

212/A/2/11/1

# UNITY THEATRE

GOLDINGTON STREET . NW 1

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Presents

## THE ROAD TO LIFE

(adapted from the autobiographical novel by A. S. Makarenko)

Produced by

MAISIE HILL and NORMAN SADLER

Decor by

LUCIAN AMARAL

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PROGRAMME - - SIXPENCE

# UNITY THEATRE SOCIETY LTD.

BOX OFFICE HOURS — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

EUSTON 5391

Performances : Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays at 7.45

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## FOR UNITY THEATRE

General Manager ..... GEORGE LEESON

Resident Stage Manager ..... DICK POLLING

Front of House Manager ..... GEORGE RAMAGE

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## ★ JOIN UNITY NOW ★

Fill in the form below and post it to the General Secretary, Unity Theatre,  
Goldington Street, N.W.1.

### Application for Associate Membership

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF UNITY THEATRE SOCIETY : "To foster and further the art of the drama in accordance with the principle that true art, by effectively presenting and truthfully interpreting life as experienced by the majority of the people, can move the people to work for the betterment of society." (Rule V., sec. 1, par. (a).)

RULE VII (2). Associate Members. Persons not being under the age of 16 who sign a Declaration of agreement with the aims and objects of the Society may be admitted as Associate Members by the Management Committee at its discretion. Such Associate Members shall pay such subscriptions as provided for in Rule VIII, they shall have the same right of admission to the Society's entertainments as members including the purchase of guest tickets, but shall not otherwise than is expressly provided to the contrary by these Rules be entitled to attend meetings, vote, participate in ballots or hold office.

I. (name in Block Letters).....

of (Address).....

I am in agreement with the aims and objects of Unity Theatre Society as set out above. I hereby undertake myself to pay for all tickets for the Society's entertainments purchased by me and that I will not re-sell any such ticket.

Signed.....

herewith the sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence in respect of Associate Members' Annual subscription.

If you wish to participate ACTIVELY IN ANY sphere of the Society's work,  
please make a X in this space.

☐



# MAKARENKO

Anton Semyonovitch Makarenko was born in 1888 of working class parents in Belopolye, in the Ukraine, and from an early age showed signs of outstanding ability. After a brilliant career at secondary school and at the Poltava Pedagogical Institute, he was appointed head of a secondary school on September 1st, 1917.

The October Revolution gave rise to a demand for a new Socialist approach to education. Makarenko was among the foremost innovators in this sphere. Late in 1920, he was asked to organise a colony for the wild and lawless young criminals and waifs who constituted a serious problem for the new Socialist State.

The story of how he formed a collective of keen, intelligent young workers out of filthy, illiterate thieves and vagabonds forms the theme of this play. It is interesting to note that Makarenko accomplished this superhuman task by methods directly opposite to the "free discipline" theories current among "progressive educationalists". The Maxim Gorky Labour Colony was superseded in 1928 by the Dzerzhinsky Commune, where Makarenko's educational system, evolved in hard and bitter struggle, was confidently applied and developed. During the sixteen years that Makarenko was director of the two colonies, some 3,000 young people passed through his hands, many of whom achieved high distinction in various fields.

He was not only an outstanding teacher and administrator, but also a theoretician who made a great contribution to educational theory, and author of over 100 works on education, the best-known being "The Road to Life", "Flags on the Towers", "1930 Marches on" and "A Book for Parents". Gorky considered "The Road to Life" to be "one of the best examples of Soviet literature".

On February 1st, 1939, Makarenko was honoured with the decoration of the Red Banner of Labour, and on April 1st, of the same year he died suddenly, his constitution undermined by years of incessant work.

# THE ROAD TO LIFE

English adaptation by Frank Rhodes & Heinz Bernard of the play  
by Miroslav Stehlik, based on the novel by A. S. Makarenko.

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## Characters in order of appearance :

Toska	.....	JOHN LOUGHLIN
Burun	.....	TREVOR NEALS
Lapots	.....	ERNIE SKINNER
Zadorov	.....	RICK MORGAN
Verschnev	.....	RON BEVAN
Taranets	.....	WILLIAM CORDEROY
Matvei	.....	MICHAEL KAYE
Ekaterina Antonovna (a teacher)	.....	PAMELA RHODES
Kalina Ivanovitch (agricultural manager)	.....	TED CHANDLER
Anton Semyonovitch Makarenko	.....	GEORGE LEESON
Chalabuda (Chairman of Youth Rehabilitation Committee)	.....	MICHAEL CAHILL
Mityagin	.....	PAUL HOPKINS
Karabanov	.....	DAVID MORGAN
Vanya	.....	PETER LOUGHLIN
Kuzma	.....	JOHN DUNN-HILL
Mussig Karpovitch (a farmer)	.....	GORDON VERNON
Mrs. Bregel (a teacher)	.....	BARBARA COATES
Marusya	.....	SHIRLEY RINK
Vera	.....	ANNE WATT
Natasha	.....	ELIZABETH DALEY
Sherre (agronomist)	.....	BRIAN JONES

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The play produced by MAISIE HILL and NORMAN SADLER



The action takes place in one of the dormitories of an old reform school near Kiev, in the Ukraine, later transformed into the Maxim Gorki Colony.

ACT 1 — In the winter of 1920/21

ACT 2 — A few months later — Spring 1921

ACT 3 — A summer evening in 1921

ACT 4 — Spring 1922

There will be an interval between Acts 2 and 3

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Stage Manager	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	FRANK RHODES
Productions Organiser	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	BELLE HARRIS
Set designed and painted by LUCIAN AMARAL, built by RICHARD POLLING							
Wardrobe	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	KATE AMARAL
Props	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	EILEEN CORDEROY
Lighting	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	SAM SAMUELS

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Music for the songs composed by SYLVIA LEESON, lyrics by FRANK RHODES

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Virginia cigarettes by ABDULLA

# A BIG JOB

Some months ago, we announced that we were proceeding with building work which had been ordered by the L.C.C. Our announcement gave you little idea of the large scale of the work which we have had to undertake in order to meet the Council's requirements.

Now that we have almost completed this major operation, with our own voluntary labour, we can tell you what has been involved: all doors covered with asbestos and made self-closing, steps from theatre to foyer, back of stage walled up and fitted with two doors, fire-resisting glass panel fitted to lights box, loft cleared and sealed and fitted with a ventilation shaft, entire ceiling backstage stripped and covered with plaster-board, gasfires removed from wardrobe and dressing rooms, fire escapes built from both dressing rooms, emergency gas-lighting installed, wall removed and door fitted backstage, wardrobe completely cleared of costumes.

This has made life very hectic for us, but considerably improves the facilities of your theatre. We intend to carry on with the work and to make things much more comfortable for you. Will you help?

It has cost us over £200 so far in materials alone, but we have managed to bear the brunt of it and still keep going. No members of our audience should feel under any obligation to give, but we would appeal to those who can afford it to place a donation in the collecting tin in the foyer, or to send a gift to help us.

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## RAISING THE LEVEL

We in Unity Theatre often talk of "raising our artistic standards", and we really do try to do something about it. This autumn and winter we are getting down to it in a most serious and practical way. We intend to devote two evenings per week to basic training — one practical evening, and one theoretical — and every one of our members, even the most experienced, will be expected to take part. Would you like to join in? Write to the Personnel Secretary for details.



# IT'S YOUR THEATRE

It is our boast that Unity Theatre is unique in that it is the only theatre in London owned and controlled by its own members, and the only theatre serving completely the interests of the Labour Movement. Our aim is to provide a real people's culture, an alternative to the commercial theatre and cinema. In order to achieve this aim we need the support and help of the entire organised Labour Movement of London.

During the coming year we shall endeavour to present to you a balanced repertory of plays and musicals, including plays and musicals of contemporary working class life, classics of world theatre and modern plays by established writers. We aim to present good theatre, which will entertain and move you, and which will deal with broad human issues. If you have enjoyed this evening's show, tell all your friends about it, and see that both you and they become regular patrons of Unity Theatre.

We also appeal to all members of our audiences to become individual members of the Society and to subscribe to a £1 share, which will entitle them to attend our members' meetings and to help us to thrash out the correct policy for our theatre. If you belong to an organisation, raise at your next meeting the question of affiliation to our Society.

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**THEATRE MEMBERSHIP.** Membership cards must be shown when buying tickets at the Box Office. When ordering tickets by post please enclose Unity Theatre or affiliated organisation membership card, and a stamped addressed envelope for the return of the tickets.

**AFFILIATION.** Trades Unions, Trades Councils, Co-operative Guilds, Labour and Communist Party Branches, drama, student and youth clubs, and all cultural organisations are eligible for affiliation to the Society. We can send a speaker to any of your meetings to give your members any information they require about Unity Theatre.

**BLOCK BOOKINGS.** Organisations affiliated to Unity are allowed a discount of 20% on 12 or more seats on a Friday, 10% on 25 or more seats on a Saturday or Sunday, and up to 40% for a whole house booking. Write or phone for full details.

**ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP.** We need actors, actresses, stage crew, front-of-house and office helpers, scenepainters, wardrobe assistants, etc. Budding actors and actresses will be welcomed to our training scheme. Fill in the application form on page 2, and the Personnel Secretary will arrange for you to be interviewed.

## Our Next Production

# PILLARS OF SOCIETY

by HENRIK IBSEN

A great classic of world theatre, as topical  
today as the day it was first produced.

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Provisional Opening Date — FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11th

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Producer - - JOE MacCOLUM

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not ring us in the interval!

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## CAMDEN HIGH STREET

Prop.: GEORGE KARAPATEAS

Telephone: EUSton 7359