

# The Diners

**Paige**, the hostess, married to Lars

**Lars**, Paige's husband, an author

**Wynne**, an artist friend of Lars

**Hal**, Lars' best friend, a microbiologist

**Siân**, a newsbabe - sorry, TV journalist - married to Hal

**Mike**, an unexpected guest

The Waiter

**Christine Ingall**

**Phil Rea**

**Ruth Miller**

**John Francis**

**Emma Searles**

**Chris Marshall**

**Tony Cuttiford**

# The Crew

Director	Gennie Holmes
Stage Manager/ Assistant Director	Olivia Holmes
Prompt	Maggie Parkes
Lighting Design	Ian Knight
Lighting Operators	Ian Knight, Ben Woodward
Sound Design	Dave Cornish
Sound Operators	Dave Cornish, Paul Tierney
Wardrobe	Maureen Liggins, Pam Coleman
Set Design	Dave Holmes
Set Build	Dave Holmes i/c, Lewis Holmes, Kevin Woods, Des Ali
Props/ Set Dressing	Annie Woodward, Leslie Rahilly,
Special Effects	Paul Wilkins, Dark Dreams FX Shell Heath
Special Thanks	Ben Woodward

Dinner was first performed in the Loft of the National Theatre in October 2002 with the author directing a cast that included Harriet Walter, Nicholas Farrell and Penny Downie. It was subsequently revived at Wyndham's Theatre in the West End in December 2003.

[www.criteriontheatre.co.uk](http://www.criteriontheatre.co.uk)

**Criterion Theatre**

Our next production

and then  
**there  
were  
NONE**

by  
**Agatha Christie**

6th to 13th December 2008



BOX OFFICE (Direct)

024 7667 5175

This is a notice to members

**And then there were none**

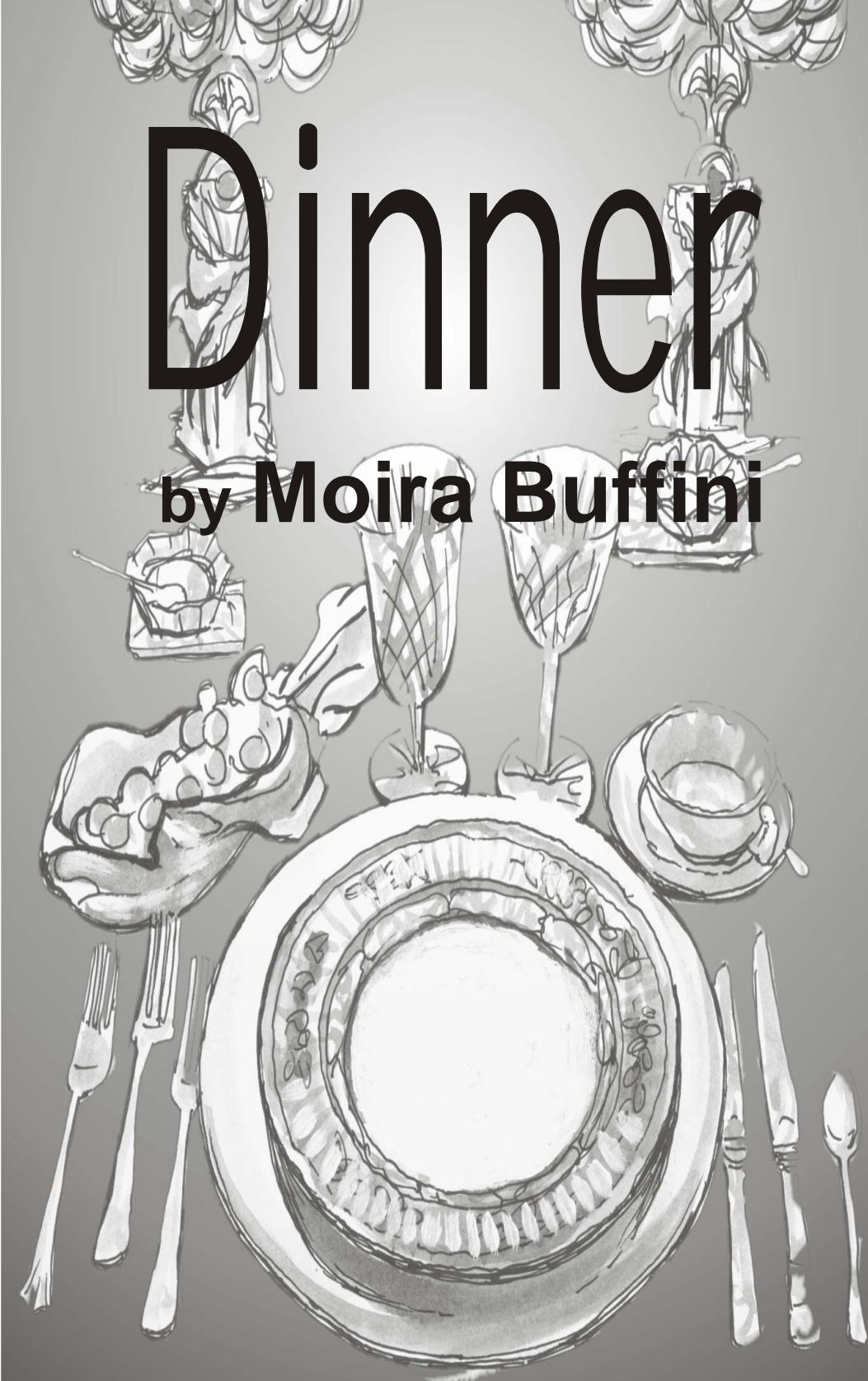
by Agatha Christie

**28th March to 4th April**

Christie's own adaptation of her famous novel that has been made into a number of films and is the best selling thriller of all time. Ten weekend guests to an eccentric recluse's home are one by one found dead but who is responsible?

Production photography by  
Richard Johnson  
024 7671 4153

The Criterion is a non-smoking theatre.



# Dinner

by **Moira Buffini**

Contains smoking on stage under The Smoke-free  
(Exemptions and Vehicles) Regulations 2007

This production contains very strong language

# Programme

By arrangement with Samuel French Limited



**Tony Cuttiford (Waiter)**

Tony joined the theatre in 1997 and first performed in Treasure Island two years later. During his illustrious career as a Criterion stalwart, Tony has undertaken responsibilities as various as Stage and Theatre Manager, set design and building, properties and sound and has appeared in over 20 productions. He most recently appeared as a member of the Chorus in Beauty and the Beast and stage managed The Compleat Works of Shakespeare (abridged).



**Emma Searles (Siân)**

After graduating with a degree in English and drama in 2000, Emma appeared in Lorca's Blood Wedding. Her first appearance on The Criterion stage was in the company of Cider with Rosie last year.



**John Francis (Hal)**

John intentionally became an actor after playing a tree and several Diggorys for his wife to be. He has played a variety of half-wits and fall-guys, including Vic in Funny Money, Arthur in Straight and Narrow, Eddie in Cleo, Camping, Emanuelle and Dick and George in Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?. Occasionally he plays mad scientists in musicals such as Charlie and Algernon, the type-casting of which implies his nearness to genius from the wrong direction! He is currently working on a biography of Lon Chaney's non-existent brother, Markov.



**Phil Rea (Lars)**

This is Phil's second appearance at The Criterion having played Laurie Lee (the elder!) in Cider with Rosie last year. He confesses to a slight obsession with Dinner having already seen it in Birmingham (twice), Derby, Warwick and Horley (Surrey). He always thought he was too old to be in it. He was wrong. Welcome to the Lars Chance Saloon.



**Ruth Miller (Wynne)**

Ruth originally trained as a drama teacher and took part in many youth, school and Theatre in Education shows in her younger years. She joined the Criterion Theatre 10 years ago and first appeared on stage 'keening' in a non-speaking role as a mother in A View from a Bridge. Since then Ruth has played the mother in Billy Liar, the mother in Brighton Beach Memoirs and is now playing the mother of teenage sons in this production - a role she also plays in real life. She is beginning to think a pattern might be emerging. Ruth also enjoyed directing Love Letters and Gaslight, both at the Criterion.

# The Menu

*Aperitif*

**The Starter**

Primordial Soup

**The Main**

Apocalypse of Lobster

**The Dessert**

Frozen Waste

**The Cheeseboard**

The action takes place in the present day, in London, over the course of a dinner party to celebrate the successful publication of Lars Janssen's book Beyond Belief.

There will be one interval of 20 minutes after the Starter course.

**Christine Ingall (Paige)**

Chris joined The Criterion in 2004 but hadn't performed as an actor for 30 years, having concentrated on singing. She first appeared in Oh! What a Lovely War and followed that with parts in Speaking in Tongues, Return to the Forbidden Planet, Oliver Twist, Brassed Off, Hysteria (for Two Hats), The Unexpected Man, Holy Ghosts and Beauty and the Beast. She has also appeared in Blithe Spirit, The Christmas Music Hall and The Hired Man at The Loft. In 2007 she appeared in 3 TV pilot films for Rapid Pictures. Chris is currently the theatre's Director of Publicity.



**Chris Marshall (Mike)**

Chris has been performing in the theatre since the age of 3 when he played a rat in The Pied Piper. He trained at Stratford College where he appeared in Two by Jim Cartwright, played Caliban in The Tempest and the title role in The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole. His debut at The Criterion was playing Death (on stilts) in Hysteria (for Two Hats) and his debut for The Criterion company was playing Andre and the Beast's Man in Beauty and the Beast.

