

# THE WHIPS



WITH

**ROMAN FEVER**  
BY  
HUGH LEONARD



**8 - 11 MAY**

Charity Night - 8 May - in aid of Guildford Crossroads

## May 1996

## And on tour to Pateley Bridge

**Black Comedy** is a farce set in a London flat during an electrical blackout, and is written to be staged under a reversed lighting scheme: that is, the play opens with a dinner party beginning on a darkened stage, then a few minutes into the show "a fuse blows", the stage lights come up, and the characters are seen shambling around apparently invisible to one another. Brindsley Miller and his fiancée Carol Melkett have "borrowed" some posh furniture from neighbour Harold Gorrings's flat in order to impress Carol's father, Colonel Melkett. Brindsley, an artist, is afraid that the Colonel will not give up his daughter to a starving artist. Things go awry when the lights go out, leaving Brindsley helpless as characters arrive, one by one. First is Brindsley's elderly neighbour, Miss Furnival. Colonel Melkett, unimpressed by the blackout, arrives, and Brindsley's worst nightmare comes true as Harold returns early, and Brindsley tries desperately to return the furniture without Harold noticing.

**Roman Fever**, from the story by Edith Wharton. On a restaurant terrace in Rome, Mrs Slade and Mrs Ansley are reminiscing about a Roman holiday they had together many years before. Mrs Slade, envious of the other's daughter's engagement to a rich marchese cannot resist a spiteful jibe which demolishes a cherished memory. But in the end it is Mrs Slade's illusions that are shattered.

### ROMAN FEVER by Hugh Leonard from the story by Edith Wharton

#### CAST

Mrs Slade	Frances King
Mrs Ansley	Sue Floyd
Waiter	Jack Griffith

The action takes place on the terrace of a restaurant in Rome on an afternoon in 1930.

*There will be one interval of twenty minutes  
between the plays.*

*Please do not smoke in the hall*

### BLACK COMEDY by Peter Shaffer

#### CAST

Brindsley Miller	Charlie Crowther-Smith
Carol Melkett	Jo Reid
Miss Furnival	Anthea Wright
Colonel Melkett	Norman Pearce
Harold Gorrings	Tony Thompson
Clea	Sarah Philpott
Shuppanzigh	Robert Peckham
Bamberger	Jack Griffith

The action takes place in Brindsley Miller's apartment in South Kensington on a Sunday evening in winter in the sixties.

The plays directed by Russell Sunderland