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1958

*The Importance
of being
Earnest*

(ARENA
STAGED)

BOWEN HALL
NOVEMBER 1, 7, & 8, 1958

Production Staff

DirectorNelda K. Balch
Assistant to DirectorJohn Kless
CostumesMary Patterson, Lona Stockmeyer,
Marilyn Szpiech, Nancy Blackwood,
Sandra Lent, Jeanne Dancey, Jan Adducci
PropertiesSally Goddard, Judy Tift
SetRichard Currie,
Connie Roberto, Melee Verro
LightingJames Taylor, Dave Hawkins,
Charles Hornbeck
PublicityPatricia Hart, Doreen Fitzgerald
HouseVirginia Phillips,
Don Fonda, Judy Stansfield
Box OfficeBill Vincent, Peter Wolcott
Coffee CritiqueEva Jon Sperling
Cast-crew PartyTerry Eads

Acknowledgments

Irene Crane Ladies Apparel, (for the period furniture),
Civic Theatre, Doolittle's Jewelry, R. M. Jones Gift
Shop, H. T. Prange & Sons.

Coffee Critique . . . Immediately following the show on
opening night *only*, interested members of the audience
are invited to coffee in the Speech Room to comment
on the production with the cast and crews.

We welcome to a special performance of the play the
parents who are attending Dad's Day on campus.

KALAMAZOO COLLEGE PLAYERS

present

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

by Oscar Wilde

Cast

LANE (Manservant)Ronald Barrett
ALGERNON MONCRIEFFRichard Currie
JOHN WORTHING, J.P.Asa Pieratt
LADY BRACKNELLMarjorie May
HON. GWENDOLEN FAIRFAXJeanne Dancey
MISS PRISM (Governess)Janet Adducci
REV. CANON CHASUBLE, D.D.Gerhardt Fuerst
MERRIMAN (Butler)David Hawkins
CECILY CARDEWMarilyn Szpiech

The Scenes of the Play

Act I.

Algernon Moncrieff's Flat in Half-Moon Street W.
Late afternoon.

Act II.

The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton.
The next day.

Act III.

Same as above.
Immediately following.

There will be a ten-minute intermission between the
acts. Cokes will be available on second floor.

Program Notes

In 1895 one of the most popular playwrights in the London theatres was Oscar Wilde. His two comedies, *Lady Windermere's Fan* and *A Woman of No Importance* had appeared several years earlier. Two were then running simultaneously: *An Ideal Husband* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. His epigrams were being quoted in the drawing rooms as examples of unparalleled wit even though Wilde's personal affections were arousing unfavorable comments. His wit is most brilliant and his extravagant situations most absurd in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. It has been praised as being unsurpassed in style since Sheridan's elegant comedies. And as Wilde says "In matters of grave importance, style, not sincerity, is the vital thing."

Art Exhibit

Dr. Ivor D. Spencer, head of Kalamazoo College's history department, and his wife, Marion Dickinson Spencer, are having a two-man show in the Euro Room concurrent with this play. The Spencers paint for fun, chiefly in the summer when landscape sketching is at its most inviting. They are also fond of figure and portrait sketching during the winter.

It is hoped that art work of faculty members and students will be exhibited at each play hereafter.

Future Productions

February 6, 1959 . . . *Under Milk Wood* by Dylan Thomas, a faculty-student reading theatre.

March 6 & 7, 1959 . . . *Waiting For Godot* by Samuel Beckett.

May 7, 8 & 9, 1959 . . . *The Boy Friend* by Sandy Wilson, a musical spoof of the 1920's.

(Try-outs for *The Boy Friend* will be held November 24 & 25.)