

DAVID HERMAN

THEATRE

at the "Kadimah"  
in Melbourne

presents

ISRAELI COMEDY

By A. KARPINOVICH

IN 2 ACTS

"IN THE HEART OF TEL-AVIV"



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Directed by ROZA TURKOW

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SUNDAY, 25th October 1992	8.00 p.m.
SATURDAY, 31st October 1992	8.00 p.m.
SUNDAY, 1st November 1992	8.00 p.m.
SATURDAY, 7th November 1992	8.00 p.m.
SUNDAY, 8th November 1992	3.00 p.m.
SUNDAY, 15th November 1992	3.00 p.m.

At the "Kadimah" Theatre, Gordon St., Elsternwick

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

We find ourselves on the corner of Rothschild Boulevard and Allenby St. In 'the heart of Tel-Aviv'. Here a group of pensioners meet daily to discuss the politics and the problems of the country-the Allenby Street 'Yiddish Parliament'.

On one side is a kiosk where one can buy newspapers, soda drinks, ice cream, base1s etc. This is owned by Semion, a new immigrant from Russia. On the other side is a kiosk selling lottery tickets; owned by Mrs. Tziphrony. Even though these two kiosks are far apart there is romance in the air.

It's 7 am., Ahmed, the Arab street cleaner, is doing his job and retired actor Moshe Baum comes to buy a newspaper from the kiosk. They bump into each other and have a chat. Ahmed is dreaming of a Palestinian State and Baum is trying to convince him that Israel is his home.

Baum reads to Semion from the paper that a Yiddish theatre is to be established, something that he has been dreaming of for a very long time.

Esther, Baum's wife, comes on the scene with Mrs. Kogut, a widowed pensioner. A quarrel breaks out between the two women and everyone tries to appease them. Azoulai, the Moroccan policeman, comes in and declares that the City Council requires Semion's kiosk to be renovated as it is an eyesore.

Itche Salad, a black-market money-dealer, appears with an American tourist, who is seeking his services. This is interrupted by the policeman and the transaction does not take place.

Two elderly religious men come on the scene - Goldberg and Kaplan. They discuss the importance of religion. Baum decides to buy his weekly lottery ticket with a twist to it. He wants to share it with all the 'Parliament' and whatever they win, they will divide equally. Everyone agrees and tickets bought with the number 231 811.

ACT II

Ahmed is sweeping the street when he is confronted by his nephew Ibrahim who is being sought by the police for throwing home made bombs and being involved with activists. He wants Ahmed to hide him.

Mr Salad's sister Rachel comes along and tries to convince him that he should go and live in an old people's home. Salad does not want to hear of this. Coincidentally, Mrs Kogut is being pressured by her son, the doctor, to retire to the same old people's home.

Esther Baum and Mrs Tziphrony bring in a staggering Moshe Baum off the street and it takes quite a long time to revive him and for him to announce that they have won a million on the lottery. Everyone is ecstatic and Azoulai, the policeman, tries to calm them down. When he discovers that he is included amongst the winners, he faints.

They all decide to go to the bank to collect their winnings. However, Moshe Baum has misplaced the lottery ticket and everyone is distraught. Unexpectedly, Ahmed comes to the rescue. Whilst sweeping around the benches he came across the lottery ticket. His honesty is rewarded and he is made an equal partner, even though Esther Baum has something to say about that.

Moshe Baum announces that he has a wonderful idea on how to spend the money. He has decided that a Yiddish theatre should be established for young people with himself as director and all his co-winners will have jobs with in the theatre with no one having to go to an old people's home.

As they leave their old meeting place they bid farewell to the 'Heart of Tel-Aviv'.

# CAST

( In order of appearances)

AHMED – Arab street cleaner.....	Ma SZMERIING
MOSHE BAUM – Old actor.....	J. SHER
SEMION - New Russian immigrant .....	Y. CHABERMAN
MRS IZIPHRONY -lottery ticket seller .....	T. ROSENBIOOM
ESTHER BAUM - Baum's wife.....	R.IEVITA
REGINA KOGUT - Widowed pensioner .....	I. IUSTIG
AZOULAI - Ma-ocean policeman .....	A. WIGUSZYN
AN AMERICAN TOURiST.....	S. KESSEI
ITCHE SAIAD - Black-marketmoney dealer ..	B.IUSTIG
GOLDBERG – Pensioner.....	S. FREEDMAN
KAPLAN – Pensioner.....	la KOI TINIUK
IBRAHIM – Young Arab terrorist.....	H. IUSTIG
RACHEL – Salad's sister.....	S. KESSELS;HMDT

## DIRECTED BY ROZA TURKOW

DECOR - AaGURWICH and S. FREEDMAN

MUSICAL ARRANGEMENT - N.SIALMAN

STAGE MANAGERS - L KOLTINIUK, G. MIKHMAN

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