

The Advertisement

By Natalia Ginzburg

Play no. 776

Opening show: 04/02/2023

Translation: Shirley Finzi Loew

Director: Roy Horovitz

Set Designed by : Alessandra Nardi

Costumes Designed by: Elena Kelrich

Music by: Shmulik Noifeld

Cast:

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| Teresa | Meirav Gruber |
| Elena | Sapir Azulay |
| Lorenzo | Oded Leopold |
| Giovanna\A Boy | Shahar Carmi |

The Play

The great Jewish-Italian author Natalia Ginzburg (1916-1991) is a favorite among audiences in Israel, where her books consistently became bestsellers. Responding to an advertisement in the paper, Elena, a young and naive student, moves into a room Teresa has put up for rent in her house. Elena has no idea where she has ended up or how things will unfold from here. Her new landlady recently separated from her husband Lorenzo. While it seems he has moved on in life, she is still struggling to accept the loss. When Lorenzo comes back for a visit, the wounds from the broken relationship are reopened (or perhaps they never healed in the first place...). "And to think I came here by chance, because of an advertisement! If I hadn't seen the paper that day, I never would have met Teresa..." (Scene II) This is a surprising, humorous, and quintessentially Italian drama - crying with one eye and laughing with the other. Read More... The main role is played by Meirav Gruber, who is returning to Habima's stage after twenty years.

"The Advertisement" is included in "Where's My Hat?" an anthology of Ginzburg's plays published by the New Library – Siman Kria Books and Hakibbutz Hameuchad - Sifriat Poalim Publishing House, 2021; and edited by Menakhem Perry. The play was staged by the Royal National Theatre in a production directed by Laurence Olivier and adapted into a film directed by Luchino Visconti.

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