



# PRESS RELEASE

LOGOS THEATRE COMPANY LTD.

## Noël Coward's

# "I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU"

"I'll Leave It To You" opened in London at the New Theatre (now renamed the Noel Coward Theatre in his honour) on July 21st 1920, following a try-out in Manchester a few months earlier. The critics were mostly enthusiastic, and said that a new playwright had been discovered. The play ran for a month and its young creator described himself as "much the better for my brief encouragement, both financially and spiritually".

"I'll Leave It To You" is a characteristic piece of Coward's writing - light and amusing and with strong connections to later family plays like *Hay Fever*. It also has something to say about its time and the recession after the First World War - the world which the 'bright young things' were claiming for their own, which was not the world the Mother of the story was brought up for.

### "THE AUDIENCE CHEERED"

It appears second in the lists of The Master's works, but it was performed first, before *The Rat Trap* although written later. With the hindsight of knowing the major works which followed, it seems much more of a 'Coward piece' than its predecessor. Apart from the odd production in America, there is barely a trace of any professional revival. The 'juve' lead character Bobbie was written for and played by the young Noël. The charming song "Faith", which Bobbie sings during the action, is at least as attractive as many of Coward's better-known ones.

After the try-out production at the Gaiety Theatre in Manchester, the playwright wrote that it "went well all through, and at the end the audience cheered". He adds characteristically that he "made quite a nice little speech. It was boyish and modest, and had been carefully rehearsed." Coward was twenty years old.

Directed by Bryan Hands

CAST INCLUDES: EMILY-JANE BOYLE, KARIN FERNALD, HARRY MEACHER, CAROLA STEWART

PENTAMETERS THEATRE, ORIEL PLACE, 28 HEATH ST, LONDON NW3 6TE

25TH AUGUST TO 12TH SEPTEMBER 2009

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The company was established in 1989 by Kenneth McClellan, to bring classic plays to life while remaining true to the text.

[www.logos theatre.co.uk](http://www.logos theatre.co.uk)

