Charles Thompson in the hit musical, *1776* and has repeated this role as well as the role of Dickens in leading theatres throughout the country and currently may be seen as Thomson in the movie, *1776*.

The handsome Mr. Hill has appeared off-Broadway as the villainous banker in the prize-winning musical, *The Streets Of New York*, as Mr. Bascombe in the Lincoln Center revival of *Carousel* in New York and on tour, as the rousé Cardinal in *Sandy Wilson's Valmouth*, and in the title role in *The Changeling* as well as *Locki* in the recent hit revival of *The Beggar's Opera*. The National Repertory Theatre featured Mr. Hill on tour in *John Brown's Body* and *The Comedy of Errors* and at the re-opening season at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. He has also traveled throughout the country in *Oliver!* and *Candide*.

Summer theatre audiences have acclaimed his versatility in roles ranging from Bishop Cauchon in *St. Joan* to Prince Orlovsky in *Die Fledermaus*. Among his other portrayals have been Nat Miller in *Take Me Along*, Miles Floriosus in *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, the Devil in *Damn Yankees*, the Wazir in *Kismet* and as Margaret Whiting's leading man in *Call Me Madam*. He also created the role of the King in Deems Taylor's opera, *The Dragon* and appeared in original revues at Tamiment. His most recent appearances have been in *I Do! I Do!*, co-starring with Vivian Blaine and in *Brigadoon* with Jane Powell.

JOHN KELSO (Dr. Bradman) is appearing in Sullivan for his twelfth season. The versatile actor-director has reaped rave reviews for both positions. Last season, John delighted Sullivan audiences as Barney in *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* with Rosemary Prinz, Sir Evelyn in *Anything Goes* with Frank Sutton, Dr. Dreyfuss in *Promises, Promises* with Peter Palmer and in a variety of other roles in other musicals. He also directed Mr. and Mrs. Pat O'Brien in *Paris Is Out*, the 38th production he has staged here. This season, he played the part of Col. Sir Francis Chesney in *Charley's Aunt*, the Police Inspector in *Irma La Douce*, Pellinore in *Camelot*, Buzz Richards in *Applause*, Bellamy, The Girl's Father in *The Fantasticks*, Warren Smith in *On A Clear Day And Count Scharnoff* in *Blossom Time*. Mr. Kelso has appeared in theatres from Maryland to Montana.

BRINA RODIN (Mrs. Bradman) made her Sullivan debut in *Blossom Time* with Allan Jones this season. She was born in London, reared in Chicago and made her singing debut at the age of twelve singing folk songs in concert with her father, a noted bass-baritone. She has written and directed many musical shows for organizations in the Chicago area with great success. In theatre, she has appeared with such outstanding stars as Zachary Scott, Burgess Meredith, Edith Barrett, Jessie Royce Landis, Eileen Heckart, and Howard da Silva. Although Miss Rodin has been presenting her fine mezzo-soprano voice in a "one-woman-theatre" for several years, she is regarded as a fine actress by television producers and she has appeared on all networks. She has had extensive experience in radio and is a busy actress with many major TV commercials to her credit.

KATHY TAYLOR (Edith) was hailed by audiences and critics alike for her outstanding voice and acting as Guenevere in *Camelot* opposite George Chakiris, Eve Harrington in *Applause* with Rosemary Prinz and Kiti Krantz in *Blossom Time* with Allan Jones, earlier this season. Miss Taylor who hails from Denver, Colorado, is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado and has proved to be one of the most talented and popular ingenues at The Little Theatre-On The Square since she made her debut last season as Mrs. Adams in *Forty Carats* with June Lockhart. Following performances last season were as Arlene Kander in *Paris Is Out* with Pat O'Brien, Hope in *Anything Goes* with Frank Sutton, Hodel in *Fiddler On The Roof* with Shelley Berman, Peggy Olson in *Promises, Promises* with Peter Palmer, April in *Company* with Janis Paige and *Lion In Winter* with Helen Wagner and Donald May.

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