IDIOT'S DELIGHT

by

ROBERT SHERWOOD

In Association with
The Calgary Allied Arts Council
The Division of Continuing Education, University of Calgary
The Edmonton Allied Arts Council

Monday, August 5th and Friday, August 9th, Eric L. Harvie Theatre, Banff
Tuesday, August 6th, Arts Centre Theatre, Calgary
Wednesday, August 7th, Students’ Union Theatre, University of Alberta, Edmonton
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Directed by FRANCIS HODGE

CABARET DANCE
Dance Preparation by Shirley Tooke
Choreography by Sidney McLain

Costume Design by ILSE RICHTER
Assistant to Dr. Hodge - SIDNEY McLAIN

Set Design by LASZLO L. FUNTEK
Lighting Design by CHARLES E. WILLIAMS

Cast

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

DUMPTSY ........................................... Winston MacDonald, Truro, Nova Scotia
ORCHESTRA MANAGER ..................... Santo Cervello, Chilliwack, B.C.
DONALD NAVADEL ............................. Peter Mandia, Ottawa, Ontario
PITTALUGA ....................................... Peter C. Montgomery, Edmonton, Alberta
AUGUSTE .......................................... Gary Schallenger, Toronto, Ontario
CAPTAIN LOGICERO .......................... Habib El'Ageli, Tripoli, Libya
DR. WALDERSEEE .............................. Keith Simpson, Vancouver, B.C.
MR. CHERRY ....................................... Robert Thomson, Richmond Hill, Ontario
MRS. CHERRY .................................... Judith Radu, Colusa, California
HARRY VAN ....................................... Jim McQueen, Vancouver, B.C.
SHIRLEY ........................................... Tanis Arnett, Winnipeg, Manitoba
BEULAH ............................................ Susan Loadman, Winnipeg, Manitoba
ELAINE ............................................ Moira Sharp, Ottawa, Ontario
FRANCINE ......................................... Susie Warner, South Whitley, Indiana
EDNA ............................................... Heather Duncan, Eugene, Oregon
BEBE ............................................. Sheila Pinkerton, Canora, Saskatchewan
FIRST OFFICER .................................. Jeffrey Besser, Los Angeles, California
SECOND OFFICER ............................... Larry Smith, Vancouver, B.C.
THIRD OFFICER ................................. Sam Hanson, Calgary, Alberta
FOURTH OFFICER .............................. Don McLeod, Manchester, California
QUILLERY ......................................... John-Destry Adams, Vancouver, B.C.
SIGNOR ROSSI .................................. Cheryl Cashman, Pembroke, Ontario
SIGNORA ROSSI ................................. Terence Peterson, Joliet, Illinois
MAJOR .............................................. Margaret Keith, Toronto, Ontario
ANNA .............................................. Robert Graham, Vancouver, B.C.
ACHILLE WEBER .................................. Mavoureen Dwyer, Montreal, Quebec
IRENE ............................................. George Thurgood, Windsor, Ontario
PIANIST ........................................... Alex Brydon, Calgary, Alberta
DRUMMER ........................................ Norris Berg, Outlook, Saskatchewan
VIOLINIST .......................................
SETTING
The scene of the play is the cocktail lounge of the Hotel Monte Gabriele, in the Italian Alps, near the frontiers of Switzerland and Austria.

ACT I - Afternoon of a winter day in any imminent year.
       INTERMISSION
ACT II - SCENE 1 - Eight o'clock that evening.
       SCENE 2 - Eleven o'clock that evening
       SCENE 3 - After midnight
       INTERMISSION
ACT III - The following afternoon.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Robert Sherwood wrote "Idiot's Delight" in 1935, four years before World War II began. His imagined prediction of what was to happen is therefore remarkable, and the importance of the play is enhanced by his sensitive vision of the European cauldron from the American point of view. Those who were caught in 1939 in the predicament Sherwood creates in "Idiot's Delight" attest the reality of his imagined happening. Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, for whom he wrote the play, performed "Idiot's Delight" in New York and across America for nearly three years, and it was then made into a moving picture with Clark Gable and Norma Shearer.

Before "Idiot's Delight" appeared Sherwood had already won Broadway honors with "Road to Rome" (also for the Lunts) and "Petrified Forest" in which Humphrey Bogart made his first bid for fame. A number of plays followed Pulitzer Prize-winning "Idiot's Delight," including two other Prize plays — "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" (1938) and "There Shall Be No Night" (1940). But Sherwood was not merely a playwright interested in historical and politically-tinged themes. He was deeply and passionately committed to his times, and this commitment, following World War II, drew him away from the theatre and into backstage participation in the U.S. government where he became a trusted advisor, Presidential speech-writer, and finally the most able reporter of the Roosevelt era in "Roosevelt and Hopkins" (1948) which also won a Pulitzer Prize. But whatever Sherwood did in high places, he never lost his interest in the "Little People" and what happens to them in the maelstrom of war and political unrest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

KLRT - Austin, Texas
CBR - Calgary, Alberta
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Tita's Ristorante, Banff, Alberta
Ann Boon Curiosity Shop
John Heywood for assistance with sound recording

The cooperation of Actors' Equity Association with whose permission John Destry Adams, Tanis Arnett, Robert G. Graham and James B. McQueen are appearing

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
Production Staff

Technical Director - Ian Heacock, Edmonton, Alberta

Lighting - Ken Hewitt, Calgary, Alberta

Sound - Kent McKay, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Costumes - Lilian Johnson, Banff, Alberta

Wardrobe Assistants - Ursula Frei, Banff, Alberta; Eleanor Mentis, Calgary, Alberta; Nada McDonald, Exshaw, Alberta; Tanis Arnett, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Laurie Bresnahan, North Vancouver, B.C.

Make-up - John J. Cox, Calgary, Alberta; Brenda Baskin, Hamilton, Ontario

Properties - Adrena Beacom, Strathroy, Ontario; Shelley Matthews, London, Ontario

Stage Crew - Bradley Diddams, Richmond Hill, Ontario; Jeff Besser, Los Angeles, California; John Salicco, Port Colborne, Ontario; Bonnie Shields, Calgary, Alberta; Susan McNicoll, Ottawa, Ontario; John Bjorgum, Edmonton, Alberta

Sets constructed by students of the Stagecraft Classes supervised by the Stagecraft Assistants under the direction of John W. Graham and László L. Funtek

Tour Stage Crew

Technical Director - Ian Heacock, Edmonton, Alberta

Lighting - Ken Hewitt, Calgary, Alberta; Jim Campbell, St. Thomas, Ontario

Costumes - Ilse Richter, Vancouver, B.C.; Tanis Arnett, Winnipeg, Manitoba


Make-up - Judith Radu, Colusa, California; Marion Boyd, Penticton, B.C.

Stage Crew - Jeff Besser, Los Angeles, California; John Bjorgum, Edmonton, Alberta; John Salicco, Port Colborne, Ontario

Patrons

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The Hon. J. W. Grant MacEwan, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta and Mrs. MacEwan
The Hon. Senator Donald Cameron and Mrs. Cameron
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