



PRESENTS

"The voice of the Turtle"

by John Van Druten

Starring

WALTER MASSEY

JOAN BLACKMAN

ANNE BUTLER

Produced by Madame Jeanine Beaubien

Directed by Jack H. Crisp

Lighting: Guy Geoffrion

Stage Manager: Kenneth Fowler

Secretary: Ian Easterbrook



JACK CRISP

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR.....

Since Mr. Crisp's parents were in the theatrical profession, he was virtually brought up back stage. Throughout his schooling years, he assisted and acted with various repertory companies in Britain. During the war, Mr. Crisp flew with the RAF, and, between operational tours, directed many plays for service personnel in South Africa, Egypt, Tunisia and Italy.

In the past twelve years in Canada, Mr. Crisp has directed forty-three plays, the most recent of which were "Prudence Spurns A Wager" and "A Thurber Carnival," both at La Poudrière.

John Van Druten

Born in London, England of a Dutch father and an English mother, John Van Druten began writing at an early age, however his education led him to a clerical post in the Supreme Court, and later to a teaching position with the University of Wales. Although the latter success delighted his parents, under cover of academic gowns Van Druten the man of letters emerged, and was soon writing poems and short stories. The British publication "Punch" accepted some, and in 1923 his play "The Return Half" was presented by the graduates of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. The names of the author and leading man were ignored — John Van Druten and John Gielgud. However Gielgud encouraged the young playwright; heartened by his first success, Van Druten set to work and the following year his script "Young Woodley" was bought for presentation on Broadway and in London. The play was a witty satire on the British educational system, and while it was a brilliant success in New York, in London it was cut by the censors, and forced to play in a private club. The writing was on the wall, and in 1926 Van Druten gave up law and left for the United States.

In America he had a reputation to maintain; he was considered a talented playwright and novelist. His later successes, along with "Young Woodley", were "The Voice Of The Turtle", "I Remember Mama", "Bell, Book and Candle", and "I Am A Camera" which in 1952 won the critics' award of that year.

All of Van Druten's plays speak of his sentiment and warm humour, seldom found in other American playwrights, for from conventional situations and ordinary people he has constructed plays which are surprisingly effective and always endearing.

"I Remember Mama", one of Van Druten's more recent works, was taken from the stories of Kathryn Forbes; "I Am A Camera" was adapted from Christopher Isherwood and was later made into a film, as was "Bell, Book and Candle", a disarming comedy of fantasy and witchcraft.

It has been said that there is not one Van Druten, but three — the poet, the scholar, and the dilettante. Van Druten himself has found a fourth, for he lives now, a bachelor still, for he prefers solitude, in Southern California where is currently working on film scenerios.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

SALLY MIDDLETON Joan Blackman

OLIVE LASHBROOK Anne Butler

LT. BILL PAGE Walter Massey

ACT I: Scene 1. Friday afternoon.

Scene 2. Friday evening.

ACT II: Scene 1. Saturday morning.

Scene 2. Late Saturday night.

ACT III: Scene 1. Sunday morning.

Scene 2. Late Sunday afternoon.

The action throughout, takes place over a weekend in early April, a few years ago, in an apartment in the East Sixties, near Third Avenue, New York City.

There will be two intermissions of twelve minutes.

Miss Butler's dresses from
the "Encore Dress Shop"

The paintings on stage are part of the exhibition
in the foyer by "Lorne H. Bouchard", A.R.C.A.

Miss Blackman's hair is styled by "Salon Deauville"
Thanks to the Bell Telephone Company of Canada



L'HÔTEL LE PLUS DISTINGUÉ DE MONTRÉAL:

Le **WINDSOR**

FACE AU CARRÉ DOMINION UN. 6-9611



ANNE BUTLER



WALTER MASSEY



JOAN BLACKMAN

"How use doth breed a habit in a man!"

Shakespeare: *Two Gentlemen of Verona*



... and systematic saving
at the B of M is a habit
that breeds success.



BANK OF MONTREAL
Canada's First Bank

PRO POUTIM 1962.00.00X5

WORKING WITH CANADIANS IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE SINCE 1817