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COMMENCING TUESDAY, JUNE 16th, 1959

BERNARD DELFONT
presents

**HARRY
SECOMBE**

AS

**"LARGE AS
LIFE"**



**THE ACTUAL LAVISH PRODUCTION
FROM
THE GREAT LONDON PALLADIUM**

Produced by ROBERT NESBITT

Costumes Designed and Executed by R. ST. JOHN ROPER
Decor designed by EDWARD DELANY and TOD KINGMAN
Dances by BILL OWEN

PLEASE NOTE—PHOTOGRAPHING IN THE THEATRE IS FORBIDDEN

The Management reserve the right to refuse admission to this theatre, and to change, vary or omit, without previous notice, any item of the programme

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TUESDAY, JUNE 16th, 1959

BERNARD DELFON
“LARGE A

THE WORLD OF THE THEATRE

Harlequin **FREDERICK KITTO** introduces
 The Electricians, The Scene Painters, The Costumiers, The Call Boys
 and Actors

THE ENSEMBLE

| | | |
|---------------|--------|--|
| The Soubrette | | LYNNETTE RAE |
| | | ("Everybody on Stage" by Cyril Orndel and David Croft) |
| The Star | | HARRY SECOMBE |
| | | ("Punchinello" by Phil Park) |

HARRY SECOMBE is interrupted by **HARRY WORTH**

Introducing:

THE WORLD OF OPERA PATRICIA LAMBERT

ENTER A MAN WITH A CHAIR HARRY WORTH

DANCE STYLISTS ELIANE and RODOLPH

"THE GOOD OLD DAYS"

DALY'S OPERETTA Patricia Lambert and Ensemble

NIGHTS OF GLADNESS

The Stage Door Johnnies HARRY SECOMBE, HARRY WORTH

The Gaiety Girl LYNNETTE RAE

Another Lady JESSIE ROBINS

Stage Door Keeper MAX RUSSELL

COME ON AND JOIN US AT THE MUSIC HALL

(By Cyril Orndel and David Croft)

LYNNETTE RAE and CHORUS

featuring in person

G. H. ELLIOTT and HETTY KING

THE DEAR OLD STRAND HARRY SECOMBE revives a memory

LET'S ALL GO DOWN THE STRAND The Company

INTERMISSION
THE HIPPODROME ORCHESTRA
 under the direction of SYDNEY SHARPE



ODROME MINGHAM

DELFONT presents

"LARGE AS LIFE"

TWO WEEK SEASON

- THE BIG TOP** (by Cyril Ornel and David Croft)
 THE GEORGE MITCHELL SINGERS
 and the GEORGE CARDEN DANCERS
 introducing THE SENSATIONAL SKYLONS
- THE WORLD OF REVUE** London and Paris
 (Music, Lyrics by Phil Park)
 Lynnette Rae and Girls introducing THE KAYE SISTERS
 DIRECT FROM THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT (by Eric Sykes)
 HARRY SECOMBE, HARRY WORTH,
 MAX RUSSELL
- COSTUME DRAMA** History in the Theatre
 (Music, Lyrics by Phil Park)
 The Queen Patricia Lambert
 Marquis de Treville Douglas Orr
 Mistress of the Inn Jessie Robins
 HARRY SECOMBE, HARRY WORTH, MAX RUSSELL
- THE WORLD OF VAUDEVILLE** THE ROMANOS BROTHERS
- CON VOCE** HARRY SECOMBE
- "EVERYBODY ON STAGE"** The Full Company

SYDNEY SHARPE with the Augmented Orchestra

Orchestrations by Ronald Hanmer, Ray Terry, Max Harris, Dick Barrell, Norman Impey,
 Ernest Tomlinson and Reg Briggs.

Dancing Girls: Pauline Nichols, Antoinette Sinclair, Sarah Welby, Joyce Legge, Jennifer Paule,
 Valerie Kemp, Valerie Dorne, Maureen Varley, Janet Petters, Ann Roberts, Rosemary
 Ogle, Lisa Beecroft, Jennifer Kyte, Audrey Crockett, Jose Robbshaw, Elizabeth Rowell,
 Wendy Cook.

Dancing Boys: John Keith, Christopher Ede, Colin Couch, Frederick Kitto, Larry Haigh, Brian
 Rowley, Jack Birkett, Lyndon Shaw.

Speciality Group: Frederick Kitto, Ann Roberts, John Keith.

George Mitchell Singers: Hugh Elton, Arthur Butler, Douglas Orr, Keith Ashley, Milton Sills
 John Van Best, Edward Cameron, Derrick Page.

Scenery constructed by Tod Kingman, Key Studios and Painted by Edward Delany. Metal work by
 F. Burkitt Ltd, Tights by Finch & Smith. Special colouring effects by English & French Dyeing Co.
 Ltd. Wigs by Nathan Wigs. Flowers by Floral Decor. Properties by Bert Warner and Jim Hinchcliffe.
 Nylon Stockings by Kayser Bondor. Harry Secombe's suits by Sidney Fisher. The special rear folding
 curtain tracks supplied by Hall Stage Equipment. Additional lighting equipment for the production
 installed by Strand Electric Ltd.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Production Manager | } For BERNARD DELFONT LTD. and the "LARGE AS LIFE" COMPANY | { | MAURICE FOURNIER |
| Manager | | | DOUGLAS FREEAR |
| Stage Director | | | LAWRIE BLOOM |
| Master Carpenter | | | HARRY SHUFF |
| Wardrobe Supervisor | | | TESSA ELLIS |
| Wardrobe Mistress | | | HAZEL PATCHING |





In his home at Sutton, Surrey, Harry Secombe is proud of his 2,000 volume library which he has built up over the years. An avid reader, Secombe loves nothing better than to discuss literature whether it is classical, fiction, essays or biographies. He buys new books every week and his dressing room is a reminder of the intense interest he takes in reading.

Cine-photography is another of the comedian's hobbies. He likes recording life as he sees it, and his films cover a wide range—from views of the countryside, to specially posed shots of his many theatrical friends. Backstage in his dressing room he often invites members of the company to come and see a film show.

But reading and photography are not the only hobbies of this volatile Welshman, for he sketches and models with plasticine. Visitors to his dressing room may be greeted by stares from plasticine heads of characters by the Secombe imagination. Harry is fond of using these models as adornment for the tops of empty bottles.

The Goon comedian is also an expert fish breeder of tropical fish, which he keeps in his giant aquarium he has built in his Sutton, Surrey, home. In his first year as a show competitor, Harry won many awards for fish with such strange sounding names as *barbus schuberti*, *neon tetras* and *anostomus-anostomus*.

Lastly, but first in the thoughts of Harry Secombe, is his home life. He spends as much time as his busy life will allow him with his Swansea-born wife, Myra, and his children, Jennifer and Andrew.

SECOMBE

“Large as

A clerk in a steel works when war broke out, Harry was in the army at the age of 17. He was in for seven years—rising to the dizzy ranks of lance bombardier—with a reputation for a strange kind of comedy.

After demobilisation, Harry boldly wrote to Vivian Van Damm for an audition at the Windmill Theatre and took up a shaving routine he had worked up in the Army. His turn was about the 19th potential star to step before the footlights, but Van Damm was impressed and promptly agreed to the £20 a week Harry asked.

The zany Welshman, who speaks fluent German and French, stayed three months at the Windmill. In 1947 he did television shows, followed by “Variety Bandbox” and “Welsh Rarebit”.

But it was not until he teamed up with his old Army pal, Spike Milligan, Old Etonian Michael Bentine and Peter Sellers that his surrealist kind of comedy began to find its true expression. Then came “The Goon Show” and Harry Secombe was firmly on the steps to fame.

HERE Life”

Since his success in zany comedy, however, Harry Secombe has made a new name as a singer. His powerful four-octave tenor voice has become one of the best loved in the country, and he is constantly studying under Manilo di Veroldi, the Italian maestro. His recordings of popular operatic arias have firmly established him as a consistent seller.

Today, a top of the bill attraction in variety, a regular TV and radio performer, recording artiste and film star, Harry Secombe has truly climbed to the top of his profession.

And the future? Harry has received many overtures from impresarios who are keen to feature him in opera. Perhaps one day we shall see Harry in this exacting medium, but at present, he is quite happy to mix opera and comedy in his role of one of Britain's top funny men.

SUMMIT MEETINGS?

“I don't know what the heads of Government think of me”, says Harry. “We've never met. Of course, we've corresponded. Mostly about income tax”.



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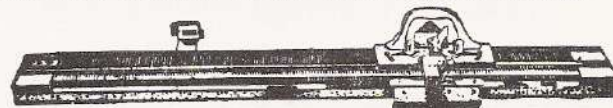
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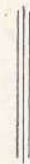
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