

The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband

Kenneth and Hilary have been married nearly twenty years, but as middle age approaches, Ken finds himself in the arms of another woman.

At first, Laura appears to be everything that is missing from Ken's life with Hilary - young, slim, attractive and a vibrant free spirit - but his little fling quickly becomes desperately out of hand. Juggling the affections of two women, he is soon forced to confront the truth and leaves Hilary for Laura. Only one problem . . . Laura can't cook.

As time passes, Kenneth mourns the loss of Sunday roasts and haute cuisine, and the comforts of the settled life he once knew.

When Hilary invites Ken and Laura over for dinner, he readily accepts, unaware of what delicacies Hilary plans to serve. Told through a series of flashbacks interspersed with the 'last supper', *The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband* is a highly entertaining exploration of the old adage, "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach"!



Future Productions

Good Will

a new play by Chester Playwright Paul Kelly
April 23rd – 25th 2010

Up 'n' Under

by John Godber
May 8th - 15th 2010

The Wizard of Oz

By L Frank Baum at Clwyd Theatr Cymru
Music & Lyrics from the MGM motion picture score
Adapted by John Kane from the motion picture screenplay for the Royal Shakespeare Company
June 15th – 19th 2010

Dick Whittington

Our traditional family Pantomime
11th - 30th December 2010

Tip Top Productions is a community theatre company, which enjoys the reputation of being open and friendly. We welcome anyone irrespective of his or her experience; all we ask is commitment for whatever task you agree to carry out while working with us.

We always need actors, singers, dancers, props makers and indeed anything that helps our productions run smoothly. We also need a team of members to help market and publicise our work; in fact, we are looking for a whole breadth of talent to join our existing core members to help us mount our shows. As we are currently planning some new shows, we particularly need someone who is interested in designing or even making sets for our forthcoming programme.

So please, if you have done lots of amateur theatre or if you have never been involved with a theatre company before: try us; we guarantee that you will find Tip Top a rewarding group with which to create a new diversion; and you will also make new friends.

If you would like to join us as a volunteer please call Steve Davies on 01244 341296 or register your interest at our website www.tiptopproductions.co.uk

BOX OFFICE: 01244 341296



At The Forum Studio Theatre, Chester
www.tiptopproductions.co.uk



At The Forum Studio Theatre, Chester present

The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband



written by Debbie Isitt, directed by Mark Newman

April 9th - 11th 2010 at 7:30pm

www.tiptopproductions.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 1050409

Foreward from the director Mark Newman



When I saw 'The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband' at The Gateway Theatre about 15 years ago, I remember thinking that it had everything about theatre that I love – it was energetic, audacious, imaginative, vulgar, laugh out loud funny and performed with huge gusto and skill. I didn't realise it when I asked to direct it as one of our 'Season's Extras' but it turns out to have something of a cult following too, though I'm not surprised, given my own response to it. It's a really theatrical play; its fans are fans of theatre.

Debbie Isitt's foreward for her play dictates quite specific ways in which the play should be performed, and in the main we've tried to do our best by her. There's very little in the way of props; cigarettes, pouring of drinks, are all mimed – they're all there, you just can't actually see them, is the way we thought of it! So, what's it about? Well, Kenneth has been married to Hilary – who is an excellent cook – for 19 years when he leaves her for Laura - who is not. And that's pretty much all you need to know really.

As I write it looks like 'The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband' will pretty much sell out its short run, so I thank you for taking a punt on not the most widely known of plays. Like all good comedies there is something essentially tragic in 'The Woman Who Cooked Her Husband' too – as the playwright herself says, the comedy comes from the truth. If we've done our job properly you'll see jealousy, hurt, anger, betrayal, fear, confusion and triumph...and you'll have an absolute ball. MN

About the writer Debbie Isitt

Debbie Isitt is a comic writer, film director and performer, who lives and works in Coventry. She graduated from the Coventry School of Theatre and in the 1980's set up her own, world renowned, theatre company 'Snarling Beasties' in the city. That company won three Perrier Pick of the Fringe awards at the Edinburgh Festival and her plays have won several other awards. In 2005 she was nominated for a BAFTA. Her plays have toured the world and been translated into many languages.

Kenneth
Aaron Nash



Hobbies: Fine dining, self preservation and sorting the chaff from the wheat.

Which person would you most like to be marooned on a desert island with and why? Nigella Lawson, plump puddings and plump puddings

In what situation(s) do you think it's okay to lie?

What are you getting at?

If you were in a leaking balloon with Mariah Carey, Nelson Mandela and David Beckham, and had to throw one of them out to survive, who would you choose?

That Mandela, what has he ever done? Anyone can go to prison.

Breakfast – full English or cereal?

Are you bloody mental! Do I look like a hamster?

What would you do if you won £1,000,000 on the lottery?

From a jack to a king. Look out Ken's coming through

If you had to do a sponsored run for charity which charity would you choose? Charity, you mean scroungers? There are far too many spongers for my liking

Finally, who's your favourite member of Take That?

Take That, Take That, are you suggesting I am a shirt lifter?

Laura



Hobbies: Shopping & watching Big Brother

Which person would you most like to be marooned on a desert island with and why?

Peter Andre...because he's lovely & I feel really sorry for him

In what situation(s) do you think it's okay to lie? If I was being interviewed for "Hello" magazine and denying cosmetic surgery

If you were in a leaking balloon with Mariah Carey, Nelson Mandela and David Beckham, and had to throw one of them out to survive, who would you choose? Who's Nelson Mandela?

Breakfast – full English or cereal? Neither...I don't eat it

What would you do if you won £1,000,000 on the lottery? Blow it!

If you had to do a sponsored run for charity which charity would you choose? Something that supported animal aid, or banned animal testing. Or maybe 'Save the Whale'

Finally, who's your favourite member of Take That? Jason Orange

Hilary



Hobbies: Cooking, Women's Institute, running the White Elephant Stall at the annual bazaar, watching Master Chef

Which person would you most like to be marooned on a desert island with and why? Mrs Beeton, fantastic cook, and author, we could share recipes and discuss literature

In what situation(s) do you think it's okay to lie?

When you've had to buy frozen pastry because you didn't have time to prepare the real thing

If you were in a leaking balloon with Mariah Carey, Nelson Mandela and David Beckham, and had to throw one of them out to survive, who would you choose?

Mariah Carey, although she's so skinny it may not make any difference, she looks like a good meal would kill her

Breakfast – full English or cereal? Continental

What would you do if you won £1,000,000

on the lottery? Enter Master Chef and go on a world cruise with Kenneth, take him to visit Graceland

If you had to do a sponsored run for charity which charity would you choose? Charity begins at home

Finally, who's your favourite member of Take That?

That handsome Gary Manilow, Barry's son

Credits

Hilary:

Kenneth:

Laura:

Marian Newman

Rob Edmonds

Sally Dillon

Stage Manager:

Lighting:

Sound:

Production Assistant:

Set:

Props:

Poster and Programme:

Pippa Redmayne

Ian Jones

Paul White

Harry Redmayne

Richard Taylor

David Kennedy

Bread & Butter Design

01978 844482

This production was produced, directed and designed by Mark Newman, "Thanks to Tip Top for throwing caution to the wind and giving me the opportunity to indulge myself!"