

# The Chairs

By Eugene Ionesco

Play no.257

Opening show: 09/12/1970

Creative team

**Hebrew By:** Y. Ben-Porat

**Directed by:** David Levin

**Set and Costumes by :** Buki Schwartz

**Lighting:** Natan Panturin

Cast

**The Old Lady:** Lia Konig

**The Old Man:** Shlomo Bar-Shavit

**Amazia:** Shmuel Segal

**The Lecturer:** Haim Amital

It is night on an island. In a round house of many doors sit a nonagenarian couple who will soon fling themselves suicidally into the river. At first, however, all is tranquil. Mad scraps of reminiscence are swapped, the old man bemoans his failure in life, the wold woman babies and consoles him . From their moonstruck chatter we gather that he has a message to the would which he has bidden everyone to hear. The guests start to arrive, at first single, then in pairs, soon in unmanageable droves, but all the guests are invisible. They are creatures of the old man's dream, and before lng he and his wife are plunging in and out of doors with yet more chairs for the unseen multitude, whom they engage, from time to time, in phantom conversation. A hired orator, at the end, speaks the old man's message to the listening throng, or rather, he would speak it, were he not dumb, and they would listen, if they existed.