

P.A.P.A./Provincetown Theatre Company

presents

CRAZED TEACUPS

An Entertainment by Edward Gorey

Music by Carl Czerny, The School of Velocity

Cast

Mark Baker Timothy Burton Elizabeth Dary Mary Driscoll Edgar Francis, IV Michael Rogers Bart Scott Susan Willis

and the puppets of Le Théâtricule stoïque

Production

Director	Edward Gorey
Assistant Director	Carol Verburg
Technical Director	
Set Construction	Butch Francis
House Manager	Butch Francis
Opening Night Recepti	

To the memory of Robert Morley

Act I

The Utter Zoo
The Green Beads
The Helpless Doorknob
The Insect God
Neglected Murderesses
The Hapless Child
The Bruised Thumb
The Gilded Bat
The Happy Ending

Fifteen minute intermission

Act II

The Great Hohum
The Beautifull Cassandra*
The Fiend of the Fens
The Misfortunate Offspring
The Weeping Chandelier
The Uncaught Window

KEY (continued)

(12) has written, and tours the country with, a one man/woman show based on the life of (a) the Chevalier d'Eon, (b) Christine Jorgensen, (c) Renée Richards, (d) Ian Morris.

(13) has had barely speaking parts in several still unreleased films.

(14) has fleetingly appeared on the soaps (a) Moving Finger, (b) The Lewd and The Lovely, (c) Married Cousins, (d) Out of the Closet.

(15) is prominent in regional television commercials.

(16) has done voice-overs in a variety of specious dialects.

(17) whenever 'resting' concertizes on the glass harmonica and has transcribed many Rossini overtures for that instrument.

(18) wishes to dedicate their performance to (a) their adoptive parents, (b) a large, black dog named Edna, (c) whichever critic whose praise is the most fulsome:

(19) among madly favorite roles are:

(a) Pierre in The Ambiguities

(b) Nothing in Much Ado About Nothing (c) The Elephant in The Elephant Man

(d) Lucy Tartan in The Ambiguities

(e) Lorraine Holloway in Moose Murders

(f) Lavinia in Titus Andronicus

(g) Hawkshaw in The Ticket-of-Leave Man

(h) Delly Ulver in The Ambiguities (i) Clara in Clara's on the Curtains!

(j) multiple roles in Hip Gloppy's Venice, California Preserved

(k) Nicky in The Vortex (1) Plisthenes in Thyestes

(m) Conthepthion in The Lithping Thpaniard

(n) Lavinia in Mourning Becomes Electra

(o) Mr. Travilla in Elsie Dinsmore (p) Tondelayo in White Cargo

(q) Judy Bolton in The Voice in the Suitcase

(r) Isabel in The Ambiguities

(s) Nasturtium in Wind-Up Sushi

The notes on the cast appear over its collective dead bodies.

Mark Baker: 1, 8, 9, 10, 14b, c, 15, 18c, 19e,j,k,l,s

Timothy Burton: 5a,b,e, 10, 11, 12a, 13, 18a, 19c,j,k,l,s

Elizabeth Dary: 3, 6, 7a, 10, 11, 14a,c, 19e,f,h,j,m,s

Mary Driscoll: 8, 10, 11, 12d, 14a,b, 19d,j,n,r,s

Edgar Francis, IV: 2, 7b, 10, 11, 14c,d, 16, 19a,j,l,m,s

Michael Rogers: 5a,c,e, 10, 11, 17, 18b, 19b,j,l,o,q,s

Bart Scott: 5c,d,e, 8, 10, 11, 12c, 13, 14b,d, 19g,j,l,n,s

Susan Willis: 7c, 10, 11, 12b, 14a,b,d, 19d,i,j,p,s

KEY

- (1) has appeared with each and every Cape Cod theatre group that has been in operation at any time during the last seventeen years.
- (2) has never before appeared on stage. (3) does not know the meaning of fear. (4) hails from Dismal Seepage, Ohio.
- (5) is also a poet and has had work printed in (a) Antaeus, (b) The New York Review of Books, (c) Merdre, (d) Divine Afflatus, (e) Parade.

(6) once ran a tearoom in Open Switch, North Dakota.

(7) as a child dreamt of becoming a (a) research chemist, (b) simultaneous translator at the U.N., (c) sex bomb, but is now glad it didn't work out.

(8) has worked in a replacement-hip factory.

(9) lives with, and is devoted to, a large, black dog named Edna. (10) first 'trod the boards' in Six Who Pass While the Lentils Boil.

(11) has received an ACTE nomination.

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P.A.P.A./PROUINCETOWN THEATRE COMPANY

August 28, 1992

Dear Edward,

It was good to talk with you this morning. At least I now know that you are still lurking around somewhere and not lost with the crumbflakeys.

As soon as I hung up, I found the tally sheet that I was looking for. Here is a breakdown of the receipts:

Michael calos	4694.00
"Bar"	142.00
Books (32)	435.20
T-shirts (31)	372.00
(includes the 2 you're sending)	
Posters (18)	180.00
Buttons (52)	52.00

Total receipts

\$5875.20

Here is a check for \$183.25 to cover the T-shirts (31 @ 5.75) and the \$5.00 for the postage of the two shirts to Connecticut.

I have managed to almost finish the Treasurer's Report for T-Cups and am sending you a copy. As you requested, I have paid each of the actors an honorarium of \$30.00 which is included in the expenses. However, I can't close things out until I know how much to pay for the books. Even assuming that we pay full price (\$13.60) for them, our "profit" is healthy (about \$3,500).

I am also sending some more tickets that I found and the ad that was sent to me from A.R.T.S.. If I learn of any excursions from the outer reaches of the Provincetown area to AMPHIGOREY, I'll be sure to let you know. There had been some threats about an invasion tomorrow, but I think that they were only threats.

Again, thank you for everything. Hopefully, it won't be too long before we will get together again.

Sincerely,

Butch

P.A.P.A./PROUINCETOWN THEATRE COMPANY

March 10, 1992

Mr. Edward Gorey 8 Strawberry Lane Yarmouthport, MA 02675

Re: "An Edward Gorey Entertainment"

Dear Edward:

Congratulations! I am delighted to inform you that the Provincetown Theatre Company's Board of Directors would very much like you to direct your "Entertainment" for twelve performances, running Thursday - Sunday nights, from July 23rd through August 9th in the Pilgrim Room of the Provincetown Inn. Your "entertainment" will be the third production of our Summer Season (please refer to the enclosed 1992 Season listing).

P.J. McKey's production of "The Art of Dining" will end on Sunday, July 12th, and be completely struck no later than Monday, June 13th, therefore allowing 10 days in between shows for the construction and hanging of your "Entertainment" and in-space rehearsal time for your cast. It is further understood that the strike of your show must occur on either Sunday or Monday, August 9th or 10th, in order to turn the room's use (in its original condition) over to Norman Allen for "Melville Slept Here" no later than Monday, August 10th. The approved budget is \$2,500 (I hope that will be alright). Please call me so we can touch base on all of this!

Thanks for your support of the Provincetown Theatre Company. We are all looking forward to another successful production of your "Entertainment."

Sincerely,

Copy

Mark W. Baker President, PTC

'Crazed Teacups' same old Gorey

Provincetown show has style, but not much life

"CRAZED TEACUPS," written and directed by Edward Gorey; presented by the Provincetown Theatre Company at the Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., Provincetown; performances at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays through Aug. 9; tickets: \$10; box office: 487-3466.

By HAMILTON KAHN STAFF WRITER

PROVINCETOWN — Edward Gorey's adventures in theater just don't do it for me.

The author and illustrator of dozens of books that occupy a unique literary niche, Yarmouth resident Gorey is perhaps best-known for animating the title sequence to the TV series "Mystery," seen on PBS.

But the real mystery of his recent Cape theater work is: Why does he keep putting on the same show every time out?

Don't get me wrong. I think Gorey is a brilliant artist and writer, and a fascinating individual, to boot. But his recent series of stage "entertainments" — "Crazed Teacups" being the successor to "Useful Urns," "Stuffed Elephants" (which I didn't see) and "Flapping

REVIEW

Ankles" – has been mostly boring and repetitive.

It's not only that Gorey has no discernible point to make. It's that there is virtually no dialogue between any of the characters in any of the 15 vignettes that comprise "Crazed Teacups."

We get one-liners, couplets and a lot of narrated pantomime. But, without any human interaction, there can be no forward movement.

The show may accurately convey Gorey's one-of-a-kind outlook, but it's as static as a printed page — maybe more so, because it's supposed to be alive and it isn't.

The simply decorated, jet-black set provides a flexible backdrop, and the classical music and smart, simple costumes reflect the author's impeccable sense of style.

Visually, "Crazed Teacups" may be the most casual and contemporary Gorey show to date, but the content is the same, leaving us in a bemused limbo, somewhere between the eccentric and the outrageous.

The ensemble cast tries hard - sometimes too hard - to latch onto a concept or a character

whenever possible.

Susan Willis, Timothy Burton, Michael Rogers and Elizabeth Dary seem to have the most success with their multiple roles. Bart Scott, Edgar Francis IV, Mark Baker and Mary Driscoll struggle a bit more, but they can't be blamed for the conceptual flaws of "Crazed Teacups."

Die-hard Gorey fans may find enough to keep them enthralled, and some of the material is won-

derfully weird.

For example, between each sketch, a character wearing an oversized lampshade strolls across the stage, stopping to offer rhymes such as, "One cannot hope to end one's life/with nothing but a butter knife."

And the sequences featuring the puppets of "Le Theatricule Stoi-

Between each sketch, a character wearing an oversized lampshade strolls across the stage, stopping to offer rhymes such as, "One cannot hope to end one's life/with nothing but a butter knife."

que" border on the brilliant — especially "The Insect God," involving an abduction by space aliens.

There is also a bit of baby-tossing, one of my favorite Gorey bits. How can something so awful be so funny? I don't know, but it is.

Unfortunately, there just isn't enough of this inspired zaniness in

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1992

CAPE COD TIMES /C-3

"Crazed Teacups" to transport us completely into the world of Edward Gorey. That would be an exciting theatrical adventure, indeed, if he could find a way to let us take it.

P.A.P.A./PROUINCETOWN THEATRE COMPANY



AUDITIONS

for CRAZED TEACUPS



a new Entertainment
written, designed, and directed by
Edward Gorey

Auditions Sunday, June 14 and Monday, June 15 7 - 8:30 PM

at the Provincetown Inn
1 Commercial Street

Performances

Thursdays through Sundays July 23 - August 9

For more information or alternate times call 362-3909.

