

## FUTURE PROGRAMME

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The next production in Moot Hall will be another revival - the immensely popular musical play

### LOCK UP YOUR DAUGHTERS

Adapted from Henry Fielding's RAPE UPON RAPE  
by Bernard Miles, with music by Laurie Johnson  
and lyrics by Lionel Bart

*The show which opened the Mermaid Theatre and  
ran and ran*

Production will be directed by Gordon Hewlett

May 5, 6, 7 and 8th, 1983

# BLITHE SPIRIT

# MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS

present

## BLITHE SPIRIT

an improbable farce by NOEL COWARD

### Characters in order of appearance:

Edith, a maidservant	. . .	Paulene Carter
Ruth Condomine	. . .	Gillian Childs
Charles Condomine, her husband		Stephen Collins
Doctor Bradman	. . .	Roger Williamson
Violet Bradman, his wife	. . .	Sue Williamson
Madame Arcati, a medium	. . .	Yvonne Mitchley
Elvira	. . . . .	Rose Wayper

The action takes place in the living room of the Condomine's house in Kent in the late thirties of this century

ACT I SCENE 1 *Before dinner on a summer evening*  
SCENE 2 *After dinner*

ACT II SCENE 1 *The next morning*  
SCENE 2 *Late the following afternoon*  
SCENE 3 *Early evening. A few days later*

ACT III SCENE 1 *After dinner. A few days later*  
SCENE 2 *Several hours later*

The play produced by Charles Hill

Setting by Paul Regeli

Costumes by Laws

Lighting and Sound by Christopher Driver

Stage Management: Rory Hollywood, Roger Williamson  
and Jill Williams

### NOTES

BLITHE SPIRIT was first produced (by the author) at the Opera House, Manchester on June 16th, 1941 and opened in London at the Piccadilly Theatre a few weeks later on July 2nd and thereafter ran for 1997 performances, which was a record for a 'straight' play until the arrival of THE MOUSETRAP several years later. This original production contained four performances which could well be described as 'definitive'—Cecil Parker's as Charles, Fay Compton's and Kay Hammond's as the two wives, and Margaret Rutherford's as Madame Arcati. Kay Hammond and Margaret Rutherford later repeated these in the film version which starred Rex Harrison, although, oddly enough, Coward himself never liked Rutherford's version of Arcati. This remains one of the best farces of the 20th century and, improbable though the plot may be, Coward's skill and impish sense of fun suspend our disbelief.

The Players last gave the play in 1961 when the present producer played Charles and the production was directed by Paul Hopkins.

There will be two intervals during which refreshments will be available

This programme was arranged and hand-set by Robert Driver

PLEASE SEE OVER FOR DETAILS OF FUTURE PROGRAMME