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Moot House Players present

PYGMALION

by George Bernard Shaw

Characters in order of appearance:

MRS.EYNSFORD-HILL CLARA, her daughter PROFESSOR HENRY HIGGINS Bystanders

FREDDY EYNSFORD-HILL ELIZA DOOLITTLE, a flower seller COLONEL PICKERING MRS.PEARCE. Higgins' housekeeper ALFRED DOOLITTLE, a dustman MRS.HIGGINS. Henry's mother Mrs. Higgins' Parlour Maid

Jennifer Southwell Jenny Taylor Mike Rawle-Cope Marian Rush Christine Scriven Jack Mitchlev Rory Hollywood Karen Neal Gordon Whittle Gillian Childs Robin Harcourt Yvonne Mitchley Christine Scriven

The scene is set in London. c.1913 Act I: 11.15 p.m., early Summer, outside a church in Covent Garden Act II: 11.00 a.m. the next day, Higgins' laboratory Act III : Late afternoon some weeks later. Mrs. Higgins' house Act IV: Midnight some months later, Higgins!

Act V: Next morning. Mrs. Higgins! house

The play produced by Charles Hill

Settings by Paul Regeli, built by Roger Williamson and Robin Harcourt: Costumes by Laws: Lighting and Sound by Christopher Driver: Properties by Michael Caswell: Stage management by Barry Thorp and Jill Williams. Medical charts kindly reproduced by MALTINGS REPROGRAPHICS (Harlow 724053)

There will be a major interval between Acts II and III during which refreshments will be served.

NOTES

PYGMALION has had a complex history: the stage play appears to have been written in 1912, first published in German translation and staged in Vienna in 1913. The following year saw the first publication of the English text in New York and London in literary magazines and its first night in London at His Majesty's Theatre with Mrs. Patrick Campbell as Eliza. The play first appeared in book form in 1916 and it is this version which is used in the present revival. Shaw wrote additional scenes for the film version of 1938 and this was further adapted. after his death. for the musical MY FAIR LADY, which is now more famous than the original play. Not one of these variations has a tidy ending -Freddy's love for Eliza is almost an "aside" in the original stage play, only the other media make him hang about "on the street where she lives". The stage version leaves Eliza's future enigmatic, to say the least, but the characters have too strong a life of their own to obey the puppet master's will; Eliza and Higgins will go their own way - besides the Greek legend says 'Pvgmalion was a sculptor and king of Cyprus who, though he hated women, fell in love with his own statue of Aphrodite and, at his earnest prayer, the goddess gave life to the statue and Pygmalion married his own creation. '

FUTURE PROGRAMME

Moot Hall, May 8,9 and 10, 1986

The First Part of Alan Avckbourn's 'Norman Conquest' Trilogy

TABLE MANNERS

The Players first Ayckbourn directed by Ken Collins The middle class looks at itself - fun with a cutting edge ?