



# The Abbey Theatre

The National Theatre Society Limited

#### **Directors**

Mícheál O hAodha—Chairman Roibeárd O Faracháin Gabriel Fallon Dr. Séamus Wilmot

Tomás MacAnna Kathleen Barrington

Manager John Slemon Artistic Director Lelia Doolan

The device of the Abbey Theatre, which shows Queen Maeve hunting, was engraved for W. B. Yeats by Elinor Monsell in 1904 and has been used by the Theatre ever since.

# MISERICORDIA

# de Benito Perez Galdos

Adaptación teatral de

ALFREDOMANAS NAVASCUES
11th-16th June 1973 nightly at 8 p.m.

## CAST

(in order of appearance)

LA VOZ
CORENAS
FORENAS
LA CASIANA
LA BURLADA
MARICUELA
PULIDO
EL MARICUELA
POCASANGRE
ELISEO MARTINEZ
DEMETERIA
LA MENDIGA MADRE
NINOS POBRES
CUARTOKILO
OTROS POBRES

Gabriel Llopart Félix Navarro Ana María Ventura Margarita García-Ortega Paquita Gómez José Luis Heredia Juan Madrigal Manuel Gijón Francisco Cecilio Matilde Fluixa Concha Hidalgo José y Rosa Irazábal Cesáreo Estébanez Flor de Bethania, María Caro, Tina Diaz, Elena Foyé, Luis Lorenzo, Manuelo Madrid, Miguel Pérez, Juan Miguel Ruiz, Manuel Salamanca, José Sanz, Francisco A. Valdivia y Manuel Gijón

EL MOSEN
DON CARLOS
BENINA
ALMUDENA
PEDRA LA BORRACHA

Enrique Navarro Joaquín Molina María Fernanda d'Ocón José Maria Prada Julia Tejela DONA FRASQUITA

**OBDULIA** 

DON FRASQUITO

DIEGA

DON ROMUALDO

**ANTONITO** 

**MARTINA** 

CHICO de la Funebridad

**OCTOGENARIO** 

ANGEL 1

ANGEL 2

**GUARDIAS** 

CORTEJO FINAL

Luisa Rodrigo Julia Trujillo

José Segura

Maruja García Alonso

Luis García-Ortega

Francisco Hernández

Yolanda Cembreros

José María Pou

Victor Gabirondo

Joaquín P. de la Puente

Pedro Fernández

Luis Zorita y Mariano Sanz.

Elena Foyé, María Caro.

José Irazábal y Rosa

Irazábal

Director:

JOSE LUIS ALONSO

Bocetos de Decorados y Figurines

MANUEL MAMPASO

Dirección Musical: MANUEL DIAZ

Ayudante de Dirección:

MANUEL CANSECO

## **EQUIPO TECNICO**

Realización de Decorados

Realización de Vestuario

Zapateria Atrezzo Peluqueria

Utileria

Iefe de Electricidad Jefe de Maquinaria

Apuntador Regidor

Manuel Lopez Peris Hermanos

Boria Mateos

Goyo Antonio Gutierrez

Jose Mayoral Guillermo Nieto Manuel M. Marquez

Mariano De Las Heras

We are grateful for the kind assistance of His Excellency the Spanish Ambassador Joaquin Juste in presenting this first visit of a Spanish National Theatre Company to Ireland.

## MISERICORDIA

# Synopsis

#### ACT I

A band of beggars, at their post before the church, squabble and chatter as dawn breaks on a windy morning. The priest passes in, but gives no alms. **Don Carlos Moreno Trujillo** arrives to hear Mass, and dispenses alms to mark the first anniversary of his wife's death. After Mass don Carlos asks **Benina**, one of the beggarwomen, to call to his home next morning.

Questioned by a disembodied voice, Benina recounts how she took to begging.

Benina scrounges some money from Almudena, a blind Moorish fellow-beggar.

Benina returns home to her mistress, dona Frasquita Juárez de Zapata, a genteel pauper whom she supports by her begging. Doña Frasquita thinks Benina has a job housekeeping for don Romualdo, a priest who is merely a figment of Benina's imagination.

Benina describes the meal she has cooked for don Romualdo, and doña Frasquita, whose stomach is the only sound part of her ailing body, scoffs an imaginary meal.

Benina visits doña Frasquita's daughter Obdulia, a hysteric married to an undertaker's son. Don Frasquito de Ponte y Delgado, a fop, flatters Obdulia, bringing on a hysterical attack. Benina feeds them both.

### INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

#### ACT II

Police scatters the beggars.

Benina has visited don Carlos, but has received not money but a lesson in accountancy.

Almudena urges Benina to take possession of all don Carlo's money by invoking the aid of spirits. The invocation fails. Jealous of Benina's attentions to don Frasquito, Almudena assaults her.

On returning home, Benina is assaulted by her mistress, who announces that don Romualdo has called on her!

Two angels bring Benina a martyr's crown.

Benina is shown doña Frasquita in the luxury conferred by an unexpected legacy.

Benina gives food to an old man. He fetches a throng of other beggars, who implore Benina, as a saint, to help them. She shows them her empty hands. They stone her, together with her now constant companion Almueda.

Benina and Almudena are arrested for begging without a permit. Don Frasquita refuses to help.

Benina and Almudena are taken off to the poorhouse.

