

Eddy King

Written and Directed by **Nissim Aloni**

Based on a story by **Henry James**

Play no. 300

Opening show: 10/05/1975

Set and Costumes by: Shlomo Vitkin

Music by : Poldi Schatzman

Lighting : Nathan Panturin

The Cast

Assunta: Dina Roitkop

Mrs. Prest: Aviva Marks

H.J.: Yitzhak M.Shilo

Tine: Batya Lancet-a

Miss Bordereau: Hanna Rovina

Pasquale : Eliezer Yung

The Play

The play is set in New York today, in the icy cold of December.

The underworld is at war. Ricci, a young gangster-leader, attacks one of the city's big gangs, led by Eddy King.

Teresa, a T.V. prophet-astrologist, for tells of end of Eddy King. There is a personal desire for vengeance in this prophecy. Years before, while still a young crime reporter, Eddy King's men had blinded him.

Eddy King's men now try to persuade him to wage war against Ricci, but Eddy thinks Ricci is acting under the influence of Don Leonardo, the "Kings of Kings". He is convinced that the dying Don Leonardo has mde a will whereby he will not inherit the position of "Kings of Kings", the "God", and perhaps even be ousted completely from his position in the underworld.

Dubious as to Don Leonardo's decision, he sends his close friend and advisor, Don Creone, to him, determined to fight the "God" if his suspicions prove true. He intends to kill Angela del Sol, Don Leonardo's only daughter and betrothed to Don Crone, if in fact as he says, he is "on his way out".

Creone returns and tells Eddy King that Don Leonardo wants the name of the man who killed Don Laios, former "King" of the gang. 18 years before Don Laios, and four of his men were murdered in a New-York bar called "Alfieri".

Eddy King knows the killer – it is he himself. After the killing which happened on his first day in New York, learning from the papaers who his victim was.

Eddy King went to Don Laios's window, Jocasta, and proudly told her that he was the murderer. Jocasta falls in love with the young man. They marry..

Jocasta bears him two daughters. With the years, being less and less "in the picture" and with the help young Teresa – she appears to be losing her mind.

Now, 18 years after the murder, it seems to Eddy King that Don Leonardo's demand to find the killer is merely a pretext to bring about his downfall.

Donna Christina, mother of the murdered Don Laios has been seekingher son's killer ever since the murder. She discovers that one of the four men in

the "Alfieri" bar with her son, wasn't shot and escaped. He is Giovanni Galente. Jack Blond, a fringe man of the underworld, convinced that Donna Christina will pay a lot for this only witness, brings Giovanni Joe from the institution he has lived in since the murder.

Donna Christina, on Don Leonardo's instructions, arranges a meeting between Jocasa and Joe at Teresa's place.

Eddy King announces that he will reveal Don Laios's killer. He demands that Don Leonardo hand Ricci over to him. Ricci is handed over but is exposed as a mere tool, a youngster with no idea of the consequences of his actions. He is shot by Eddy King's men. Later that night all Ricci's gang are shot.

Eddy King still doesn't know why he has fallen out of favour with Don Leonardo. He invites Teresa to his home, the man who admired him in his youth while still a reporter. Teresa is adamant that Eddy King's end is at hand because in Teresa's opinion Eddy King is no longer fit to lead: he is lost in the maze of the city's problems, the sphinx. Don Leonardo is rushed to hospital. Before dying he names the new leader: Don Creone, his daughter Angela's fiancé.

Gionanni Galente, drunk, reveals the Eddy King is none other than the dead Don Laios's son. Jack tells this to Donna Christina in order to blackmail her. Donna Christina on a stormy night decides not to tell Eddy King her grandson that he is Don Laios's son. She orders Jack not to let Joe get near Eddy King's house. Nevertheless Joe turns up, drunk, and tells what he knows.

Jocasta runs out and drowns herself in the sea. Teresa in a final T.V. interview, blinds Eddy King. Creone and Angela at a rehearsal of the approaching wedding shoot the leaders of Eddy King's gang: Al, Steve, Mack.

Months later, in the spring, Joe and Jack come to New York to buy props for a show being staged at the institution. They meet the blind Eddy King and even suggest he goes with them to their institution. Eddy King, blind and destitute, refuses. He still won't give in. He won't "surrender".