

NUFFIELD THEATRE

licensee : A. de R. Davis

JEAN ADAMS	secretary
MARION CLARKE	box office
BILL DUNN	stage door keeper
PHYLLIS EDEN	box office
GREG HEAD	electrician
JANET HUMBY	box office
DERECK JONES	chief electrician
GERDA KELLNER	box office
ROGER McCANN	administrator
BETTY RIGGS	box office
STANLEY RIXON	technical manager
JOHN C. SMITH	chairman
RALPH STEVENS	house manager
MOLLY WILSON	box office
SUE WILSON	fellow in theatre

The Nuffield Theatre would like to thank the ushers for giving their services voluntarily.

The Nuffield Theatre acknowledges financial assistance from the Southern Arts Association and the Leisure Committee of the City of Southampton towards the costs of maintaining this theatre.

In accordance with the requirements of the licensing authority:

- 1 The audience may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors.
- 2 All gangways, corridors, staircases and passageways which afford a means of exit shall be kept entirely free from obstruction.
- 3 Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways except in positions authorised by the licensing authority and in the numbers indicated in the notices exhibited in those positions.
- 4 The safety curtain shall be lowered and raised at each performance in the presence of the audience.

The management reserves the right to refuse admission, also to make alteration in the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable causes.

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The use of cameras or tape recorders in the theatre is forbidden.

*the maskers theatre company*

*present*

# HOTEL PARADISO

*by*

*Georges Feydeau  
&  
Maurice Desvallieres*

Director : Kenneth Spencer

## George Feydeau

Georges Feydeau, was born in Paris on December 8, 1862, the son of Ernest Feydeau, a writer who published *The History of Funeral Customs and Burial Rights of Ancient Peoples* in the same year that saw the birth of his son, who was to make all Paris roar with laughter. Young Georges was a charming and very lazy child who at the age of six or seven, after his first visit to the theatre, took his school notebook and began to write a play. His astounded father excused him for not doing his lessons that day, and the boy continued to write whenever he did not wish to study. By the time he was in secondary school, he was writing sprightly dialogues. His first play to be produced in Paris was *Love and Piano*, a one-act comedy. In the same year, Feydeau, who had shown considerable talent as an amateur actor, was invited to join the company at the Vaudeville. He missed being hired, and thus perhaps lost as a dramatist, only because the director was late for their appointment.

Feydeau wrote his first big hit, *A Gown for His Mistress*, while he was in military service in 1884. He then went through a difficult period of rejections by director after director. Then, in 1892, *Monsieur Goes Hunting!* was produced at the Palais-Royal and ran for 1,000 performances, and *Champignol in Spite of Himself* was produced at the Theatre des Nouveautes and ran for several performances longer.

Feydeau's triumphant career brought him both fame and money and reached a climax with *Keep an Eye on Amelie* in 1908. His laziness was now as fabled as his charm and wit, and at this point he began to invest in the stock market. He was lucky at first but then lost heavily and had to begin to write again, producing the series of one-act plays that he considered publishing under the collective title *From Marriage to Divorce*, since they were all concerned with the hazards of middle-class marriage. These were all written and produced immediately before World War I.

*Hotel Paradiso*, written in 1894, is an excellent example of the classic Feydeau farce, with its fast action and uproariously complicated plot.

Feydeau died in Paris on June 5th, 1921.

## Cast in order of appearance

Boniface  
Angelique  
Marcelle  
Cot  
Maxime  
Victoire  
Martin  
Martin's Daughters

Aniello  
Georges  
A Lady  
A Duke  
Tabu  
Inspector Bouchard  
Porters and Policemen

Graham Buchanan  
Julie Baker  
Mollie Manns  
David Pike  
Robert Smith  
Angela Stansbridge  
Ken Hann  
Hazel Burrows  
Joanna Hudek  
Gillian Roberts  
Kate Summerton  
Sandy White  
Georgina Williams  
Kenneth Spencer  
Peter White  
Lynda Edwards  
Tony Lawther  
John Burrows  
Geoff Wharam  
Terry Handley  
Paul Lucas  
Mike Johnson  
Monty Rose  
Brendan Taggart  
Ron Tillyer

ACT I - The home of M. & Mme. Boniface in Paris at the turn of the Century.

ACT II - Hotel Paradiso

ACT III - As Act I: the following morning

There will be two intervals of 15 minutes during which the fully licensed Theatre Bar will be open.

Coffee, soft drinks, chocolate and ice cream are also available.

## FOR THE MASKERS THEATRE COMPANY

Technical Director Ron Tillyer  
Stage Manager Joy Wingfield  
Stage Assistants Valerie Barwell  
Jacquie Mitchell

Set Construction John Riggs  
Alan Baker  
Mike Johnson

Scenic Artists Kenneth Spencer  
Hazel Burrows

Wardrobe Mistress Lillian Gunstone  
Wardrobe Assistant Doreen Andrews  
Wardrobe Hire Salisbury Playhouse

Sound Mike McDermid

Lighting Roger Lockett

Lighting Design Derek Jones

Business Manager Brian Stansbridge

Publicity Graham Buchanan

Designed by Kenneth Spencer

The Maskers Theatre Company wish to extend their thanks to all those who have assisted with this production, particularly with the loan of furniture and properties.

"HOTEL PARADISO"

English adaptation by Peter Glenville