



## THE PRODUCTION TEAM

<i>Producer</i>	Rodney Saunders
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Martin Allitt
<i>Deputy Stage Manager</i>	Richard Harris
<i>Lighting</i>	Keith Major
<i>Wardrobe</i>	Manuela Warburton & Jane Horrell
<i>Makeup</i>	Penny Jennings & Margaret Laker
<i>Props</i>	Isabel Gordon & Shirley Michell
<i>Sets</i>	Richard Harris, John & Ted Randall
<i>Prompt</i>	Pat Rayner
<i>Front of House Manager</i>	Robin Williamson
<i>Front of House Team</i>	Steven Daultrey, Margaret Hartman, Eileen Knight, Jim Knight, Priscilla Williamson
<i>Box Office</i>	Isabel Gordon

The next production by The Victory Players will be “**An Italian Straw Hat**” by Eugène Labiche, directed by Jim Knight. It will be performed in the Victory Hall on the evenings of Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April to Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2008.

Photographs and reviews of previous productions by The Victory Players can be viewed at [www.victoryplayers.co.uk](http://www.victoryplayers.co.uk).

The company welcomes new members. Membership application forms are available on the website and from Threads.

The Victory Players Honorary President is Paul Scofield



PRESENT

# The Virtuous Burglar

by Dario Fo

&

# The Zoo

Music by Sir Arthur Sullivan

Libretto by Bolton Rowe

**THE VICTORY HALL · BALCOMBE**

**21 – 24 NOVEMBER 2007**

COMPLETED FORMS ORDERING DRINKS FOR THE INTERVAL  
WILL BE COLLECTED TEN MINUTES BEFORE CURTAIN UP.

## THE VIRTUOUS BURGLAR

by Dario Fo  
(translated by Joseph Farrell)

<i>Burglar</i>	Greg Field
<i>Burglar's wife</i>	Jacqueline Kehoe
<i>Man</i>	Alan Dearden
<i>Woman</i>	Colette Randall
<i>Anna</i>	Isabel Gordon
<i>Antonio</i>	Rodney Saunders
<i>Second burglar</i>	Douglas Wragg

*Directed by* Greg Field

"The Virtuous Burglar" is a one-act farce. When a burglar breaks into the flat of a wealthy town councillor he gets more than he bargained for. The owner arrives home unexpectedly with his lover, and when there are more surprise arrivals the burglar finds himself involved in a tangled web of deceit and the finest Scotch whisky!

The play was originally set in 1950's Italy when divorce was all but impossible but almost everybody, or so it seems, had an extra marital relationship. We have brought the setting forward to the modern day, but we hope you will agree none of the satiric comedy attacking morally corrupt leaders, and social injustice is lost either in translation or when directed at today's society.

The author, Dario Fo, is one of Italy's foremost playwrights and satirists and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1997. His work simultaneously amuses, engages and provides thought provoking perspectives on the world. He believes he "emulates the jesters of the Middle Ages in scourging authority and upholding the dignity of the downtrodden". The Virtuous Burglar is a testament to that.

**There will be one interval of thirty minutes.**

AT THE START OF THE INTERVAL ONE PERSON FROM EACH  
TABLE IS ASKED TO COLLECT ALL THE DRINKS FOR THE TABLE.

## THE ZOO

Music by Sir Arthur Sullivan  
Libretto by Bolton Rowe

<i>Æculapius Carboy</i>	Andy Lunn
<i>Eliza Smith</i>	Jane Horrell
<i>Thomas Brown</i>	Max Preston Bell
<i>Lætitia</i>	Charlie Marshall
<i>Mr Grinder</i>	John Humphries

*The Ladies and Gentlemen of the Great British Public:*

Hugh Bottomley	Joan Bottomley	Caroline Carpenter	Susan Etheridge
Eddie Hammond	Chloe Holland	Emily Holland	Jack Holland
Val Horton	Michael Kershaw	Margaret Laker	Shirley Michell
Flora Oman	Mike Rayner	Barbara Saunders	Audrey Williams
Manuela Warburton			

<i>Rehearsal pianist</i>	Jacqueline Wiginton
<i>Performance pianist</i>	Ian White

*Directed by* Douglas Wragg

This little-known one act operetta dates from about the same time as Trial by Jury. It opened at the St. James's Theatre, London on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1875, and closed after a relatively short run on 10<sup>th</sup> July. It had further short runs at the Philharmonic Theatre in October 1875 and at the Royalty Theatre in April 1879.

Thereafter it disappeared from view for nearly 90 years, until it was purchased at auction in 1965 by a Dr Terence Rees. Why it has been performed so rarely is something of a mystery, as we hope you will agree once you have heard it.

It is unusual in that the libretto is not by W.S. Gilbert, but rather by a gentleman by the name of B.C. Stephenson who wrote it under the name of Bolton Rowe.

The plot is typically far-fetched opera material which, were it not for the music, would never stand by itself. However as in all of these affairs it all ends happily ever after, so sit back and enjoy what will be, for most people, a new experience.