

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

*Hedda Gabler*

By  
HENRIK IBSEN



AT THE HUT

27th APRIL, 28th APRIL, 29th APRIL, and 30th APRIL, 1954.

## A NOTE ON THE AUTHOR AND THE PLAY

Henrik Johan Ibsen, Norwegian dramatic poet, was born in 1828. Between 1850 and 1899, he was the author of more than 20 dramatic works. Two of them, *Brand* and *Peer Gynt*, are great poetic dramas, very different in manner from the seemingly prosaic pictures of small-town life with which his name is almost exclusively associated in English-speaking countries.

Ibsen was in his early days a professional man of the theatre. For more than ten years he was assistant manager of the theatre at Bergen and then of that at Christiania (Oslo). Apart from the wonderful *Peer Gynt*, the best known plays are perhaps *The Doll's House*, *Ghosts*, *An Enemy of the People*, and *The Wild Duck*.

*Hedda Gabler*, first produced in 1890, though it bears the unmistakable imprint of Ibsen in every scene, is not at first sight a play with a social message. It is an almost clinical study of a young woman, the product of an artificial society, amoral, craving sensation, completely self-centred, with, as she says herself, but one aptitude — for being bored to death. Alongside Hedda we are given an ironical but not unkind portrait of her husband, showing in contrast the value of the less romantic virtues of kindness and normality.

Ibsen has now taken his place as one of the great writers of the world. But perhaps we are still inclined to forget that he was a poet, as well as the dramatist who so insistently demanded that we face facts. He died in April, 1905.

# HEDDA GABLER

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## CAST

GEORGE TESMAN	- - - -	LEO HEFFERNAN
HEDDA TESMAN	- - - -	SYLVIA BLAKEWAY
JULIA TESMAN	- - - -	NELL MYHILL
MRS. ELVSTED	- - - -	BARBARA KEMP
JUDGE BRACK	- - - -	JACK HUME
EILERT LOVBORG	- - - -	BARRIE McEWIN
BERTE	- - - -	JANET COLQUHOUN

*Produced by*  
THELMA BAULDERSTONE



*The action of the play takes place in the Tesmans' villa on the outskirts of a city in Norway.*

ACT I—Morning.

*Interval*

ACT II—Afternoon of the same day.

ACT III—Early the next morning.

*Interval*

ACT IV—The same evening.



*Set devised by* MICHAEL JAMES.

*Furniture kindly lent by* PERIOD AND ART FURNISHERS.

*Costumes designed by* ROSANNE McLAUGHLIN.

*Miss Blakeway's dresses made by* ROMA ROLL; *other costumes by*  
LOUISA SCORER.

# UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

## MEMBERSHIP

The Theatre Guild is a private theatre and admission to all performances is by presentation of the Membership Vouchers at the door for **unreserved seats**, or by exchanging vouchers at Allan's Ltd. Box Office for **reserved seats**.

The Guild is precluded from selling seats at the door of The Hut, or elsewhere, under any circumstances whatever.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1954

Single Membership - - - - £1 1 0

Single Undergraduate Membership - 10 6

Single Membership provides for admission for **one** person only to each production.

Double Membership - - - - 1 15 0

Double Undergraduate Membership - 1 1 0

Double Membership provides for admission for **two** persons to each production.

The Guild particularly requests that Single and Double **Ordinary** Subscriptions be paid at Allan's Ltd. Box Office, Rundle St., Adelaide, but they may be paid at The Hut on the night of a performance and the voucher, or vouchers, can then be presented for an unbooked seat or seats.

**Undergraduate** Subscriptions must be paid to the Hon. Secretary to the Guild, Arts and Mathematics Building, University.

## FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS, 1954

The Guild will stage five major productions. Following **Hedda Gabler**, **Anouilh's Traveller Without Baggage** will be produced by Roy Leaney, 8th to 11th June. At the end of July, **The Circle** (Somerset Maugham) is to be produced by John Raggatt. Later, **We Can't Do Without Them** (Symons) and **Alcestis** (Euripides)—the latter to be produced by Brian Coghlan.

H.E.K. LTD.