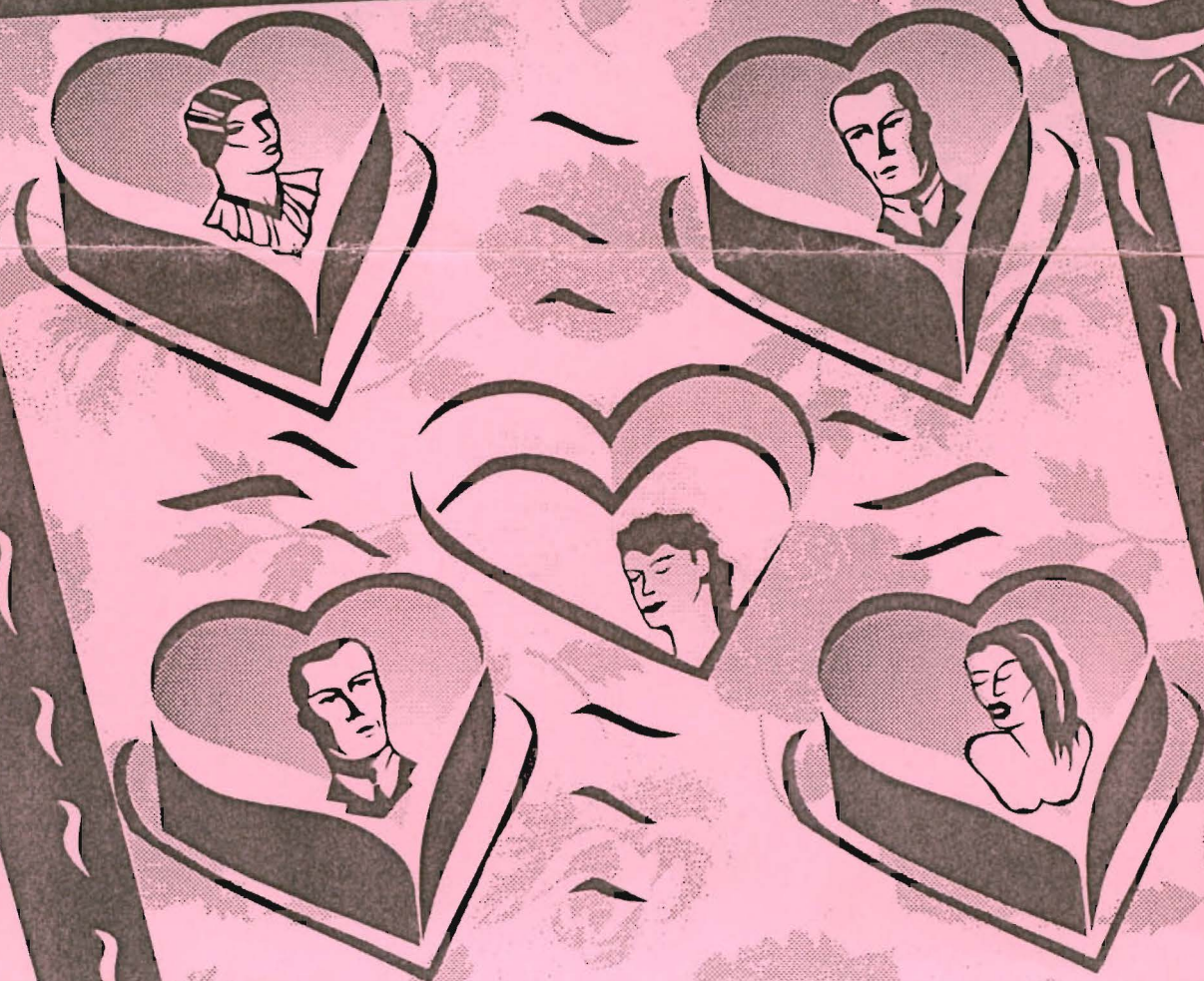


**The Importance  
of Being  
Earnest**

Maybe Theatre Company at Teatr Miniatura



**by Oscar Wilde**

**Director: Penny Shefton    Designer: Anna Bock**

**9-15 March 1997**

Performances: 19<sup>00</sup> (Monday 9<sup>00</sup> and 12<sup>00</sup>) no perf. Friday  
Teatr Miniatura Gdańsk Wrzeszcz ul.Grunwaldzka 16, tickets tel: 41 94 83, 41 79 23



# MAYBE THEATRE COMPANY

presents

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

by Oscar Wilde

### THE CAST (in order of appearance)

Lane (manservant)	<i>Robert Fleegeer</i>
Algernon Moncrieff	<i>Michał Chaciński</i>
John Worthing, J.P.	<i>Patrycjusz Zamorski</i>
Lady Bracknell	<i>Katarzyna Borucka</i>
Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax	<i>Anna Skurczyńska</i>
Cecily Cardew	<i>Adrianna Pryc</i>
Miss Prism	<i>Dorota Pomorska</i>
Rev. Canon Chasuble	<i>Joe D. Campbell</i>
Merriman (butler)	<i>Robert Fleegeer</i>

### THE SCENES OF THE PLAY

ACT I	Algernon Moncrieff's Flat in Half-Moon Street, London W1
ACT II	The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton
ACT III	The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton

TIME: End of the 19th century

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	<i>Penny Shefton</i>
Designer	<i>Anna Bocek</i>
Poster Design	<i>Gosia Golińska</i>
Lighting Designer	<i>Joanna Wiśniewska</i>
Assist. Lighting Operator	<i>Barbara Tumiłowicz</i>
Stage Manager	<i>Anna Barbachowska</i>
Assist. Stage Manager	<i>Paweł Bies</i>
Publicity	<i>Barbara Sacewicz</i>
Publicity Assistant	<i>Joanna Wójtewicz</i>
Co-Producer	<i>Tadeusz Z. Wolański</i>
Festival Organiser	<i>Maria Fengler</i>

The first performance of this production took place on 9th March, 1997, at Teatr Miniatura.

### Act I

Algernon Moncrieff is awaiting the arrival of his aunt, Lady Bracknell, when his friend Ernest Worthing comes in. Due to Algernon's discovery of an inscription on Ernest's cigarette case, Ernest is forced to reveal that he "is Ernest in town and Jack in the country", and the case was given to him by his pretty young ward, Cecily Cardew. In the midst of their heated conversation Lady Bracknell arrives with her daughter Gwendolen, who Jack wishes to marry. Their proposal, however, is interrupted by Lady B who subsequently discovers Jack's origin - a handbag. Algernon and Jack are left to discuss the crisis.

### Act II

Cecily Cardew and Miss Prism are in the garden at Jack's place in the country. When Miss Prism leaves for a stroll with Dr Chasuble, Algernon appears, posing as Jack's reckless younger brother Ernest (a fictional character useful as an excuse for trips to London). Algernon falls in love with Cecily, who like Gwendolen finds the name Ernest irresistible. Jack returns, pretending to be in mourning for his brother Ernest. Algernon's presence of course confuses the situation and infuriates Jack, who orders him to leave. Before this can happen, Gwendolen arrives and the women soon find out that Ernest does not exist and that they are engaged to nobody. Outraged, they depart, leaving Algernon and Jack to comfort themselves with muffins.

### Act III

The couples are soon reconciled, but Lady B appears and forbids further communication between Jack and Gwendolen. "Algernon can do as he pleases", especially as Cecily has a large fortune. Jack reveals that Cecily cannot marry freely, until she is 35, and as her guardian, he will only consent to her marriage if Lady B agrees to his. Miss Prism rushes in from the vestry only to be confronted with the woman,

whose nephew she had absent-mindedly deposited in a handbag 28 years before. Jack is in fact Ernest, he is Ernest John Moncrieff, the son of General Ernest John Moncrieff, "and consequently Algernon's elder brother". The circle is complete as Jack, now Ernest, realises THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.

### GRATEFUL THANKS TO:

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p. Bruno Sobczak - *Teatr Wybrzeże*

p. Stanisław Pludowski - *Teatr Wybrzeże*

p. Genia Miłoszewska - *Teatr Wybrzeże*

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