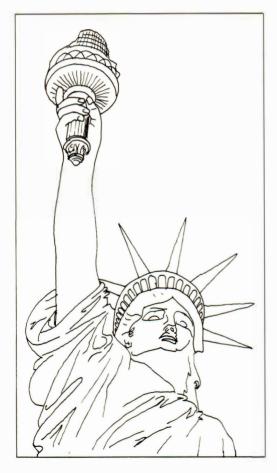


#### STOKE-ON-TRENT REPERTORY THEATRE

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## DEATH OF A SALESMAN



Certain private conversations in two acts and a requiem

by ARTHUR MILLER



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### DEATH OF A SALESMAN

Certain private conversations in two acts and a requiem ARTHUR MILLER

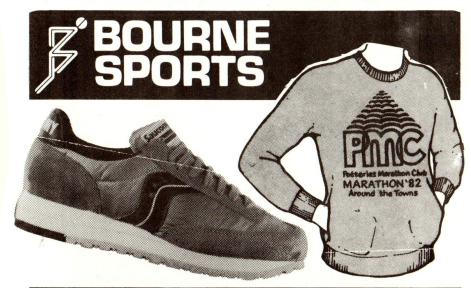
MAY 18th - 29th, 1982

#### THE PLAY

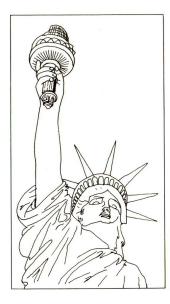
Originally called 'The Inside Of His Head', the play is Miller's attempt to write a modern tragedy. The Shakespearean tragic formula depicting a great, noble character of high standing brought, partly through some flaw in his own personality, from prosperity to adversity, is difficult to relate to modern society. In its place, Miller presents an ordinary American citizen, significantly named Loman, who has dreams for himself and his sons but who has neither the wit nor the inspiration to achieve them. As Willy's exhausted body and tired mind make him more and more confused, the past and his own imagination becoming inseparable from the present, Miller shows us the salesman's gradual disintegration. But the play is more than the downfall of Willy and more even than the mystery that surrounds his tense relationship with his son Biff, whom he desperately hoped would have succeeded where he failed, it is a powerful reflection of American society, portraying the conflict between the historical idea of the American Dream, which promised freedom, open places, equality, opportunity and physical prowess, and the new American Dream, with its emphasis on material success and financial independence, symbolised by the successful businessman, with his skill at selling. Willy Loman is a victim of this conflict.

#### HISTORY OF THE PLAY

Immediately successful on its first American production in 1949, it starred Lee J. Cobb as Willy, Mildred Dunnock as Linda and Arthur Kennedy and Cameron Mitchell as Biff and Happy. The play opened in London with Paul Muni in the same year and the 1952 film version starred Frederick March and Mildred Dunnock. Warren Mitchell scored a great personal success in the powerful production presented by the National Theatre during 1979 and 1980.



BOURNE SPORTS Church Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST41DJ



## DEATH OF A SALESMAN

ARTHUR MILLER

Certain private conversations in two acts and a requiem

#### Cast

Casi
Willy LomanRICHARD MASTERS
Linda, his wife JOAN BENNETT
Happy, their younger son KELVIN HALL
Biff, their elder son BRIAN HADLEY
Bernard SIMON MEADON
The WomanJUNE HODSON
Charley TREVOR BARLOW
Uncle Ben LOUIS SASSI
Howard Wagner NEIL TURNER
Jenny MADELEINE POTTINGER
StanleyDAVID FINN
Miss Forsythe ANN TUNNICLIFFE
Letta ALEXANDRA GREEN
WaiterBILL HANCOCK

#### Directed by KEN LOWE

The action takes place in Willy Loman's house in Brooklyn and various places he visits in New York and Boston, in the late 1940's.

#### Production Credits

**CHRIS DAVIS** 

GEORGE GOODALL TINA RICHARDSON BILL HANCOCK

MADELEINE POTTINGER

MICHAEL STOTT

JUNE HUMPHRIES

Construction Designer.....JOHN SHENTON

Properties ...... PAULINE TURNER

Wardrobe Mistresses.....LINDSAY JANE KENNERELL

**VERITY HADDOW** 

Sound..... EDWIN DUTTON

Setting designed by Brian Hadley Lighting by Tim Seaton

Our thanks to Bourne Sports for providing the punchbag used in this production and to Evesham Telephone Museum

Programme designed and edited by Simon J. Meadon and printed by Panda Press (Stone) Ltd.

#### Car Park

The part of Beresford Street between St. Jude's Church and the schools may be used for parking, but please ensure that cars do not obstruct the entrance to the Vicarage.

No responsibility is accepted by the Repertory Theatre. No charge is made for parking.

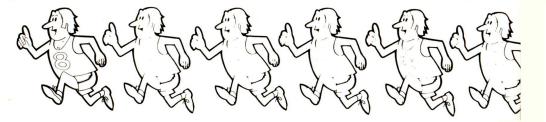
#### Refreshments

Confectionery is always on sale and coffee will be served during the interval. Coffee tickets available from the attendants.

#### Smoking is permitted during the intervals only.

#### **Smokers Please Note:**

A new carpet has been fitted in the auditorium. Please use the ashtrays provided. Smokers on the front row should ask an attendant for an ashtray.



# AROUND THE TOWNS MARATHON

SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 1982

# GARY CANVIN JOHN HOLDEN and JOHN WALCHESTER

are running for



in the 26 mile marathon around the Potteries

All their sponsorship proceeds will be donated to THE REP
Please take the opportunity of sponsoring them and helping THE REP at the end of this performance.

(If you watch the marathon, look out their strip of sky-blue T-shirts with a dark blue band.)

### **NEXT PRODUCTION**





19th — 24th July, 1982

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