

FARINGDON DRAMATIC SOCIETY



presents

Affiliated to NODA

The **Odd Couple**
(Female Version) a comedy
by Neil Simon

19-21 *May*
Faringdon *Junior School*



Curtain 8:00pm

The Odd Couple

(female version)

By Neil Simon

1980's New York.

Olive Madison is a prime time TV producer and Florence Unger a typical Westchester housewife (upper class). Olive, Florence, and their friends from High School - Vera, Sylvie, Mickey and Renee - meet once a week in Olive's Upper Westside Manhattan apartment to gossip and play Trivial Pursuit.

Upstairs from Olive live Jesus and Manolo, Spanish brothers whom Olive is eager to get to know better (nudge, nudge, wink, wink...). When Florence splits from her husband, Olive offers her the spare room.

Olive is a slob and Florence a 'neat-freak' hypochondriac. The relationship between the two women comes under the spotlight as they learn what they are both *really* like during their time together. Neil Simon's classic situation comedy sizzles with wit as the mismatched room-mates battle to see who will survive!

Act 1

Olive's flat in Manhattan on a warm summer night.

Act 2

The same, two weeks later

There will be an interval of twenty minutes between acts when refreshments will be available and the raffle drawn.

Cast:

Olive Madison	Amanda Linstead
Florence Unger	Verity Roberts
Vera	Sarah Couzens
Sylvie	Sarah Varnom
Renee	Sandra Keen
Mickey the Cop	Katie Dyet
Jesus	Adrian Wells
Manolo	Jeff Barry

Directed by **Marianna Raho**

Assistant director: **Carolyn Taylor**

Production team:

Producer	Jeni Summerfield
Stage design	Jo Webster, Carole Tappenden
Set Construction	Peter Webster, Jeff Barry, Richard Lock, Alan Merrick, Nick Evans
Stage Manager	Debbie Lock
Props	Lois Wells, Nicci Armer
Sound	Gary Bates
Lighting Design	Ian Chandler
Lighting	Paul Mountford-Lister, Tim Mountford-Lister
Wardrobe	Joan Lee, Jeni Summerfield
Publicity	Fiona Merrick
Posters	Adrian Wells
Programmes	Dave Headey
Front of House Manager	Karen Whiffen
Front of House team	Gary Field, Alan Merrick, Fiona Merrick, Denise Monk, Mary Mountford-Lister, Shela Rowan, Michael Tipper, Jo Webster, Peter Webster, Jenny Whiffen, Martin Whiffen

Cast Profiles

Amanda Linstead (Olive)

Amanda trained in dance and drama in London, and worked professionally until she got married. Previous productions **include Daisy Pulls it Off, Brush Up Your Shakespeare, Cabaret** and **Candleford** (as Dorcas Lane). She is very happy to be performing again with the Faringdon Dramatic Society and is looking forward to being part of further productions.



Verity Roberts (Florence)

Verity's first appearance for FDS was as Cecily in **The Importance of Being Earnest**, and she has taken leading roles in two of the last four pantos (**Peter Panto** in 2008 and **Aladdin** last year) and as Flora Poste in **Cold Comfort Farm**. We would have liked to have seen her more often on stage but she and husband Austen have been rather busy starting a family!

Sarah Couzens (Vera)

This is Sarah's first appearance on stage for FDS for a number of years, and we are pleased to welcome her back. She took the title role in **Daisy Pulls it Off** ten years ago and in 2004 took the part of Elaine in **Arsenic and Old Lace**. Since returning to Faringdon with her family last October she has worked backstage.



Sarah Varnom (Sylvie)

Since joining FDS Sarah has enjoyed all manner of roles from Wicked Witch, to leading parts in **Cabaret, Dancing at Lughnasa**, and **Noises Off**. She was recently seen wielding her handbag as Lady Bracknell in **The Importance of being Earnest** and wearing a voluminous fur coat in **Outside Edge**. Most recently Sarah directed the production of **Heroes** which was performed as part of a dinner/theatre experience and was a huge success.

Sandra Keen (Renee)

Sandra has been acting for ten years, starting with a production of **Cinderella**, and has since performed a variety of roles including Lady Sneerwell in Sheridan's **School for Scandal**. This is her fifth appearance for FDS and we also saw her as Rose in **Dancing at Lughnasa**, Varya in **The Cherry Orchard**, and Councillor Graham in **I Thought I Heard a Rustling**.



Katie Dyet (Mickey)

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 her last role in a play she didn't say a word, yet received critical acclaim – as the mute Loony Joe in **Candleford**.



Adrian Wells (Jesus)

Since coming along 'for a laugh' in 1994 and being cast as Smee in the first production of **Peter Panto**, Adrian has appeared in a variety of FDS productions including **The Crucible**, **Arsenic & Old Lace**, **Much Ado About Nothing**, **Outside Edge**, **Candleford** and **Our Town**. Adrian is also responsible for most of the graphic design used for FDS publicity (including the cover of this programme).

Jeff Barry (Manolo)

Jeff's first role with FDS was Gerry in **Dancing at Lughnasa** and he has also been seen as impoverished landowner Pishchik in **The Cherry Orchard** and farmer Reuben in **Cold Comfort Farm**. In 2006 many people will recall his fall down two flights of stairs as Garry Lejeune in **Noises Off**. Jeff made his directorial debut the next year with **The Importance of being Earnest**.



Marianna Raho (Director)

This is the first play Marianna has directed for FDS although she has been our Musical Director for the last two pantos. With considerable musical, theatrical and teaching experience, Marianna is also a founder-director of the High Maintenance Theatre Co., a new professional group which aims to produce plays and musicals for (mostly but not solely) two or three women.

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. Recently we 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 or membership please visit our website:

www.faringdondramatic.org.uk

Or email us at webmaster@faringdondramatic.org.uk

Acknowledgements

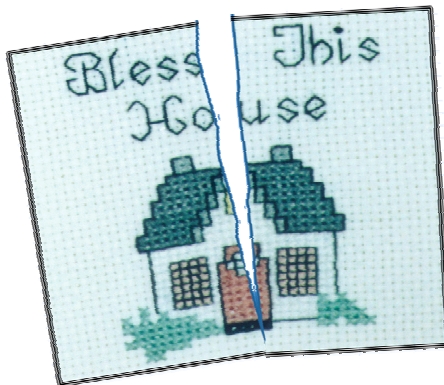
We would like to thank:

- **Faringdon Junior School** for their cooperation,
- **Faringdon United Church** for rehearsal facilities,
- **The Nut Tree** for ticket sales.

Mickey's costume hired from **Flame Theatrical**

Our next production is **London Suite**, also by Neil Simon, on **October 21st and 22nd**. This is a joint venture with Garrison Little Theatre from Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada and the venue (a new one for us) will be **Sudbury House**.

London Suite is a Dinner Theatre production– the ticket price will include a one course buffet provided provided by Sudbury House. Watch the local press or visit the FDS website for more details nearer the time.



Faringdon Dramatic Society Past Productions

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|------|--|------|--|
| 1949 | The Ghost Train
Busman's Honeymoon | | Post Horn Gallop
The Importance of Being Earnest |
| 1950 | A Quiet Weekend
Distinguished Gathering | 1967 | The Winslow Boy
Rookery Nook |
| 1951 | When We Are Married
The Chiltern Hundreds
Who Lies There | 1968 | Someone Waiting
Thark |
| 1952 | The Happiest Days of Your Life | 1969 | Pools Paradise
Dial 'M' For Murder |
| 1953 | A Wagonload of Monkeys
Beggar My Neighbour
The Late Christopher Bean | | Blithe Spirit |
| 1954 | See How They Run
A Lady Mislaid | 1970 | The Touch of Fear
I'll Get My Man
Something to Hide |
| 1955 | The Shop at Sly Corner
Night Was Our Friend | 1971 | Tons of Money
The Bride and the Bachelor
Dead on Nine |
| 1956 | Mystery At Greenfingers
Miranda
And This Was Odd | 1972 | A Basinful of the Briny |
| 1957 | Haul For The Shore
Blithe Spirit | 1974 | Beside the Seaside |
| 1958 | Night Must Fall
Queen Elizabeth Slept Here
Love in a Mist | 1975 | The Brides of March |
| 1959 | Madam Tic-Tac
Sailor Beware
Murder on the Nile | 1978 | Post Horn Gallop |
| 1960 | The Blue Goose
Beside the Seaside
Breath of Spring | 1979 | A Murder Has Been Arranged
Doctor In The House |
| 1961 | A Play for Ronnie
The Paragon
Murder at the Vicarage | 1980 | Night Must Fall
The Brides of March |
| 1962 | Look Out For The Catch
The Lovebirds | 1981 | House by the Lake
Mother Figure
Clara's On The Curtain
Time Murderer Please |
| 1963 | When We Are Married
Russian Salad/Family Album | 1982 | Rookery Nook
Busybody
The Laboratory
Green for Danger |
| 1964 | An Inspector Calls
Brush With a Body
Running Riot | 1983 | Breath of Spring
Something to Hide
Fool's Paradise |
| 1965 | The Poltergeist
The Brides of March
The Geese Are Getting Fat | 1984 | Babes in the Wood
Cat on the Fiddle
Murder in Company |
| 1966 | Rock-a-Bye Sailor | 1985 | The Madam
None the Wiser
Portrait of a Murder |

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| 1986 | Tomb With a View
The Murder of Maria Marten
Gosforth's Fete
Funeral Tea
Albert | | Lark Rise
Habeas Corpus |
| 1987 | Sleeping Beauty
Local Affairs
Brush With a Body | 1999 | Alice in Wonderland
Confusions
Oh What A Lovely War |
| 1988 | Jack and the Beanstalk
After Magritte
Between Mouthfuls
Nasty Things, Murders
Outside Edge | 2000 | Arthur's Adventure
Old Time Music Hall
Hell and High Water |
| 1989 | Cinderella
Murder for the Asking
Lord Arthur Saville's Crime | 2001 | Cinderella
The Crucible
Daisy Pulls It Off |
| 1990 | Aladdin
Time and the Conways
Ten Times Table | 2002 | Babes In The Wood
Brush Up Your Shakespeare
Cabaret |
| 1991 | The Wind in the Willows
Move Over Mrs Markham
Stepping Out | 2003 | The Wind in the Willows
Much Ado About Nothing
Separate Tables |
| 1992 | Babes In The Wood
Farndale Murder Mystery
Time To Kill | 2004 | How Clarence Earned His Wings
Arsenic and Old Lace
Shakers
Dancing at Lughnasa |
| 1993 | Sinbad the Sailor
Black Comedy
Blithe Spirit | 2005 | Snow White
Idle Chatter
Educating Rita |
| 1994 | The Wizard of Oz
Cold Comfort Farm
The Woman in White | 2006 | Dreamers
The Cherry Orchard
Noises Off |
| 1995 | Peter Panto
The Good Old Days
Visiting Hour | 2007 | Pirates of the Faribbean
The Importance of being Earnest
(with GLT) Lend me a Tenor |
| 1996 | Dick Turpin
Time of My Life
Witness for the Prosecution | 2008 | Peter Panto
Outside Edge
Candleford |
| 1997 | Sleeping Beauty
Blood Brothers
Pygmalion | 2009 | Beauty and the Beast
I Thought I heard a Rustling
Our Town |
| 1998 | The Pied Piper | 2010 | Aladdin
Cold Comfort Farm
Heroes |
| | | 2011 | Dick Whittington
The Odd Couple |