

Therese Raquin

(From the Novel by Emile Zola)

The Novel was first published in 1867 and first staged in 1873

Camile	Mark Sutherland
Laurent	Duncan Sykes
Therese	Isabelle Cartwright
Madame Raquin	Evelyn Moutrie
Grivet	Colin Hickman
Michaud	David Pearson
Suzanne	Angela Martin

Music arranged and played by Vincent Eavis

The Action takes place in the flat above the Raquin's Haberdashery shop in the Pont-Neuf Passage

Directed and Designed	Michael Williams
Production Manager	Anton Jungreuthmayer
Deputy Stage Manager	Crystal Anthony
Lighting	Barny Daley
Properties	Elizabeth Masterton-Smith
Costumes	Peter Halston Evelyn Moutrie BBC Costume Workshops
Set Construction	Charles Anthony Pippa Lee Vincent Eavis Janet Harrison
Set painting	Christine Ward Donal Murphy Beverley Pearce
Photographs	Angela Inglese
Camille's Portrait	Christine Ward

Zola had doubts about adapting his novel 'Therese Raquin' for the stage - "That Procrustean bed" as he called it in his introduction to the play, "where monsters are created with blows of the axe".

Two things persuaded him. One was that the novel, when first published, had been harshly reviewed, one of the critics insisting that the author should on no account consider turning such filth into a play. "I am curious by nature", Zola mildly commented, "And I like a fight".

Secondly, he'd long wanted to try his hand in the theatre and 'Therese Raquin' seemed the perfect subject. "I wanted to present a purely human study, free of all extraneous elements, one which flew straight to its target". Therese's story, he continued, "Doesn't rely on past events, but on the inner conflicts of the characters we have here, not on the logic of facts, but the logic of feeling and emotion, and the climax delivers an arithmetical solution to the problem which has been posed".

Nicholas Wright.

Thanks to Wig Specialities, Mostly Lighting, Sam Thornton, Colin Melville and Peter Shoosmith.

PROSCENIUM

