



1963

**EAST AFRICA THEATRE GUILD (KENYA)**

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**DOORS WILL BE CLOSED AT THE  
COMMENCEMENT OF EACH ENTRY  
NO PERSON MAY ENTER THE  
AUDITORIUM WHILST ANY ENTRY  
IS PLAYING**

## EAST AFRICA THEATRE GUILD NOTES

### The Festival

The East Africa Theatre Guild first started the Drama Festival in 1953 and it has become an annual event since then. The Festival could be said to have been the brain-child of Peter Allnutt of the British Council, who personally did a great deal to encourage Drama in Kenya, particularly with up-country societies.

The first Festival in 1953 saw an entry of 9 plays and was adjudicated by a local panel comprising Mr. Morden Hall, Mrs. J. Forgan and Dr. Meiklejohn. Since then the adjudicators have been as follows:

- 1954 — Charles Thomas
- 1955 — Stanley Hildebrandt
- 1956 — Andre Van Gyseghem
- 1957 — Norman Marshall
- 1958 — Norman Marshall
- 1959 — Benn Levy
- 1960 — Clifford Williams
- 1961 — Peter Carpenter
- 1962 — Clifford Williams

Much has been said by audience and players alike on the subject of adjudicators, but it is clear from the above list that the Kenya Drama Festival has been adjudicated in the past by several very eminent men of the Theatre, well qualified to judge our local efforts.



This year we are proud to have with us our first woman adjudicator, Miss Frances Mackenzie, M.A. (Oxen), who was the Principal of the British Drama League Training Department from 1939 to 1962. So perhaps she is the most experienced adjudicator we have had in the last nine years of the Kenya Drama Festival.

She is on the Council and is a Founder Member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators and a Member and Examiner of the Drama Board. Added to this, she is an Examiner of the London University Institute of Education (Speech and Drama).

From 1957 to 1961 she represented the United Kingdom on the Council of International Amateur Theatre Association at the

Hague, Paris and Monaco. From 1962 to 1963 she has been a tutor on Production Courses for professional actors at the City Literary Institute in London.

In 1946 Miss Mackenzie visited Malta to adjudicate and lecture at the invitation of the Royal Navy.

In 1954 she made a tour of New Zealand, Australia and Ceylon, lecturing and giving training courses.

Apart from her great interest in the Amateur Stage, Miss Mackenzie has had much professional experience. She has acted on the West End Stage with the late Sir Nigel Playfair and has played in repertory and on tour. She has broadcast for the B.B.C. on sound and on television.

She is the author of several books and plays, including "The Amateur Actor", "Approach to Theatre," "Platform Six" and "Little Plays of Pigwigen."

With such all-round experience and interest in matters theatrical Miss Mackenzie's visit should be a high-light in our many years of Drama Festival.

### What is a Festival?

The Festival is a contest for one-act plays in performance and it has been established to provide for amateurs an opportunity to measure the standard of their work and learn how to improve it; to see the work of other companies and hear the constructive criticism of an experienced judge; to play in new conditions before a different audience. In fact, to increase their experience and knowledge of the theatre, and to gain wider recognition of their efforts. It offers to audiences the assistance of an expert judge in assessing and appreciating the work they see upon the stage.

### Extracts from the Rules.

1. Each company taking part must consist wholly of members of a bonafide adult amateur society which has a regular existence apart from the Festival.

2. The dramatic work offered by any entrant must be:—

(a) A complete play, of

(b) An extract from a longer play. (NOTE: this extract should be intelligible to a member of the audience who has not seen the play from which it is taken.)

3. No entry may exceed the time of forty five minutes in performance, including any time spent in changing a scene in the course of that performance (but not including the 12 minutes allowed for setting and the 6 minutes for striking the whole production). No entry may be less than 20 minutes in length.

4. The adjudicator will deliver a public adjudication on each play appearing at the Festival. Her duty is to provide constructive criticism which will help both the companies and the audience.

5. The adjudicator will mark according to the following system:—

Acting	...	...	40
Production	...	...	30
Stage Presentation	...	...	10
Choice of Play	...	...	10
Dramatic Achievement	...	...	10
			100

6. While entrants should guard against allowing their ambition to outstrip their ability, they should realise that credit will be given to experimental work in the choice of new forms of technique and stagecraft.

7. The aim of the Festival is to encourage the progressive element in the Amateur Theatre, and the adjudicator will accordingly award marks for the greater endeavour necessary in the treatment and presentation of a more difficult or original piece of theatre. At the same time it should be remembered that unless an original play has merit of itself, the mere fact that it is original cannot outweigh its shortcomings.

(There is a blank page for your own notes at the back of this programme)

### FESTIVAL AWARDS

1. **The Kenya Drama Festival Challenge Shield** for the society that provides the winning entry, presented by Mr. A. A. Monnas.  
1962 Winner — The Railway Players  
1963 Winner — .....
2. **The Kenya Drama Festival Figurine** for the best individual performance by an actress in the Festival presented by the Molo/Turi Amateur Dramatic Society.  
1962 Winner — Nancy Roe, Nairobi City Players  
1963 Winner — .....
3. **The Kenya Drama Festival Bowl** for the best individual performance by an actor in the Festival presented by I. E. Nathoo, Esq., and H. E. Nathoo, Esq., M.B.E.  
1962 Winner — Frank Price, Nairobi City Players  
1963 Winner — .....
4. **The Kenya Drama Festival Cup** for the best decor presented by Miss Leslie Crease.  
1962 Winner — Davinder Lamba, Artists' Welfare Guild  
1963 Winner — .....
5. **Producer's Trophy** presented by Barbara and Peter Fleming. Awarded to the best producer.  
1962 Winner — Eric R. Prince, The Railway Players  
1963 Winner — .....
6. **Best Supporting Players' Trophies** presented by Mr. John Karmali. Awarded to the best supporting actress and best supporting actor.  
1962 Not awarded  
1963 Winners — .....
7. **The East Africa Theatre Guild Award.** Awarded for the best original play written by a Member of a Constituent Society and entered in the Kenya Drama Festival which, in the opinion of the Adjudicator, merited such an award.  
1962 Not awarded  
1963 Winner — .....
8. **Best Up-Country Society Award** presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. Ross. Awarded to a Society "outside the Nairobi County Council perimeter" obtaining the highest marks.  
1962 Winner — Molo/Turi Arts Club  
1963 Winner — .....

### NEW AWARD

9. **The Audience Award.** For the best play in the Festival receiving the highest votes from the season ticket holding audience.  
1963 Winner — .....

Replicas for the winners have been presented this year by the East Africa Theatre Guild.

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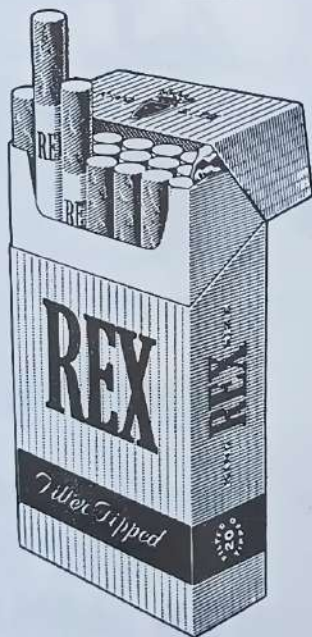
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SATURDAY, 12th OCTOBER

NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

present

**"THE RESOUNDING TINKLE"**

by N. F. Simpson

CAST

Middie Paraddock . . . . . DOROTHY PATIENCE  
Bro. Paraddock . . . . . BRYAN EPSOM  
Uncle Ted . . . . . PAMELA BULL

Produced by DENIS PATIENCE

The action of the play passes during an evening in the living room of the Paraddock's suburban house.

Time: The present.

SATURDAY, 12th OCTOBER

THE RAILWAY PLAYERS, NAIROBI

*present*

**"THE ROPE"**

*by* Eugene O'Neill

CAST

Abraham Bentley . . . . . MAC SPENCE  
Annie, his daughter . . . . . IRENE POWLESLAND  
Pat Sweeney, Annie's husband ALAN A. SMITH  
Mary Sweeney, their child . . . LINDA MITCHELL  
Luke Bentley, Abe's son by a  
second marriage . . . . . TOM LAVELLE

*Produced by* BETTY BROCK

*Set designed and constructed by*

Jim Stone, Harry Mayhew and Sandra Bird.

TUESDAY, 15th OCTOBER

NAIROBI AFRICAN DRAMATIC SOCIETY

*presents*

**"DAWN"**

*by* Percival Wild

CAST

Molly . . . . . ELIZABETH MUMBI  
The Doctor . . . . . EDWARD KAJUMO  
Dick . . . . . JOHN KITCHWEN  
Maggie . . . . . BETTY W. ALEXANDER

*Sets designed by* T. MODDIE

*Produced by* DAVID MAKIO

WEDNESDAY, 16th OCTOBER

THE ORIENT ART CIRCLE, NAIROBI

*presents*

**"THE UNDESIGNATED"**

*by* Kuldip Sondhi

CAST

Prem Guru . . . . . HAROON AHAMED  
Savitri Guru . . . . . FLAVIA ANDRADE  
Rajendra Patel . . . . . RUSTUM HIRA  
Kamala Patel . . . . . PUSHPA HIRA  
Majid . . . . . PRATAP KAPILA  
Solomon Ohanga . . . . . JONATHAN KARIARA  
June Mwenda . . . . . VERTESTINE MBAYA  
Mr. Wabera . . . . . NORBERT OKARE

*Sets by* SANAT TRIVEDI

*Produced by* HARISH DAVE

*Scene I:* An evening at Prem Guru's House

*Scene II:* The following morning at Solomon Ohanga's  
flat

*Time:* The present

(All the characters in this play are fictitious)

WEDNESDAY, 16th OCTOBER

GILGIL GARRISON PLAYERS

*present*

**"THE CAT AND THE CREAM"**

*by* William Dinner and William Morum

CAST

Mrs. Lady Gresham . . . . . JUNE WOND  
Lina . . . . . JOAN BURLE  
Peter . . . . . ANTHONY ANDREWS  
Mrs. Peggot . . . . . JUNE ANDERSON  
Prompt . . . . . DOREEN ANDREWS

*Sets designed by* DON MALTBY and STEVE CURTIS

*Produced by* DON MALTBY

*Scene:* The interior of a country cottage, about 10 a.m.



THURSDAY, 17th OCTOBER

THE NAIROBI ARTS THEATRE

presents

**"THE RECCO"**

A PLAY IN ONE ACT

by Falkland L. Cary

CAST

Richard Dixon . . . . . ROBERT NEIL  
Lucy Ezzard . . . . . CLARE REYNOLDS  
David Ezzard . . . . . RONALD BLACK  
Mary Hendry . . . . . JENNIFER ANDERSON  
Mrs. Hendry . . . . . MERYL EVANS

Decor MERYL EVANS

Produced by ROBERT BUTLER

Scene: An inn somewhere on the Isle of Wight at 9 p.m.  
on an evening in October

Time: The present

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