

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

OSCAR WILDE

Letter to Editor

Thanks

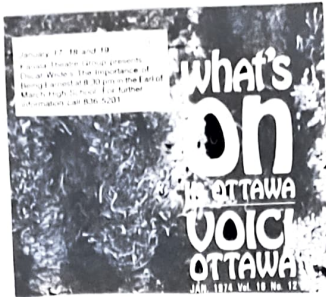
Sir:
On behalf of the Kanata Theatre Group,
I would like to express our thanks to you
for your support and excellent coverage of
Page 2 - THE KANATA STANDARD - January 18, 1974

our group's activities during the past year.
We extend to the Standard our best
wishes for 1974.

Marg Allen
Publicity

DIRECTOR - SIM HOLMES

SET DESIGN - PHIL LAWLESS & PHIL COPPLE.



English comedy

Gwen Knight, left, Ron Maslin and Doreen Boss rehearse a scene from the Kanata Theatre Group's next production, Oscar Wilde's comedy *The Importance of Being Earnest*, to be presented from Jan. 17 to 19 at 8:30 p.m. at the Earl of March High School. Directed by Jim Holmes, the cast also includes Maurice Dubras, Dewi Williams, Graeme Scott, Stephen Jones, Rosemarie Lawless and Eufon Williams.

Ottawa, C.P., Jan 15/74



A scene from rehearsal of *"The Importance of Being Earnest"* - to be performed by the Kanata Theatre Group on January 17, 18, 19 at the Earl of March High School, Kanata, 8:30 p.m. Ron Maslin plays the role of John Worthing and Eufon Williams portrays Miss Prism. (Photo by Gitzelle)

Kanata Review

Number 42

10 cents per copy

January 17, 1974



(Photo by Gitzelle)

Kanata Theatre Group

Some of the cast of *"The Importance of Being Earnest"* a trivial comedy in three acts - to be performed by the Kanata Theatre Group on January 17th, 18th and 19th at the Earl of

March High School Kanata, 8:30 p.m. From left to right are Maurice Dubras as Algernon Moncrieff, Stephen Jones as Lane and Ron Maslin as John Worthing.



The
Kanata Theatre Group
requests the honour of your presence
at its production of
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
a trivial comedy in three acts
by Oscar Wilde
on the seventeenth, eighteenth
and nineteenth of January
One thousand nine hundred & seventy-four
at eight-thirty o'clock
Earl of March High School
Kanata

TICKETS \$1.50 per adult

and \$1.00 for students

TELEPHONE 592 4678

General Info

836 5201



**KANATA
THEATRE
GROUP**

PRESENTS

**THE
IMPORTANCE
OF BEING
EARNEST**

Oscar Wilde's Trivial Comedy For Serious People

EARL OF MARCH SCHOOL

**THURS. FRI. & SATURDAY
JANUARY 17, 18, 19, 1974**

8.30 P.M.

**TICKETS \$1.50, STUDENTS \$1.00
CALL 836-5201**

STILL IMPORTANT - STILL EARNEST.



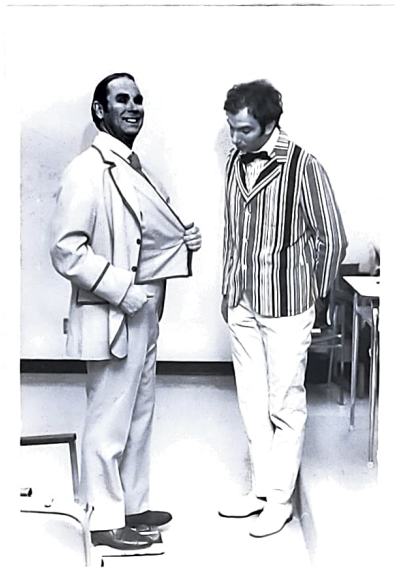
Kanata Theatre Group

The Kanata Theatre Group presents "The Importance Of Being Earnest" at the Earl of March High School, January 17th, 18th, and 19th at 8:30 p.m.

Directed by Jim Holmes, this major production in three acts is a trivial comedy for serious people.

Members of the cast are as follows: John Worthing - Ron Maslin, Algernon Moncrieff - Maurice Dubras, Rev Canon Chasuble, DD - Dewi Williams, Merriman (Butler to Mr Worthing) - Graeme Scott, Lane (Mr Moncrieff's man - servant) - Stephen Jones, Lady Bracknell - Doreen Ross, Hon Gwendolen Fairfax (her daughter) - Gwen Knight, Cecily Cardew - Rosemarie Lawless, Miss Prism - Eulron Williams.

Tickets may be obtained from any member of the theatre group or by calling Mary Simpson at 522-4678. Tickets will be sold in the Kanata Mall on Saturday, Jan 12th, beginning at 9 a.m. For general information, call 836-5201.



"The Importance of Being Earnest"

The Kanata Theatre Group presents its second major production of the season on January 17th, 18th and 19th at 8:30 p.m. in the Earl of March High School, Kanata. Written by Oscar Wilde, "The Importance of Being Earnest" is a trivial comedy in three acts and is directed by Jim Holmes.

Members of the cast are as follows: John Worthing - Ron Maslin, Algernon Moncrieff - Maurice Dubras, Rev Canon Chasuble - Dewi Williams, Merriman (Butler to Mr.

Worthing) - Graham Scott; Lane - (Mr. Moncrieff's man-servant) - Stephen Jones; Lady Bracknell - Doreen Ross; Gwendolen Fairfax - (her daughter) - Gwen Knight; Cecily Cardew - Rosemarie Lawless; Miss Prism - Eulron Williams.

Tickets are \$1.50 for adults and \$1.00 for students, and can be obtained by calling 522-4678. For general information call 836-5201.

Tickets will be sold in the Kanata Mall on Saturday, Jan. 12th, beginning at 9 a.m.



Graeme Scott plays Merriman, the butler, and Gwen Knight is Gwendolen Fairfax in the Kanata Theatre Group's production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" to be presented January 17, 18, 19 in Earl of March school auditorium. Photo by Giselle Page 6 - THE KANATA STANDARD - January 10, 1974



**KANATA
THEATRE
GROUP**

**FIFTH SEASON
1973 - 1974**



CASTING
The first of many decisions for Director Jim Holmes. Stephen Jones and Ann Dubras prepare to read.



PROP PREPARATION
Producer Marg Allen, as the nuts and bolts person, might be doing most anything.



KANATA THEATRE GROUP



DRESSING
Mary Mauger helps the butler, Graeme Scott.



SET CHANGE
Philip Copple and Barry Eckhart do it quickly.



REHEARSAL
A previewer's view of the proceedings. Dorcen Boss, Graeme Knight and Ron Maslin.



SET PAINTING
One hundred dollars worth of paint on this set, but Geoff Holland is not satisfied.



REHEARSAL
Property people and players watching while they wait their part. Dewi Williams, Sally Rose, Jean McLaughlin and Elsie Bryant.



LIGHTING
Maestros of light — Harm Rembeck and John Callow.

1973-74 EXECUTIVE
President Brooke Keneford
Vice-President Jim Holmes
Secretary Marg Anthony
Treasurer Bob Knight
Past President Laurence Thornton
Publicity Marg Allen
Play Reading Committee Carol Strong
Adult Member-At-Large Dewi Williams
Student Member-At-Large Craig Moore

LANE, manservant to Mr. Moncreiff
ALGERNON MONCRIEFF
JOHN WORTHING, JP, of the Manor House, Woolton
LADY BLACKNELL
HON. GWENDOLEN FAIRFAX
MISS PRISM
CECILY CARDEW
REV. CANON CHASUBLE, Rector of Woolton
MERRIMAN, butler to Mr. Worthing
MAID

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
by
OSCAR WILDE
Directed by Jim Holmes
CAST

Stephen Jones
Maurice Dubras
Ron Maslin
Dorcen Boss
Gwendolyn Knight
Elsie Williams
Rosemarie Lawless
Dewi Williams
Graeme Scott
Sally Rose



REVIEWS
"Do they like us as well as we do?" Graeme Knight, Mary Mauger, Laurence Thornton.

History

The first meeting of the Kanata Theatre Group was held in Oct '68 at 12 Sandwell Crescent, in answer to an ad placed in The Standard. The ad urged all those interested in getting together for the initial purpose of play-reading, to attend. Twelve to fifteen people were present, including some teenagers.

Plays were read and then in the spring of 1969, two 1-act plays were presented at Leacock School. These plays were "Rise and Shine" and "The Lady Killers". Each member paid \$10.00 to cover production expenses.

In the fall of '69, three more 1-act plays were done and in the spring of 1970, the first 3-act play, "Present Laughter" by Noel Coward was performed. Later that fall, "Waltz of the Toreadors" was also presented.

The group moved to the stage of Earl of March in the spring of '71 with "The

Crucible" by Arthur Miller. Audiences have steadily increased — with "The Importance of Being Earnest" drawing the largest crowds to date.

Last season, the Kanata Theatre Group successfully attempted four major productions, in addition to the children's plays and studio productions. This past summer, Training Sessions and play-readings were held weekly for those who were interested.

Two major teenage productions have been presented, both directed by Laurence Thornton — "Our Town" at Leacock and "I Remember Mama" at the Earl of March. Back stage work was done by the adult members.

There are presently 76 members in the Kanata Theatre Group and yearly dues are \$2.00, with the only requirement being residency in March Township.

Footnotes

The Kanata Theatre Group has attained a firm reputation for excellence among the amateur theatre companies of the Ottawa area. The photo-story is intended to review the activities of this community group. Although the pictures were taken during the recent production of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," the purpose is to focus on the range of activities and variety of persons included in

the entire KTG. Thus the emphasis has been on role of the backstage people rather than the excellent performance of the players. Sincere thanks to producer, Marg Allen, and director, Jim Holmes, whose cooperation was often asked and freely given.

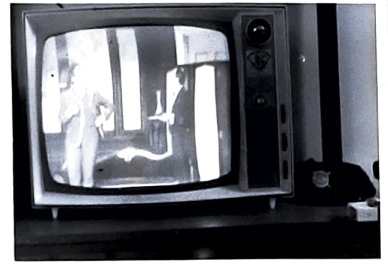
The entire play may be viewed over Cable 3 on Sunday, January 27 at 5:00 pm.
— January 24, 1974



KANATA THEATRE GROUP IN PERFORMANCE
Graeme Knight, Ron Maslin, Dorcen Boss, Eulfrun Williams, Rosemarie Lawless, Maurice Dubras and Dewi Williams.

PRODUCTION STAFF	
Producer	Mary Allen
Assistant to the Director	Mary Holmes
Set Design, Decor and Construction	Philip Copple, Philip Lawless
Set Construction Assistants	Jack Hayes, Ted Manager
Stage Manager	Bob Knight
Stage Crew	John de Salis, John Gilmour, Barry Eckhart, Carl Anthony
Properties and Furnishings	Elsie Bryant, Joan McLaughlin, Mary Baker
Lighting	Harm Rembeck, John Callow
Wardrobe	Christine Walton, Adrienne Clowes
Hats and Special Accessories	Anne Holland
Make-up	Pat Moore, Annmarie Copple, Rosemarie Keneford, Jean Jones
Hairstyles	Tony of Kanata Beauty Salon
Publicity	Mary Allen
Tickets	Mary Thompson
Programme	John Jones, Annmarie Copple
Sound	Rosemary Scott
Front of House	Laure Freedman
Technical Assistants	Mary Mauger, Rosemary Keneford, Anne Holland
Incidental Piano Music	Philip Copple

MORE EARNEST - EQUALLY IMPORTANT



Oscar Wilde's play a hit here

by Stewart Pechel
An intriguing dialogue and favourable cast of characters accentuated a well written Oscar Wilde play of 1900 which was performed three consecutive nights by area performers at the Earl of March High School in Kanata.

The Kanata-based Theatre Group under the direction of Jim Holmes who joined KTG last season were at their best when this reporter attended the final performance of the play. The importance of *Being Earnest* last Saturday evening.

The witty comedy took a satirical look at the manners and morals surrounding a case of manufactured identity.

Heading the cast were Maurice Dubras and Ron Maslin who played young men about town who were bored with almost everything except the attentions of two noble ladies. Rosemarie Lawless as Cecily Cardew and Gwendolyn Knight as Hon. Gwenodwyn Knight.

This "trivial comedy for serious people" stemmed around the two men and women with the men attempting to gain the affections and promise of marriage but doing so by both becoming entangled with the name Ernest who had been the product of John Worthing's (Ron Maslin) vivid imagination so he could visit London a little more than usual by using the excuse that his brother Ernest was in trouble. When Algernon Moncrieff (Maurice Dubras) learns that John has a ward (Rosemarie Lawless) at his home in the country he assumes to be the alleged brother Ernest and begins the process of wooing the girl.

Doreen Boss, made Lady Bracknell a force to be reckoned with. Her philosophy of life especially to married life had a great effect on the two women. Backing her principals Dewi Williams, playing an Anglican clergyman was quite knowledgeable to readings but not quite so witty when it came to life. Eufonia Williams a over hopeful spinster carried a fine performance.

Director Jim Holmes has taken part in university drama. He was a member of the Britannia Chancel Players for five years and performed with the Ottawa Little Theatre. His acting has

contributed to the success of two KTG productions. *The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker* and *My Three Angels*.

Maurice Dubras although a new member had however extensive acting experience in amateur theatre, both in England and Canada.

One of the most experienced members of KTG, Ron Maslin enjoys both acting and directing and has been involved in theatre for as long as he can remember. Later this season he will be directing *The Tunnel of Love*, a comedy by Joseph Fields and Peter De Vries.

Doreen Boss appeared as Lady Bracknell and was very pleased to be acting in her favourite play. She joined KTG four years ago and since then has enjoyed a variety of back stage work as well as acting in both children's plays and major productions.

Gwendolyn Knight, a founding member of KTG has also acted with OLT. Mrs. Knight has played a wide range of parts, from a girl of eighteen to a seventy-year-old cripple in a wheelchair.

Eufonia Williams enjoyed a small but delightful role as Miss Prism. She has produced a variety of plays and this season she has started a playreading group for teenage members of KTG.

Rosemarie Lawless loves period plays and was very happy to be playing the part of Cecily Cardew, which she found one of her most interesting roles. During the three years Mrs. Lawless has been with KTG she has appeared in several major productions and children's plays. Dewi Williams, first president of KTG has been involved ever since in acting, back stage work and the direction of children's plays. Mr. Williams has played a clergyman before, in *Halfway Up The Tree*.

"I hope to see many people at the next KTG production of *Hunting Stuart* which I will be directing."

Graceme Scott, made his acting debut last season after working backstage for 13 years, specializing in sound and special effects. Sally Rose, a new and enthusiastic member of KTG appeared for the first time on stage.

Stephen Jones, a new member



Hair stylist Tony Barrows, Kanata Beauty Salon, works on Maurice Dubras, as he prepares for his audience.

Pat Moore, a member of the make-up staff with the Kanata Theatre Group shows her talents making-up Dewi Williams.

of KTG made his first appearance on stage. He found the part of Lane, master-servant to Mr. Moncrieff, (Maurice Dubras) enjoyable.

Next production to be performed on the Earl of March High

School stage will be of interest to children. *Igor and The Time Machine* will be performed January 28 and 27th.

The Ottawa Journal

Importance of Being Earnest

Creditable effort by Kanata group

Journal Review
By KODIN DORRELL
Oscar Wilde's masterpiece *The Importance of Being Earnest* is being presented by the Kanata Theatre Group this weekend in the Earl of March High School.

Wilde's subtle farce, which first appeared in 1895, is "a trivial comedy for serious people."

It has always been popular although Bernard Shaw didn't think much of it, and both professional and amateur groups have had success with its witty lines and delicate satire. It is Victorian earnestness that gets the needle.

The Kanata Theatre Group, drawing its talent from a restricted area, has done remarkably well with this production. Three bright sets and lots of gay costumes give a sense of lushness which is admirable for a company that has little money to throw around.

The acting is thoroughly acceptable, there being only slight hesitation at Thursday's opening performance as the players tried to cope with Wilde's mad and bubbly repertoire.

Doreen Boss is very good as Lady Bracknell, a stuffy dig-

nified and not too bright madam who insists that social niceties reign supreme. Gwendolyn Knight is delightfully canny as Gwendolen Fairfax, daughter of Lady Bracknell, having inherited her mother's terribly British dimness.

Falling madly in love with Gwendolen is John "Jack" Worthing, an awfully proper gent, played with amusing stiffness by Ron Maslin. Most of the characters in this play are stiff in one way or another. Stiffness, in England, used to be a sign of breeding and if you could add a languid air to the stiffness one could presumably claim much admiration.

Maurice Dubras, as the slightly naughty Algernon Moncrieff, comes close to this languid rigidity. Good timing and diction give his performance a polished look. Rosemarie Lawless is pretty and frail as "little Cecily" for whom Algernon falls.

Eufonia Williams, Dewi Wil-

Letter to Editor

Appreciation

Sirs,
The members of the Kanata Theatre Group would like to publicly express their appreciation for the photo-story of "The Importance of Being Earnest" which appeared in the last issue of the Standard. The idea for this story was conceived and carried out by Ralph Dipple. We thank him for the time he gave to us and for his wonderful results.

As a group, we feel that "The Importance of Being Earnest" was a success — and we thank all of you who gave us your support.

Marg Allen
Page 2 — THE KANATA STANDARD — February 7, 1974

The Citizen

Ottawa, Fri., Jan. 18, 1974

Kanata group's play thoroughly enjoyable

By Betty Swimmings
Assistant music and drama editor

A zesty combination of clever dialogue presented by a lively, well-chosen cast added up to a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Thursday when the Kanata Theatre Group presented *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

The Oscar Wilde play,

directed by Jim Holmes,

opened a three-night engagement at the Earl of March High School and the witty comedy, with its satirical look at the manners and morals surrounding a case of manufactured identity, proved that the stage was set for this "trivial comedy for serious people."

amusing now as it was then.

With a cast headed by Ron Maslin and Maurice Dubras as the languid, posturing, bored young men-about-town—John (alias Ernest) Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff—the stage was set for this "trivial comedy for serious people."

In short order Doreen

Boss was on the scene showing the stern stuff of which the matriarch with a marriageable daughter is made. She made Lady Bracknell a force to be reckoned with as she sailed on to the stage—haughty, overbearing and completely caste conscious.

It was a fine character study and Miss Boss made the formidable Lady live.

When the three worked

together, the lines were

witty and rapid fire and the drama clipped along.

Gwendolyn Knight and Rosemarie Lawless were lovely as the two noble ladies and showed spunk and spirit when directing their respective swains.

They were maidens, demure and sweet but there was an underlying firmness that bespoke a touch of Lady Bracknell's philosophy to life and to married life

in particular. They were

well drawn.

Backing the principals Dewi Williams, as a caricature of an Anglican clergyman filled with bookish knowledge but short on human experience, and Eufonia Williams as an ever-hopeful spinster, presented commendable performances.

Holmes gave thoughtful direction to his cast and on a number of occasions

kept them away from the

pitfalls of overacting and self-indulgent histrionics.

The 1900s era was enhanced by the set design and decor by Philip Cople and Philip Lawless, with the furniture opulent and the garden beautiful.

The Importance of Being Earnest is a good entertaining production and continues tonight and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. at the Earl of March High School.

KANATA THEATRE GROUP
presents

"The Importance of Being Earnest"

BY OSCAR WILDE

Earl of March High School, Kanata
January 17, 18, 19, 1974 — 8:30 p.m.

Adults — \$1.50
Students — \$1.00

NO 467













Importance of Being Earnest

Creditable effort by Kanata group

Journal Review

By ROBIN DORRELL

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Wilde's subtitle for this play, which first appeared in

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The Kanata Theatre Group, drawing its talent from a restricted area, has done remarkably well with this production. Three bright sets and lots of gay costumes give a sense of lushness which is admirable for a company that has little money to throw around.

The acting is thoroughly acceptable, there being only slight hesitation at Thursday's opening performance as the players tried to cope with Wilde's mad and bubbly repartee.

Doreen Boss is very good as Lady Bracknell, a stiffly dig-

nified and not too bright madam who insists that social niceties reign supreme. Gwendolyn Knight is delightfully catty as Gwendolen Fairfax, daughter of Lady Bracknell, having inherited her mother's terribly British dimness.

Falling madly in love with Gwendolen is John "Jack" Worthing, an awfully proper gent, played with amusing stiffness by Ron Maslin. (Most of the characters in this play are stiff in one way or another. Stiffness, in England, used to be a sign of breeding and if you could add a languid air to the stiffness one could presumably claim much admiration).

Maurice Dubras, as the slightly naughty Algernon Moncrieff, comes close to this languid rigidity. Good timing and diction give his performance a polished look. Rosemarie Lawless is pretty and frail as "little Cecily" for whom Algernon falls.

Eufron Williams, Dewi Wil-

liams, Greame Scott, Sally Rose and Stephen Jones round out the cast effectively.

Directed by Jim Holmes, Wilde's "delicate bubble of fancy" *The Importance of Being Earnest* is a creditable effort by the fast-developing Kanata Theatre Group.

SAINT PAUL'S UNIVERSITY CINE CLUB
223 Main Street

presents

"THE BOYFRIEND"

STARRING TWIGGY IN A KEN RUSSEL PRODUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19th

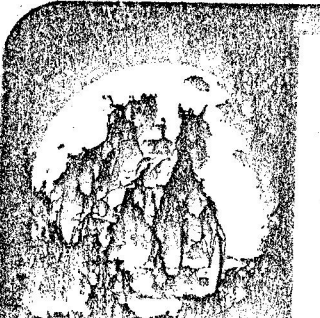
7:30 & 9:45 P.M.

ENDS WEDNESDAY!

They had the perfect love affair. Until they fell in love.

**Sat. night
movies**

6.30 p.m.—Ch. 5—Movie (bw)
"Conquered City" (1963). After the retreat of the Nazis from Athens, a British major is ordered to hold a hot spot



Come out and
get a hot streak
going!

CONNAUGHT
WYLMER ROAD • LUCY

Kanata group's play thoroughly enjoyed

By Betty Swimmings
Assistant music and drama editor

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The Oscar Wilde play,

directed by Jim Holmes, opened a three-night engagement at the Earl of March High School and the witty comedy, with its satirical look at the manners and morals surrounding a case of manufactured identity, is proof that a well-written, well-thought out play of the early 1900s is just as acceptable and

amusing now as it was then.

With a cast headed by Ron Maslin and Maurice Dubras as the languid, posturing, bored young men-about-town—John (alias Ernest) Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff—the stage was set for this “trivial comedy for serious people.”

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It was a fine character study and Miss Boss made the formidable Lady live.

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They were maidenly, demure and sweet but there was an underlying firmness that bespoke a touch of Lady Bracknell's philosophy to life and to married life

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20TH CENTURY FAMOUS PLAYERS - 20TH CENTURY FAM

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The Importance of Being Ernest is a good entertaining production and continues tonight and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. at the Earl of March High School.
