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The Circle

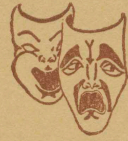
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THE DEPARTMENT OF
LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

presents

THETA ALPHA PHI PLAYERS in

THE CIRCLE

By W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM

Directed by DAVID D. MOORE

An Arena production in the
TWILIGHT LOUNGE, STUDENT CENTER
JULY 8 TO 12, 1957
AT 8:00 P.M.

THE CAST

(In order of appearance)

Arnold Champion-Cheney, M.P.	GENE DEGRUSON
Butler	PHIL PRUITT
Mrs. Anna Shenstone	MYRNA MCDANIELS
Elizabeth	SUSAN BALDWIN
Edward Luton	DOUGLAS MOORE
Clive Champion-Cheney	GALE SHIELDS
Lady Catherine Champion-Cheney	RUTH ENGLAND
Lord Porteous	SETH MCCLINTOCK

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The entire action of the play takes place in the drawing-room of Aston-Adey, Arnold Champion-Cheney's house in Dorset, England.

ACT I

A fine summer morning. The locale? It is not a home, nor a house, but a place. Its owner takes great pride in it.

INTERMISSION

ACT II

It is afternoon, two days later. The place? The same as Act 1.

INTERMISSION

ACT III

It is night of the same day. The place? The same.

PRODUCTION CREW

Director.....	David D. Moore
Assistants.....	{ Paul Weir Connie Etzold
House Manager.....	Doris Falen
Ushers.....	Girls from the Dorm
Business Management.....	Dr. Robertson Strawn
Area Publicity.....	{ Public Relations KSTC Radio
Campus Publicity.....	The Collegio Staff
Costuming.....	The actors themselves
Properties.....	Kay Reynolds
Make-up Chairman.....	Sally Williams
Production and Staging.....	Play Production Class
Programs.....	Jim Gantert

Our sincerest appreciation to many others who have also helped in the production of this Summer Session arena play.



(*"The Circle"* is being produced by special arrangement with Baker's International Plays, and Samuel French, Ltd., London.)

PRODUCTION NOTES

It is in his play, "*The Circle*," that Somerset Maugham displays the best features of the art of high comedy. It is a comedy of manners, with its many recognizable details of English upper-class life and its telling commentary on the social climate. Though it is definitely related to the amoral English Restoration period, it is fused with modern thesis drama as well as the Shavian comedy of ideas.

"*The Circle*" is a "well-made play" in which intrigue is kept within the bounds of naturalness, for to the comparatively perishable stuff, Maugham has added substantial comedy of character with portraits, such as those of Lady Kitty and Lord Porteous, which have human as well as comic dimension within the framework of a clever plot. In this vehicle the author brings drawing-room comedy to a high state of perfection.

The idea of the play—the cycle of romantic passion and the inability of one generation to learn from the experience of another—is so inter-fused with the importance of character in any situation that Lord Porteous is made to say to Lady Kitty: "If we made rather a hash of things perhaps it was because we are rather trivial people. You can do anything in this world if you're prepared to take the consequences, and consequences depend upon character."

Somerset Maugham's characteristic vein seems to be one of detached observation—standing to one side laughing at life.

From John Gassner's critique of "*The Circle*"