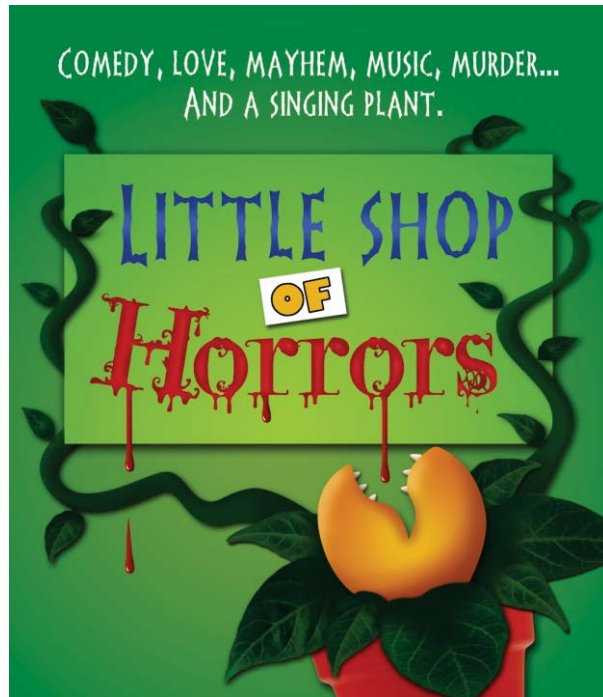


Criterion Theatre

Our next production



Book and lyrics by Howard Ashman
Music by Alan Menken
4th to 11th December 2010

Seymour Krelborn, a florist's assistant, has his life turned around when he comes across an unusual plant after an eclipse of the sun. Naming the plant "Audrey II" after the salesgirl who is his love, Seymour tries to grow the plant, to no avail...until he discovers its true diet: blood. As the plant thrives, bringing Seymour fame and fortune, the two strike a Faustian pact: Audrey II agrees to attract publicity if Seymour continues feeding it.

Seymour, his boss Mushnik, Audrey and her abusive dentist boyfriend are swept into the plant's evil machinations as its true motives become clear. Based on Roger Corman's film, Little Shop Of Horrors took off-Broadway by storm with its offbeat humour and the show-stealing Audrey II, whose rhythm and blues numbers never fail to bring down the house.

Produced in association with Josef Weinberger Ltd

"My subject is war, and the pity of war,
the poetry is in the pity" Wilfred Owen

Not about Heroes

by Stephen McDonald



Programme

By arrangement with Samuel French Ltd

Not about Heroes

In his Preface to his poetry Owen wrote:

*"This book is not about heroes. English poetry is not yet fit to speak of them.
Nor is it about .. deeds, or lands or glory, honour .. or power except War
Above all, I am not concerned with poetry.
My subject is war and the pity of War.
The Poetry is in the pity.
Yet these elegies are to this generation in no sense consolatory. They may be to the next.
All a poet can do today is warn."*



Pete Gillam - Siegfried Sassoon

Pete was first lured away from the bar of the Criterion in 2005 when he made his stage debut as the long lost father in Daisy Pulls It Off. Since then he has enjoyed playing a variety of roles: An Evening with Gary Lineker (Ian Marshall), The Laramie Project (Various), Tom's Midnight Garden (Peter), The Shape of Things (Phil), It Can Damage Your Health (Charlie Palmer), Whipping It Up (Guy Pitcher). After his recent schizophrenic episode of playing three characters in The Talented Mr Ripley he has thoroughly enjoyed focusing on just one..



Joe Fallowell - Wilfred Owen

Joe can safely say that this play, and this rôle, is his favourite since returning to the Criterion a year ago. Being given the opportunity to portray one of the most important poets of the twentieth century is an incredible honour, and he hopes that he can do the part justice. This is the first time that Joe has been cast in a play with so small a cast and he has enjoyed the experience enormously, despite the torture that his hair has had to endure!

Director	Helen Withers
Stage Manager	Olivia Holmes
Lighting	Ian Knight
Sound	Dave Cornish, Sara Beamish
Props	Jonathan Rees
Wardrobe	Maureen Liggins

The Action

From a room in Sassoon's country house in Wiltshire, late at night on 3rd November 1932, Sassoon relives incidents which happened between August 1917 and November 1918.

The men met when patients at Craiglockhart War Hospital for nervous disorders in August 1917.

Siegfried Sassoon

Siegfried Sassoon was born in Kent on September 8th 1886 into a well to do family. His mother was one of the Thornycrofts-renowned sculptors and artists. He dropped out of university to pursue a life playing cricket and hunting! At the outbreak of war, he joined the Sussex Yeomanry and was commissioned into the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1915. Famed for his manic courage, he was named 'Mad Jack' for his near suicidal exploits



Wilfred Owen

Wilfred Owen was born in Oswestry, Shropshire on March 18th 1893. He was educated in Birkenhead and Shrewsbury. Prior to the war he worked as a private tutor in Bordeaux teaching English and French. In 1915 he enlisted in the Artists Rifles Officers' Training Corps and in June 1916 was commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the Manchester Regiment.



Production photography by
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