

**University Theatre presents**

# **NEVER IN MY LIFETIME**

**by**

**Shirley Gee**



**Nov. 18, 19, 20, 21**

**8 p.m.**

**Tustin Studio Theatre**



# NEVER IN MY LIFETIME

by  
**Shirley Gee**

*Director:* Robert Gainer  
*Scenic & Costume Designer:* F. Elaine Williams  
*Lighting Designer:* Stephen Chené  
*Movement Consultant:* Danna Frangione  
*Dialect Coach:* Stephanie Kallos

## CAST

(in order of appearance)

WIFE ..... Dawn Albert\*  
Charlie's wife, aged 19, from London.

MOTHER ..... MaryAnn Sigler\*  
Tessie's mother, from Belfast.

CHARLIE ..... Nicholas Wodtke  
aged 22, from London.

TOM ..... Andrew Garman\*  
aged 19, from Yorkshire.

MAIRE ..... Shelly Simonds\*  
aged 19, from Belfast.

TESSIE ..... Mary K. Cullison\*  
aged 18, from Belfast.

SOLDIER ..... Graham Marks  
from England.

WOMAN ..... Penelope Kokines

---

PLACE: London, England; Belfast and Bangor, Northern Ireland

---

**Never in My Lifetime** is set in the recent past (1970's); not all of the situations described in the play still arise. For example, organized fraternization between British troops and the populace to foster better relations—labeled “Hearts and Minds” by the army—has all but ended. But Northern Ireland is still a colony of Britain, and the impasse and animosity between Catholics and Protestants remain. A life for many consists of dire poverty and the continued threat of violence from all sides.

(Director's program note from the American premiere of this play at the Hartman Theatre, directed by Michael Bloom)

*There will be one ten minute intermission*



## NOTES

### The Playwright

Shirley Gee lives in London where she was born and brought up. She was an actress until her marriage to British actor Donald Gee. She has written several award-winning radio plays for the BBC and has also written and produced two television plays. Her play, *Typhoid Mary*, was produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Bristol Old Vic in 1983. Originally written as a radio play, the stage version of *Never in My Lifetime* won the 1984 Smith Blackburn Prize for the best new play by an American or British woman. Her play *Ask for the Moon* was produced by the Hamstead Theatre Club in 1986 and published by Fabre and Fabre. Gee has recently completed a play, *Warrior*, for Theatre Royal, Stratford East, and is working on a radio play for the BBC's Globe Theatre for simultaneous transmission across the world in 1988.

### A Few Significant Dates

1171 AD — English King Henry II, encouraged by Popes Adrian IV and Alexander III, invaded Ireland and proclaimed himself Overlord of the entire island — the independence of Gaelic Ireland came to an end.

1691 — The Protestant Ascendancy, spurred by deposed King James II defeat at the battle of Boyne, was complete. Protestants ( $\frac{1}{10}$  of the population) gained control of the land and political office — excluding Catholics and other religions from basic civil rights;

1801 — The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland came into being; the union was not popular in Ireland — the breach between Catholics and Protestants widened;

1906 — SINN FEIN, a new political party that pursued the Republican dream of home rule, was founded.;

1912 — a new home rule measure was near passage — but the Ulster Unionists resisted the measure and prepared for Civil War;

1913 — The ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE, a quasi-legal army of protestants, was formed; fighting broke out;

1913 — Irish founded IRISH VOLUNTEER FORCE, for the defense of Irish freedom;

1920 — the Government of Ireland Act was adopted, creating a northern and southern Ireland;

1921 — Southern Ireland became the Irish Free State;

1922 — Northern Ireland opted to maintain its strong ties with the central government of the U.K.

Pre-1969 IRA Leadership — laid emphasis on political aspects of their struggle for civil rights in Northern Ireland;

1970's — the Provisional IRA — came to dominate the para-military scene on the Catholic side, as well as the political side; the policy of the provisional IRA is to unite Ireland by a combination of military violence and efforts to mobilize public opinion;



## Opposing Voices

"...we pledge to Ireland our love, and we pledge to English rule in Ireland our hate... life springs from death: and from the graves of patriot men and women spring living nations... The Defenders of this Realm... think that they have pacified Ireland... the fools, the fools! They have left us our Fenian dead, and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace."

*Padraic Pearse, Irish poet, schoolmaster and political leader, 1915.*

## Papal Audience

If it requires a special kind of nerve to heckle a pope, the Rev. Ian Paisley has it. Mr. Paisley, a leader of the hard-line Protestants in Northern Ireland, last week disrupted a speech to the European Parliament by Pope John Paul II, who Mr. Paisley implied was somehow sympathetic to the Irish Republican Army. Almost as soon as the Pope began his speech in Strasbourg, France, Mr. Paisley, a member of the European Parliament, rose from his seat holding a poster saying, "Pope John Paul II — Antichrist," and shouted, "I renounce you as the Antichrist." Other members of Parliament snatched the sign away and threw papers at Mr. Paisley, who was then quickly ejected from the building. An unruffled John Paul continued his speech. *New York Times, October 16, 1988*

## Ear Notes

Bognor — small seaside resort on the Kent coast of England.

pig — an armored vehicle.

pongs — smells.

doddle — easy, no trouble; piece of cake.

Dragon's Teeth — refers to the Greek myth in which the planting of serpent's teeth in the ground produced the birth of warriors, who then sprang from the earth.

Armelite — rifle preferred by the IRA because it can be broken down into small pieces and smuggled easily.

squaddie — derogatory term for a British enlisted man.

thunderflash — firecracker/smoke bomb; Harmless, loud, dirty, alarming.

Hearts and Minds — efforts in the recent past by the British army to form a sympathetic bond with the citizens of Belfast, to win them over with organized fraternization. A cup of tea, a sporting or social event, a children's outing. Looked at cynically by both sides.

great crack — great news.

APC — armored personnel carrier; a kind of paddy wagon for troops.

lost his bottle — lost his nerve.

Provo-minded — refers to the Provisional arm of the IRA, the faction devoted to the eviction of the British, by violence if necessary.

knees-up — a party.

Special thank you to: Shirley Gee, Michael Bloom, Bill Johns, Chris Ludmer, Major Harry Owens, Master Sergeant Randy Griffith, and Mr. Eric Hollmann of the Military Science Program, Gary Grant, Todd Rosenlieb, and Rick Totten of The Rhythm Stick.



## PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director .....	Stephen Chené
Stage Manager .....	Karen McCann*
Assistant Stage Managers .....	Nicole Markley, Christine Jerome
Dramaturg, Assistant Director .....	Chris Ludmer*
Set Construction .....	Chris Armstrong*, Jessica Collins, Pat Ciccarelli Mark Faglioni, Lauren Leveen, Pat McCormick, Bill Nelson* Michael Patterson*, David Romankow*, MaryBeth Sodini*
Master Electrician .....	Bill Nelson
Assistant Master Electrician .....	Mike Hamlin
Followspot Operators .....	Mary Kalbach, Mike Hamlin
Sound .....	MaryBeth Sodini*
Properties .....	Tad Klopccic*, Penelope Kokines
Costumes .....	Mary Kate Behlke, Mary Cullison*, Lisa Di Giacomo Lisa du Busc, Catherine Fruchon, Kristin Hellstedt* Nancy Horney, Pam Miller, Christy Nill, Jennifer Reeb
Assistant to the Scenic Designer .....	Dana Plasse
Makeup .....	MaryAnn Sigler*
Publicity Coordinator .....	Karen McCann*
Publicity & Box Office .....	Debbie Bloodgood, Dick Wiedenheft, Lisa Hirshkorn, Jerome Charlier

\*member of Cap & Dagger

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Co-chair, Acting and Directing .....	Robert Gainer
Co-chair, Design .....	F. Elaine Williams
Director of Dance, Technique & Theory .....	Danna Frangione
Technical Director .....	Stephen P. Chené
Theatre History, Theory, Directing .....	Gary Grant
Dance Instruction .....	Adylia Roman
Secretary .....	Chris Fry

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS

Dawn Albert	Mary Cullison	Michael Patterson
Chris Armstrong	Kristin Hellstedt	David Romankow
Kathleen Bailer	Lisa Hirschhorn	Todd Rosenlieb
Mary Kate Behlke	Karen McCann	Diana Rudge
Jerome Charlier	Bill Nelson	MaryBeth Sodini

## DANA INTERNS

Debbie Bloodgood    Tad Klopccic    Dick Wiedenheft

## CAP & DAGGER OFFICERS



President .....	Dawn Albert
Vice president .....	Mary Ann Sigler
Secretary .....	Dabney Giles
Treasurer .....	Chris Ludmer
Activities .....	Alison Abels



## PATRON

John & Dotty Allen  
Judith & Owen Anderson  
Robert & Faye Beard  
Ronald L. Beaver  
William & Judith Becker  
Harry Blair & Barbara Shailor  
Dorothy Brzeskiewicz  
D. Toni Byrd & Charles Sackrey  
Douglas & Mary Candland  
Stephen & Chris Chené  
Richard & Jean Crossland  
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Dawson  
John Dunlop  
Jon & Ann Eschinger  
Bob & Danna Frangione  
Chris & Gary Fry  
Harry R. Garvin  
Gerald & Laura Gordon  
Anthony Gosse  
Gary & Nancy Grant  
Annelies Gray  
Allan & Ann Grundstrom  
Betty & Jim Hammerlee  
P. S. Harsha, M.D.  
Ann & Jim Heath  
Jackson & Martha Hill  
Mary A. Hill  
David M. Himmelreich  
Faith F. Himmelreich  
David C. Iazard  
Charlotte Hamlin Jacobsen  
Alice Steck Johnson  
    & Berda Stout Rittenhouse  
Kevin M. Kaplan  
Dr. Margaret Kastner

Ernie & DeeJee Keen  
Steve & Connie Kelly  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Kessler  
Koko  
John Krause  
Stephen J. Lindenmuth  
Joseph & Carol LoGrippo  
Kristin Lynch  
Mike & Lynn Lynch  
Amy Mackay  
Richard & Miranda McGinnis  
Gordon & Pat Meyer  
John & Joyce Miller  
Sally Nyquist & Arlyne Hoyt  
Christine L. Patterson  
David & Jan Pearson  
Sharon Poff  
Harvey & Betsy Powers  
David S. & Jane A. Ray  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Rippon  
Martha & Chuck Root  
Evelyn & Norman Schneider  
Catherine & John Shafer  
Larry & Nancy Shinn  
Lisbe & Manning Smith  
    & Elizabeth Anderson  
Stephanie L. Snyder  
Gary & Sandy Sojka  
Douglas & Margie Sturm  
Lois Tilton  
John Wheatcroft  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles White  
F. Elaine Williams  
Dolly & Raymond Yaggie  
Martha & John Zeller

## COMMERCIAL

Beyer & Fortner, Inc.  
Commonwealth Bank & Trust  
Computer Support Services Inc  
The Crossland Group  
The Great Susquehanna Piano Co.  
Wash Tubs Laundries