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TEATRU

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MANOEL

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TEATRU MANOEL

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## A SHORT HISTORY

The Theatre was opened in 1732 by Grand Master Manoel De Vilhena for *the honest recreation of the people*. Its unassuming facade is sober, restrained and simple, which contrasts strongly with its ornate baroque interior. Vilhena's coat-of-arms dominates above the stage, while the gorgeous panelled ceiling houses the great glistening chandelier which sparkles over the auditorium. The muted tones of the green and the 22-carat gilt boxes weave their intricate patterns around you with beautifully painted original panels. All the forty-five boxes are identical and vary only slightly in size, apart from the splendidly ornate presidential box, once graced by Grandmasters, Kings and Queens.

An important consideration is the price you will pay for your seat; it will compare most favourably to that of other countries. Recently the Management Committee has introduced a scheme whereby all students, the unemployed, senior citizens and handicapped people may book seats at half price.

The theatre's calendar is highly varied, with a steady stream of recitals, orchestral concerts, ballet, opera and, of course, plays. The management committee's major preoccupation is that of setting standards and ensuring that they are kept consonant with the theatre's image as Malta's National Theatre. Many international celebrities have over the years graced the boards of the Manoel. They include Yehudi Menuhin, Segovia, Zabaleta, Rostropovitch, Boris Christoff, John Ogdon, Samy Molcho, Ashkenazy, Sir Donald Wolfitt, Louis Kentner, the Berlin State Opera and Ballet company, the Bolshoi and the Kirov Ballets, the La Scala Orchestra, Gianni Raimondi, Katia Ricciarelli and many others.

The Manoel Theatre has its own orchestra, under the baton of Mro Michael Laus. The Theatre's Library, specialising in Music and Drama publications, opens on Saturday mornings and the membership is free. A 200-year old palace has been annexed to the Theatre and transformed into a delightful foyer. Chamber music recitals, poetry recitals, lectures, master classes and art exhibitions are held in the foyer at one end of which stands a bronze period bust of Grand Master Manoel de Vilhena, serenely surveying the continuous benefits of his considerable contribution to Malta's culture.

This fine work keeps his memory fresh in all those who cultivate the Arts and those who seek an *honest recreation* as proclaimed by the Theatre's motto granted by Grand Master de Vilhena and sculptured above the Theatre's main entrance: *Ad honestatem populi oblectationem*.

  
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**ATTURI PRODUCTIONS**

present

**Harry Borg Stephanie Farrugia**

in  
Ronald Millar's

# ABELARD AND HELOISE

directed by

**Lino Farrugia**

designed by Tony Demicoli

*With: Karmen Azzopardi, Manwel Cauchi, Peter Borg, Charles Arrigo, Lillian Pace, Etienne St. John, Philip Mizzi, Simone Zammit, Ninette Micallef, Anna Cachia, Grace Hedley, Nadia Felice, Andrea Pace, Josette Brincat, Ray Abdilla, Edgar Sammut, Nadine Abela, Colin Fitz, Alec Massa.*

at the

**MANOEL THEATRE**

**Fri 17, Sat 18, Sun 19 March 1995**



# **ABELARD AND HELOISE**

Peter Abelard	<b>Harry Borg</b>
Heloise	<b>Stephanie Farrugia</b>
Alain	<b>Ray Abdilla</b>
Gerard	<b>Colin Fitz</b>
Philippe	<b>Alec Massa</b>
Robert de Montboissier	<b>Etienne St John</b>
Guibert	<b>Philip Mizzi</b>
Gilles de Vannes	<b>Manuel Cauchi</b>
Jehan	<b>Edgar Sammut</b>
Fulbert	<b>Peter Borg</b>
Belle Alys	<b>Simone Zammit</b>
Abbess of Argenteuil	<b>Karmen Azzopardi</b>
Sister Laura	<b>Anna Cachia</b>
Sister Godric	<b>Lilian Pace</b>
Sister Constance	<b>Nadia Felice</b>
Mariella	<b>Grace Hedley</b>
Gisella	<b>Nadine Abela</b>
Alberic of Rheims	<b>Charles Arrigo</b>
Denise	<b>Ninette Micallef</b>
Nuns & Monks	<b>Andrea Pace, Josette Brincat, Charlot Zahra, Lino Mallia, Twanny Zammit, Brian Gatt</b>

The action passes in France in the first half of the twelfth century.

## **For the Atturi Productions**

Set Design	<b>Tony Demicoli</b>
Lighting Design	<b>Peter Foster</b>
Costume Design	<b>Joyce Cassar</b>
Original Music	<b>Vincent Fabri</b>
Gregorian Chant	<b>From the original; Peter Abelard's songs written for Heloise, recorded by the Scuola Gregoriana of Cambridge</b>
Stage Manager	<b>Rachel Galea</b>
Assistant Stage Managers	<b>Anna Degiorgio, Marlene Lanzon Elizabeth Ag. Fenech, Charles Psaila, Adrian Galea</b>
Wardrobe Mistress	<b>Joyce Cassar</b>
Assisted by	<b>Connie Schembri</b>
Make-Up	<b>Ernest Camilleri</b>
Hair Styles	<b>Lucienne Pace</b>
Publicity	<b>Plus Advertising Co. Ltd.</b>
Acknowledgements	<b>Bristow Potteries</b>

## **Act I**

<i>Sc 1</i>	The Chapel of the Abbey of the Paraclete, near Troyes, France, in the year 1131 A.D. – Autumn	<i>Sc 6</i>	Abelard's room in Fulbert's house – June
<i>Sc 2</i>	Outside Abelard's lodgings in Paris – fifteen years earlier	<i>Sc 7</i>	The same. Another Day - July
<i>Sc 3</i>	Gilles' room in the lee of Notre-Dame	<i>Sc 8</i>	The same – August
<i>Sc 4</i>	Outside a house in the poor quarter of Paris	<i>Sc 9</i>	Gilles' room
<i>Sc 5</i>	Abelard's old room in Paris	<i>Sc 10</i>	The Convent at Argenteuil
		<i>Sc 11</i>	Abelard's room in Fulbert's house

## **Act II**

<i>Sc 1</i>	Gilles' room	<i>Sc 5</i>	Cloisters of Notre-Dame
<i>Sc 2</i>	Abelard's room in Fulbert's house	<i>Sc 6</i>	St. Aignan's Chapel
<i>Sc 3</i>	Cloisters of the Cathedral	<i>Sc 7</i>	Abelard's old room
<i>Sc 4</i>	Outside the homestead at Le Palais, Brittany. Spring a year later.	<i>Sc 8</i>	Argenteuil

## **Act III**

<i>Sc 1</i>	A Paris street	<i>Sc 5</i>	Abelard's room
<i>Sc 2</i>	Outside Abelard's house	<i>Sc 6</i>	The Abbess's room at Argenteuil
<i>Sc 3</i>	Outside Belle Alys'	<i>Sc 7</i>	The Convent Chapel, Argenteuil
<i>Sc 4</i>	A street in Paris	<i>Sc 8</i>	The Abbey of the Paraclete

*There will be two intervals of 20 minutes each*

## **For the Manoel Theatre**

Lights	<b>Vanni Laus</b>
Sound	<b>John Bruno</b>
Stage Carpenters	<b>Emm. Dalli, F. Mifsud</b>
Booking Clerks	<b>Marthese Zammit, Dorothy Camilleri</b>

## **Atturi Productions Board**

*Hon. Life President:*  
Comm. P.J. Naudi, KM, MBE, CMM

*Chairperson:*  
Karmen Azzopardi

*Members:*  
Antoinette Soler, Marlene Lanzon, Lino Farrugia, Hubert Puglisevich,  
Anthony Bezzina

*USA Representative:*  
Mario Philip Azzopardi

On the twenty-first of April, 1142, at the age of sixty-three, Abelard died and was buried in the crypt of the abbey of the Paraclete. Twenty-two years later, on the sixteenth of May 1164, Heloise died and was buried there also, but not in the same tomb. So they lay for six hundred and fifty years. In 1814, by order of the Government of the day, their remains were carried to the cemetery of Père Lachaise in Paris, where the noblest of the sons and daughters of France are laid to rest. There their dust was mingled and buried under a stone plinth, with the words "Abelard: Heloise – Forever One". And there to this day they lie together.



Harry Borg and Stephanie Farrugia

The management acknowledges the support given by Christopher Sharp Oriental Rug Gallery of Qui-si-Sana.

After tonight's performance, a variety of pasta dishes are being served at the Caffe Teatro. Pre-booking is advisable.

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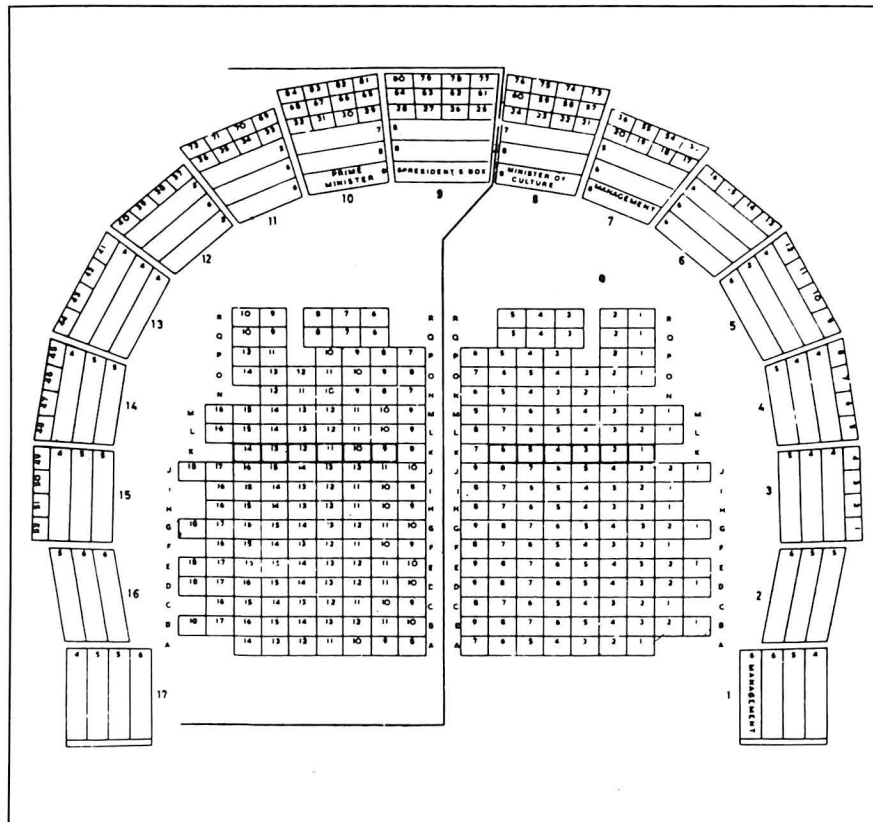
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ORGANISATION

Mizzi House, National Road, Blata l-Bajda HMR 02, Malta  
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BOOKING OFFICE  
117, Old Theatre Street, VLT 07, Valletta.

OPENING HOURS  
Monday to Friday  
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon.  
5.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.

Saturday  
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon.

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Booking by telephone - 246389,  
by facsimile - 247451  
Tickets to be collected within 48 hours.

Payments accepted by cash,  
cheque and major credit cards.  
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Booking opens ten days, before  
the first performance.  
Last minute bookings can be made  
from 5.00 p.m. until 30 minutes  
into first performance.

PERFORMANCE TIMES  
Monday to Saturday - 7.30 p.m.  
Sunday - 6.30 p.m.

*The management reserves the right to  
alter the programme and performance time of any  
production.*

