



Faringdon Dramatic Society
in association with
Garrison Little Theatre
and Sudbury House Hotel
presents



London Suite

Four
playlets

by Neil Simon



Fri 21st and
Sat 22nd October

Sudbury House Hotel, Faringdon

London Suite

By Neil Simon

London Suite consists of four one-act plays that take place in the 1980s, in an old but very fashionable hotel in London, much like the Connaught Hotel in Mayfair.

The Connaught, originally built in the 19th century, still stands today, a testament to the splendour of the period. Its décor, although remodelled many times, still has the charm and ambience of the original. It is far from one of the larger hotels in London but its clientele look for atmosphere, comfort and privacy, standing out from its glitzy contemporaries.

In **Settling Accounts**, the suite is occupied by an inebriated Welsh writer who is holding his long time business manager - caught absconding with the writer's money - at gun point.

An American widow and her daughter then take over the suite in **Going Home**. At the daughter's insistence, mother spends her last evening in London with a rich Scotsman.

In **Sidney and Diana**, an Oscar winning actress and her divorced husband are seeing each other for the first time in years.

The Man on the Floor features as guests a married couple from New York who have lost their tickets to Wimbledon.

There will be an interval of fifteen minutes between Acts I and II when the bar will be open and the raffle drawn.

Act 1

Settling Accounts

Brian
Billy

Dan Bennett
Chuck Jagiello

Director – Darka Makarec

Going Home

Lauren
Mrs Semple

Sarah Couzens
Carolyn Taylor

Director – Jeni Summerfield

Act 2

Diana & Sidney

Diana
Grace
Sidney

Lois Wells
Katie Dyet
Simon Wisbey

Director – Jo Webster

The Man on the Floor

Mark
Annie
Mrs Sitgood
Bellman
Dr. McMerlin

Dan Bennett
Carole Ferriday
Marie Hoyle
Adrian Wells
Rey Baecher

Director – Chuck Jagiello

Behind the Scenes...

Producer	Debbie Lock
Stage Manager	Gary Field
Props	Carole Tappenden, Valerie Winslow
Sound/lights	Gary Bates , John Roebuck
Set Design & Construction	Jo Webster, Peter Webster
Publicity	Fiona Merrick, Ian Lee
Posters	Adrian Wells
Programmes	Dave Headey
Front of house coordinator	Sandra Keen
Front of House	Denise Monk, Wendy Jagiello, Brenda Bennett, Jeff Barry, David Ethier

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank:

- **Sudbury House Hotel** for their co-operation, and loan of furniture
- **Faringdon United Church** for rehearsal facilities,
- **The Nut Tree** for ticket sales,
- **Faringdon Upholstery** for loan of the sofa

Faringdon Dramatic Society

Faringdon Dramatic Society was formed over sixty years ago in 1948.

Since then it has mounted around 150 productions, ranging from pantomime to dramas, comedies and Shakespeare. We are affiliated to NODA and have carried off a number of awards including the Ron Kench Shield for Drama for **Dancing at Lughnasa** in 2004.

Our current membership is 60, but new members are always welcome, and there are opportunities for backstage and front of house personnel as well as actors.

For up to date details of the Society please visit our website:

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

Or email us at webmaster@faringdondramatic.org.uk

Garrison Little Theatre

Garrison Little Theatre began in 1986 and is currently enjoying its 25th season. Many of the founder members are still with the group working on stage and off.

Our patrons are served a 5 course dinner which we hope will put them in a good mood for the subsequent performance. We live in Fort Erie, Ontario which is on the Canadian border opposite Buffalo, New York State. We are about 20 miles from Niagara Falls.

British audiences may not connect Canada with theatre but Canadians have been active in film since the early days of Hollywood. Mary Pickford, Marie Dressler, Glenn Ford, Raymond Massey, Raymond Burr in past years and Christopher Plummer, Jim Carrey, Michael Fox and Leslie Nielson more recently, indicate our enthusiasm for the boards!

Find us on the web at:

www.artsniagara.com/garrison-little-theatre

Cast Profiles (FDS)

Sarah Couzens (Lauren)

After a break of several years, we have now seen Sarah on stage twice in 2011 – most recently as Vera in **The Odd Couple** - and we are very pleased to welcome her back. She took the title role in **Daisy Pulls it Off** ten years ago and in 2004 was Elaine in **Arsenic and Old Lace**. Since returning to Faringdon with her family last October she has also worked backstage.



Carolyn Taylor (Mrs Semple)

Carolyn has appeared in and directed many productions; recent highlights include directing **Outside Edge** which FDS took to Canada in 2008. Her most recent stage appearance was as Aunt Ada Doom in **Cold Comfort Farm** (where she “saw something narsty in the woodshed!”). To her list of many talents she can now add that of playwright, being the author of **Beauty and the Beast**, the FDS panto in 2009.

Lois Wells (Diana)

Last year Lois played Judith in **Cold Comfort Farm** and this year we saw her as the pirate Scupper in **Dick Whittington**. This was the latest of several pantomime character roles such as Mole in **Wind in the Willows**, Mystic Maggie (with echoes of another Maggie) in **The Pied Piper**, and Velda Vixen in **Snow White**.



Katie Dyet (Grace)

Katie has appeared in no fewer than eight pantos with FDS, taking on roles as judge, gypsy, simpleton, queen, pirate and bad fairy – the “good, the bad and the ugly” and most recently the Slave of the Ring in **Aladdin** last year. In one role in she didn’t say a word, yet received critical acclaim – as the mute Loony Joe in **Candleford**, and was most recently on stage as Mickey (the cop) in **The Odd Couple** earlier this year.

Simon Wisbey (Sidney)

This is Simon’s first stage appearance since he played pompous cricket captain Roger in **Outside Edge** which we took to Canada in 2008. Before that he took part in many productions, including **Blood Brothers**, **The Crucible**, **Much Ado About Nothing**, **Educating Rita** (as Frank) and **Noises Off** (as Freddie). He was also a remarkable Pantomime Dame in **Snow White**.



Adrian Wells (Bellman)

Adrian has been a part of FDS for 16 years. He has been in award winning productions including **The Crucible** (as John Proctor) and as Albert in **Idle Chatter**. He took part in the production of **Outside Edge** that was taken to Fort Erie in 2008 for the last Canadian exchange. Since then he has also had roles in **Candleford**, **Our Town**, as the Beast in **Beauty and the Beast** and this year as the Spanish brother Jesus in **The Odd Couple**.

Cast Profiles (GLT)



Dan Bennett (Mark)

Dan has been a member of Garrison Little Theatre from its beginning. Becoming ordained in the Anglican Church of Canada took him to a different stage for a while and gives thanks that he has been able to return to the theatre. He is delighted to be able to enjoy this first trip to Great Britain with Brenda, his wife of 24 years. They have two children, Eric and Siobhan.

Chuck Jagiello (Billy / Director, *The Man on the Floor*)

Chuck has been a member of GLT from the first show in 1986, and has been involved in over 50 productions in the Niagara area as an actor and director. He is best remembered in Faringdon for his role as opera star Tito in **Lend me a Tenor** in 2007. He is married to Wendy and has 3 children, Brandon, Kelsey and Tristan.



Carole Ferriday (Annie)

Carole has been an active member of GLT since 2007, having been on stage most recently as Rene in Neil Simon's **The Odd Couple** (Female Version) in the spring of 2011. Carole is looking forward to playing Annie as one half of the American couple in **The Man on the Floor**.

Marie Hoyle (Mrs Sitgood)

Marie is thrilled to be on stage in Faringdon, playing Mrs Sitgood! A 20 plus years member of GLT, Marie has been on-stage, off-stage, directed, produced and really done anything that needed doing. Married to Doug for 31 years, they have 2 grown sons and one grand-daughter, Erin.



Rey Baecher (Dr McMerlin)

A professionally trained actor, singer and dancer, Rey has appeared in a number of GLT productions including **Jitters**, **Relatively Speaking**, **Ten Little Indians** and **The Emperor's New Clothes**. He has also appeared on film, television and even in commercials. In addition to all that he is a water colour and ceramic artist with his own studio in Fort Erie.

Darka Makarec (Director, *Settling Accounts*)

Darka has been a member of GLT since 1989 and has enjoyed all aspects of theatre on and off the stage. Some favourite roles include Olive in **The Odd Couple** (female version), Mildred in **Plaza Suite**, Marta in **Waiting for the Parade**, and Peggy in **The Fourth Wall**. Previous directorial credits include **Run for Your Wife** and **Lend Me a Tenor** which came to Faringdon in 2007.



