

SCENES FROM

*Anton Pavlovitch
Chekov*

UNCLE VANYA

*presented by
Moot House Players*

A DOUBLE BILL:

MERELY PLAYERS XVII

POST MORTEM

a one act play by BRIAN CLARK

A workshop production by Michael Branwell
of another piece by the author of 'Whose Life
is it Anyway?'

THE SEASONS

an anthology of verse and music with special
lighting and sounds evoking the atmosphere of
the changing year - as the French would say :
a *Son et Lumiere* show

Arranged and presented by our indefatigable
lighting designer, Christopher Driver

*As usual, an experimental Sunday evening, with
food and drink at low prices*

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Wednesday to Saturday,
July 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th,
1982

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Sunday, May 23rd, 1982

8.00 p.m.

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Cowardy Custard

*a musical entertainment based on the works
of NOEL COWARD*

At last we are able to present our tribute
to the master - an evening of tuneful and
nostalgic melody laced with wit & superb
lyrics.

This will be a 'full-scale' musical with a
small orchestra directed by Alan Aplin.

Production by Jack Mitchley

Seat prices still only 90p. (40p. children)

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UNCLE VANYA

translated by Constance Garnett

Characters in order of appearance :

MARINA, an old nurse	Yvonne Mitchley
MIHAIL LVOVITCH ASTROV, a doctor	Christopher Childs
IVAN PETROVICH VOYNITSKY, called VANYA	David Schacht
ALEXANDR VLADIMIROVITCH SEREBRYAKOV, a retired professor	Stephen Collins
SOFYA ALEXANDROVNA, called Sonya	Janet Pearson
his daughter by his first wife	
ILYA ILYITCH TELYEGIN, called WAFFLES	Gordon Hewlett
a poverty-stricken landowner	
YELENA ANDREYEVNA,	Paulene Carter
the professor's second wife	
MARYA VASSILYEVNA VOYNITSKY,	Marian Bush
Vanya's mother and Serebryakov's 1st wife	
YEFIM, a labourer	Jack Mitchley

The action takes place in and around Serebryakov's country estate

ACT I. The garden. An afternoon in late summer

ACT II. The dining room. Midnight some weeks later

ACT III. The dining room. A morning in late autumn

ACT IV. Vanya's room. Later the same day

The play produced by Owen Mooney

Assistant producer : Jack Mitchley Settings by Paul Regeli
Costumes by Laws Lighting and sound by Christopher Driver
Properties: Michael Caswell. Stage staff: Alan Albiston, Ian Beckett
Mike Rawle-Cope, Jill Williams, Roger Williamson

There will be one major interval between Acts II and III during which refreshments will be available

SCENES FROM

NOTES

THE PLAY

UNCLE VANYA is the Players' ninth production of Chekov's major works and the second of this particular play. Moot Hall audiences saw it first in 1965 with a cast which included three members of the present one. It was the second of Chekov's plays to be given by the Moscow Arts Theatre Company but was not written specifically for them. It was offered to the establishment-ridden Maly Theatre which turned it down as 'dramatically unsound and socially irrelevant.' It was eventually given its first production in 1899 by the Moscow Arts Theatre some 7 years after an earlier version called THE WOOD DEMON, in which the accent is rather more on the 'forester doctor,' Astrov, and the cast list is much longer. UNCLE VANYA has had several major productions in London since the Second World War—the second National Theatre version is due to open very shortly.

THE PRODUCTION

The Players' first production of the play was given fully 'in the round' during the period when this form of staging was relatively revolutionary; on this occasion the scene design has been offered more scope and we are glad to welcome to the group of actors who have appeared in many Chekov productions, Paulene Carter and Marian Bush. As usual Chekov offers, in his own phrase, a 'ton of love'—real people struggling for happiness so that we laugh with them rather than at them in the middle of their family life.

See back cover for Future Programme
