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Props

Carol Davies

Prompt

Olwen Ferrans

Additional Artwork

Laura Marshall

Bar

Beccie Davies

Stage Building

Ron Hutchinson, John Wagner, David Ades, Lindsay Park, Geoff Townson, Paul Zijlstra

Set Dressing

David Ades, Jon Barton, Laura Kinsella, Lisa Baker, Ron Hutchinson, Gina Hutchinson

Special Thanks To...

David Ades, Martin Clare, Lindsay Park, David Davies, John Wagner, Carol Davies and Lisa Baker for their hard work in clearing out the Thespians shed; Gina Hutchinson and Rachel Gallagher for all their assistance; Olwen Ferrans for making all the brews.

If you're interested in joining the society in any capacity, please contact us:

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Noël Coward's Private Lives



Wednesday 23rd – Saturday 26th April 2008
Dunham Massey Village Hall



A Dunham Thespians Production

Noël Coward's *Private Lives*

It's love that does it. To hell with love!

Elyot and Amanda's tempestuous relationship ended in bitter divorce. They have since remarried, but when they meet by chance on their respective honeymoons, the fervent passion that enveloped their relationship is reignited. Fleeing their new spouses, they soon rediscover what drove them apart.

As poignant and relevant as ever, Coward's intimate comedy finds a new home at Dunham Massey Village Hall...

CAST

Elyot Chase	<i>Jon Barton</i>
Amanda Prynne	<i>Diane Hutchinson</i>
Victor Prynne	<i>Martin Clare</i>
Sybil Chase	<i>Laura Kinsella</i>
Louise	<i>Sandra Capper</i>

Produced & Directed by David Ades

ACT I

The terrace of a hotel in France. A Summer evening.

ACT II

Amanda's flat in Paris. A Few days later. Evening.

ACT III

The same. Next morning.

- The interval will take place at the end of Act I.
- Raffle tickets will be available both before the play and during the interval. The raffle will be drawn at the end of Act II. Many thanks to all those who kindly contributed prizes
- A bar will be available in the foyer selling wine and lager.
- A small selection of sweets and chocolates will also be on sale in the foyer.
- Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available during the interval free of charge.
- £1 from the cost of every ticket is being donated to St Ann's Hospice. (Registered Charity No. 258085 www.sah.org.uk)

Noël Coward

Noël Coward was born in Teddington, Middlesex in December 1899, and began performing in the West End from a very young age, appearing in his first professional production as early as January 1911. At the age of 20, he starred in one of his first full-length plays, "I'll Leave It To You", but it wasn't until the controversy surrounding his 1924 play "The Vortex" (which contained references to drug abuse and homosexuality) that he received instant notoriety in both the UK and America. He followed this up by writing and appearing in a string of major hits, including "Hay Fever" and "Fallen Angel".

Despite continued success both pre and post war, Coward's popularity declined in the 1950's, but his 1960 play "Waiting In The Wings" brought about a stark revival, and many of his earlier works resurfaced as West End and Broadway productions. Though ill-health hampered his ability to work as often as he would have liked in later years, he still managed an iconic performance as Mr. Bridger in the hit 1969 film "The Italian Job". By the time of his death from heart failure in March 1973, he had already long since established his reputation as one of the all time great playwrights and performing artists. Knighted in 1970, and with countless achievement awards, his nickname 'The Master' still holds true today.



Private Lives

Private Lives, written in 1930, was completed in just four days at the peak of Coward's early success, and is regarded by many as something of a high point in his career. He appeared in the first production of the play, at the Phoenix Theatre, London, on September 24th 1930, alongside Laurence Olivier and Gertrude Lawrence.

The play has appeared on Broadway several times, beginning with the first production in 1931. The role of Amanda has been played by a host of renowned actresses, such as Elizabeth Taylor (1983) and Joan Collins (1992), and has been produced on Broadway as recently as 2002.

www.noelcoward.net www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noel_Coward