

October 30 — November 4, 1967

MEADOW PLAYERS LIMITED

in association with the Arts Council
of Great Britain

present

AN OXFORD PLAYHOUSE COMPANY
PRODUCTION

Ardèle

by Jean Anouilh

translated by Lucienne Hill

Costumes by Natasha Kornilof

Settings by Sam Kirkpatrick

Directed by Frank Hauser

Jean Anouilh was born in Bordeaux in 1910. He came to Paris when he was very young, began to study law, then worked for a time in an advertising agency. Passionately interested in the theatre, he became secretary to Louis Jouvet, the famous actor-manager, in 1931, and his first play was produced during the following year. Since then he has written over thirty plays of which "Ardèle" is undoubtedly his most brilliant. Although written in 1948, Anouilh has set "Ardèle"—like several of his other plays—in the full flush of 'Edwardian' France. He has chosen to depict the varieties of love in a grand household of the period as seen in the bizarre figures of General Saint-Pé—the hero of Anouilh's later play "Waltz of the Toreadors"—his sister the Countess with her husband and lover, his son and his daughter-in-law, his mad wife, the nubile maid and two monster children. "Ardèle belongs, therefore, to that group of plays which Anouilh has called 'Pièces grincantes', so that the bitter mixture of savage humour and tragedy mark this play as one of Anouilh's most disturbing.

Ardele

The General	GEORGE PRAVDA
His Wife	PATRICIA JESSEL
The Count, his brother-in-law	HUGH PADDICK
The Countess, his sister	HEATHER CHASEN
Villardieu, the Countess' lover	PHILIP VOSS
Nicholas, the General's second son ...	CHRISTOPHER GABLE
Nathalie, his daughter-in-law	PRUNELLA RANSOME
Toto, his youngest son, aged ten	PAUL LARGE
Marie-Christine, the Countess' daughter also aged ten	ANNE SALINGAR
Ada, the chambermaid, mistress of the General	HELEN WEIR

Prunella Ransome appears by kind permission of Vic Films Ltd.

The Time—1912 or thereabouts

Act I The hall of a country house—Morning

Interval of 15 minutes

Act II The hall of a country house—Lunch time

Interval of 15 minutes

Act III The hall of a country house—Night

The fully-licensed Theatre Bar will be open during the intervals.
Coffee, soft drinks and chocolates also available.

For Meadow Players Limited

Director of Productions
General Manager
Accountant
Public Relations Officer
Assistant to the Director
Administrative Assistant
Stage Manager
Deputy Stage Managers

Production Manager
Resident Designer
Carpenter
Wardrobe Supervisor
Wardrobe Mistress

Frank Hauser
Gordon Stratford
Peter B. Godfrey
Glyn V. Robbins
Michael Healey
Susan Enever
Graeme Cruickshank
Anne Ibbotson
Judith Vickers
John Baker
Franco Colavecchia
Larry Nolan
Betty Robbins
Sheila Robbins

For Nuffield Theatre

Licensee
Business Manager
Technical Manager
Chief Electrician

D. A. Schofield
Joan H. Abbs
G. L. S. Batty
Derek Jones

Lighting operators, sound technicians and stage staff provided by Students Union Stage Administration Group.

Other productions by OXFORD PLAYHOUSE COMPANY
at this Theatre

November 6 - 11

Little Malcolm And His Struggle Against The Eunuchs
by David Halliwell

November 13 - 18

The Wild Duck
by Henrik Ibsen

Box Office Tel. 55028

In accordance with the requirements of the licensing authority :

- 1 The audience may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors.
- 2 All gangways, corridors, staircases, and passageways which afford a means of exit shall be kept entirely free from obstruction.
- 3 Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways except in positions authorised by the licensing authority and in the numbers indicated in the notices exhibited in those positions.
- 4 The safety curtain shall be lowered and raised at each performance in the presence of the audience.

The management reserves the right to refuse admission, also to make any alteration in the cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable causes

THE TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE THEATRE IS FORBIDDEN