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Passionate Woman

By Kay Mellor
Directed by David Charters

23rd - 31st March 2007

7.45pm



Some everyday expletive language is used in this play

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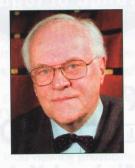
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Director's Notes



Kay Mellor's phantasmagorical tale of a day in the life of Betty Derbyshire, née Wilson, has presented us with a realistic challenge. But, I am extremely grateful that our talented cast of four has responded with style.

Performing on a two tiered set, designed by the imaginative Syd Coley and constructed by our hard working production team, under the guidance of Roderick Beardsell, has helped to make a dream come true. So I take this opportunity to thank all involved, including the atmospheric lighting design, the special sound effects, wardrobe and props departments. All vital ingredients to create a fantasy.

David Charters
Director

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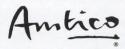
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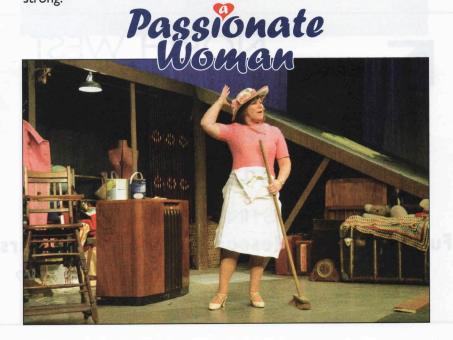
Kay Mellor

Kay Mellor is passionately "northern". She was born in Leeds and is famous for writing gritty TV dramas about working class women. She was brought up by her mother and surrounded by women, her Aunties and their female friends. She only met her father when she was 21.

Kay married at 16 and gave birth to two daughters, Gaynor (Faye) the actress, and Yvonne, a TV producer.

Kay is renowned for fastidiously researching her dramas, For A Band of Gold she spent months interviewing prostitutes, and feeding them with curry and conversation, for Fat Friends she attended slimming clubs and talked to women obsessed by weight and calorie counting, and for The Chase, starring her daughter Gaynor Faye, she spent weeks in a vet's waiting room.

Her career has spanned over 25 years to date, and she is still going strong.





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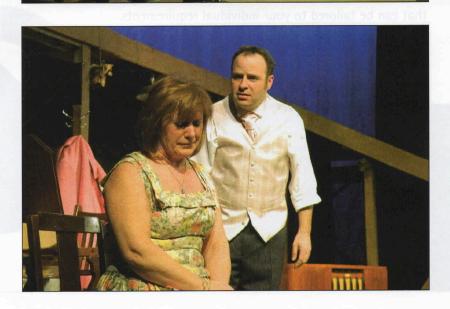
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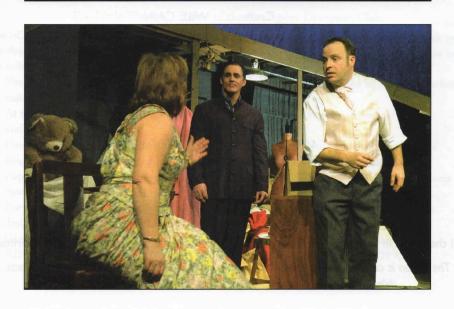
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Passionate Uouse.





Passionate Woman

By Kay Mellor

Directed by David Charters

Cast

Betty..... JAN HALE

Mark..... ADRIAN ROBERTS

Donald...... STEVE PRITCHARD

Craze..... WILL CAIN

Jo..... SABRINA RAGAZZONI/ IOANNE HOWARTH

Margaret..... MARGARET HILL

Fire Officer..... PETER HESLIN

Act I

1993, Saturday morning, 10.00am. The loft of a prewar house in the suburbs of a northern town.

Act II

The loft, the roof and up, up and away

All the music in this evenings production is by The Platters, Johnny Mathis or The Drifters

The action is continuous and there will be an interval of 20 minutes between the two acts. Why not beat the rush and pre-order your interval drinks in the bar?

Staging

Stage Manager Peter Heslin	
Assistant Stage Manager (Book) Margaret Hill	
Assistant Stage Manager (Flying) Lindsay Haywood, Paul Ho	dgson
Stage Crew Brendan Gillow, Helen Prin	tchard,
Sabrina Regazzoni	
Properties Helen Pritchard	
Costumes SDC Wardrobe & Cast	
Lighting DesignAndrew Connard	
Sound Design Brian Hodge	
Set Design Syd Coley	
Set Constructed by SDC Production Team	
Scenic Artist Bob Jessamine	
Rehearsal Swing Eric Chadwick	
Choreography Pam Bamber	
Photography by Neil Hickson	

Acknowedgements

The director would like to thank:
Emerson Menswear Ltd., Aladdins Cave Ormskirk for menswear
and AFX UK Ltd for aerial equipment

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- Should you arrive after the performance has started, you will be guided to your seats when a suitable opportunity occurs.
- At the end of the performance, exits will be open at both the front and back of the auditorium.
- First Aid assistance is regularly provided by volunteers from the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. Should you require help, please advise our stewards on duty in the Foyer.
- Patrons with hearing impairments should note that the auditorium has an Induction Loop System for your assistance. Hearing wands are also available from our stewards.
- For the comfort of all our patrons, smoking in the theatre complex is only permitted at designated tables in the Bar Lounge.
- Cameras and recording equipment may not be operated during performances
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Passionate Woman Cast

Jan Hale Betty

Jan is a cheerful practical girl with her feet planted firmly on the ground, however when she accepted the role of Betty in Kay Mellor's A Passionate Woman she found that there was more to be expected of her talents than playing a homely, mumsy character.

Following in the footsteps of such well known actresses as Anne Reid and Stephanie Cole in the Leeds and London productions, respectively, she is endeavouring to attain their dizzy heights. (Aim high, Jan) Ed.



Adrian Roberts Mark

Adrian is thrilled to be appearing on the Little Theatre stage again, so soon after landing on it from a flying carpet in the panto *Aladdin*. On that occasion he appeared as Widow Twankey's son Wishee Washee.

Once again his vertigo is put to the test as he hangs by a thread in an attempt to rescue his mother Betty. He would like to thank the rest of the cast for their support. (Hang on, Adrian) Ed.



Will Cain Craze

Many mothers are apprehensive on the day of their offspring's wedding, but not many will have been faced with a spectre of their past as depicted in Kay Mellor's *A Passionate Woman*.

Playing someone who isn't there is the last thing Will expected when asked to take on the role of Craze, but he promises to give it some body. Will says enjoy the play BOO! (Now you see him, now you don't) Ed.



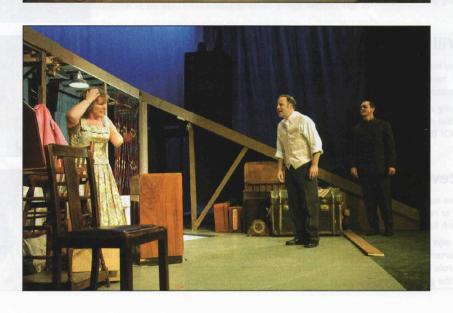
Steve Pritchard Donald

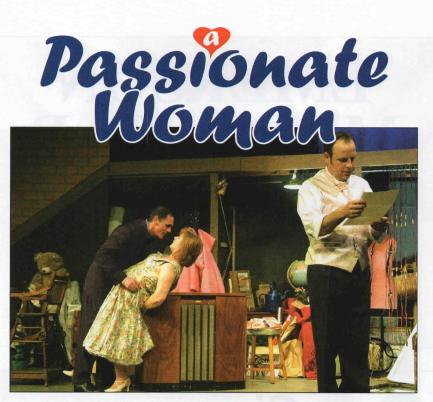
Steve says at first sight the part of Donald is the usual "useless husband" character, but as rehearsals have progressed, the other side of the story has started to emerge, which has made the character a real pleasure for Steve to play.

He says it has been great fun to act with such a talented cast and work with David Charters again. At least in this production he is more formally attired, as opposed to his role in David's production of *Princess Ida* for the Hoghton Players. (Keep your feet on the ground, Steve) Ed.



Passionate Uoman.







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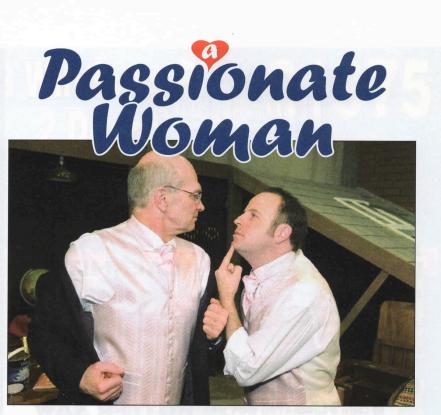
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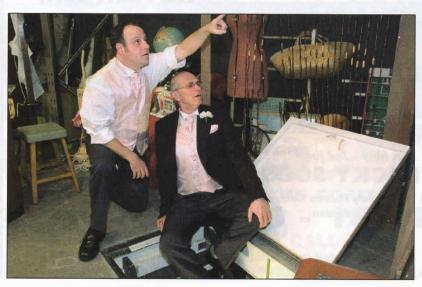
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