

Teendreams

by David Edgar with Susan Todd

Trisha/Cathy/Sandra	CHRIS BOWLER
Frances	GILLIAN HANNA
Rosie/Debbie	SUSAN TODD
Ruth/Sharon/Sister/Lynne	JENIFER ARMITAGE
Anne/Maria/Denise	MARY McCUSKER
Colin/Kevin/Gary	DAVID BRADFORD
Dave/Howard/Tony/Brewer	CLIVE RUSSELL
Director	KATE CRUTCHLEY
Designer	DI SEYMOUR
Lighting/Production Manager	MERI JENKINS

The play is set in England and takes place, variously, in 1961, 1968, 1972, 1975 and now.

The Company acknowledges financial assistance from the Arts Council of Great Britain.

Teendreams

David Edgar was born in 1948 in Birmingham. On graduating from Manchester University he worked as a journalist in Bradford.

The National Interest, a chronicle of the first year of the Conservative Government in 1970, was performed by Bradford University students and taken to the Edinburgh Festival. It was followed by more political dramas: *State of Emergency*, *The Dunkirk Spirit*, *Dick Deterred*, *Operation Iskra* and *Wreckers* among others.

In 1974 he was appointed resident playwright at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre. During this year he wrote the award-winning *Destiny*. Although never performed at the Rep as much of his work has been, (*Death Story* 1972, *O Fair Jerusalem* 1975, *Events Following the Closure of a Motorcycle Factory* 1976) it was later produced successfully by the Royal Shakespeare Company and seen on BBC TV. The RSC have also produced *The Jail Diary of Albie Sachs* at their Warehouse Theatre in Covent Garden.

His most recent play, the highly acclaimed *Mary Barnes*, first seen at the Birmingham Rep's Studio Theatre in 1978, transfers shortly to London.

MONSTROUS REGIMENT

We are a company of eight women and two men, formed in 1975, drawing on a wide range of performing skills. We are committed to exploring new ways of relating music to theatre as part of our policy to present the highest standard of work to the widest possible audience. We see ourselves as part of the growing and lively movement to improve the status of women. Our work explores the experience of women past and present, and we want to place that experience in the centre of the stage, instead of in the wings.

Teendreams is the Company's sixth production, and its first venture into working with a male writer.

The form of work on the piece was, initially, discussion of possible themes and content between David Edgar and Susan Todd as collaborators.

We then undertook a workshop discussion period between writers and the whole Company. This included sessions with women researching in, and working with, 13 - 15 year old girls, and with women active in the Womens' Liberation Movement during the last ten years.

The content, form, structure and progression of the play was then assembled by David and Susan over a further period into a detailed synopsis, which was then discussed further by the whole Company. David then wrote the play from the sum of this work.

Our thanks are especially due to Angela McRobbie, Liz Whitman, Eve Brooks and Beatrix Campbell for their contribution to our work.