

Still Life Noel Coward

Een gescheiden echtpaar ontmoet elkaar weer na vijf jaar, terwijl zij beiden op huwelijksreis zijn met hun nieuwe partner.

This collection brings together three of Coward's most important screenplays – In Which We Serve (1942), Brief Encounter (1945) and The Astonished Heart (1950). The collection features the shooting scripts for each film alongside contextual notes for each play, and a general introduction, by Barry Day. In Which We Serve earned Coward an Academy Honorary Award in 1943 as well as the New York Film Critics Circle Award for Best Film. The film remains a classic of wartime British cinema. Brief Encounter, the most famous screenplay in this collection, is based on Coward's 1936 one-act play Still Life. It remains one of the greatest love stories of all time, coming second in a British Film Institute poll of the top 100 British films. The Astonished Heart tells the story of a psychiatrist's growing obsession for a good-time girl and the resulting tragedy this leads to. This collection features a foreword by Laurence Kardish, Senior Curator Emeritus, Film, at New York's MoMA, and an eight-page black and white plate section of production stills.

I will ever be grateful for the almost psychic gift that enabled me to write Blithe Spirit in five days during one of the darkest years of the war.'
Written in 1941, Blithe Spirit remained the longest-running comedy in British Theatre for three decades thereafter. Plotted around the central role of one of Coward's best loved characters, a spirit medium Madame Arcati (originally performed by Margaret Rutherford) Coward's play is an escapist comedy about a man whose two previous wives return to haunt him. "A minor comic masterpiece of the lighter sort" Professor Allardyce Nicol

Beyond the Epic

Plays: Design for living, Cavalcade, Conversation piece and Hands across the sea. Still life. Fumed oak

Films Directed by Noel Coward, Noël Coward Albums, Plays by Noel Coward, Songs Written by Noel Coward, Brief Encoun

Design for Living

Play in One Act óm 5f 5 Scenes

Lavishly illustrated and annotated, this first and definitive collection of letters to and from Coward provides a divine portrait of an age, from the Blitz to the Ritz and beyond. The incomparable Noël Coward loved to correspond with friends, enemies, the famous and infamous, the talented and the powerful, including Virginia Woolf, Winston Churchill, Greta Garbo, Laurence Olivier, Katharine Hepburn, Marlene Dietrich, Lawrence of Arabia, Somerset Maugham, and many more. Granted unlimited access to the Coward archive, Barry Day presents many never-published letters and has unearthed new, startling evidence of Coward's wartime work as a spy. Along with 191 rare photographs, these letters bring to life the people and events that shaped the twentieth century—and a remarkable man who made his own indelible mark at the heart of it.

This reader brings together the best of Noël Coward's short stories, verse, songs, plays, screenplays, etc.

The diaries of 1 of the century's greatest entertainers. For over half a century Noel Coward was the British theatre's most renowned dramatist, director and star, and 1 of the most colourful chacrters who ever strode across it's stage. These diaries chronicle the last 30 years of his life, from his war time concert tours, through his pprivate and professional depression in the 1950's, to his triumphant re-emergence in the 1960's and knighthood in 1970.

The Noel Coward Diaries

Design for Living; Cavalcade; Conversation Piece; Tonight at 8.30 9!); Still Life

A Play in Five Scenes ; from Tonight at 8:30

The Complete Verse of Noel Coward

A Play in Five Scenes

"This special edition is published to mark the centenary of No'el Coward's birth."--P. [4] of cover.

The story of a family of bohemians who wreak emotional havoc on weekend visitors.

Characters: 6 male, 5 female Interior Set One of the Tonight at 8:30 series, a success in London and New York. The movie Brief Encounter was based on this play. In a suburban rail station, Dr. Harvey removes a cinder from Laura's eye and they fall in love. Subsequent weekly meetings over tea, scenes debating respectability or love, and some sentimental moments transpire before they decide they must part forever. He is accepting a faraway post and she must return to a circumspect

The Letters of Noel Coward

Tonight At 8:30

Fallen Angels

Noel Coward

The First Autobiography of Noël Coward

Funny, uplifting and insightful, Still Life is memoir which explores new worlds through the kitchens, market places and traditions of the locals.

Other men made fabulous careers out of the opportunities Noel Coward declined. But Coward's inner compass charted him on his own course to greatness. And when he couldn't find the destination on his maps, he invented Samolo, his own South Sea island complete with its own indigenous rituals and customs. And of course, we revisit Coward's worlds constantly in revivals of his classic plays, Hay Fever, Private Lives, Tonight at 8:30, Design for Living and Blithe Spirit. This is the definitive memoir of the private Noel Coward by the only man with the compassionate insight and first-hand experience to write it. Graham Payn, star of many of Coward's shows, shared the Master's professional and private life for thirty years. When Coward kept the rest of the world at bay, Payn remained at his side as confidant and friend. No one else was as privy to Coward's doubts and dreams.

I'm a happily married woman. Or rather I was until a few weeks ago. This is my whole world and it's enough, or rather it was until a few weeks ago. Your heart dances. The world seems strange and new. You want to laugh and skip and fall forever... You are in love. You are in love with the wrong person. Laura, the respectable suburban wife, and Alec, the idealistic, married doctor, meet in a station buffet, fall passionately in love but are doomed never to find fulfilment. David Lean's iconic 1945 movie, Brief Encounter, was written by Noel Coward and was based on one of his one-act plays, Still Life, written a decade earlier. Emma Rice, Artistic Director of Kneehigh Theatre Company, has adapted this timeless tale of joy and heartache for the stage, interspersing the romantic action with nine Coward ditties.

Coward Plays: 3

Design for Living; Cavalcade; Conversation Piece; Tonight at 8.30 (i); Still Life

Works by Noël Coward

Noël Coward Screenplays

Blithe Spirit, Hay Fever, Private Lives

"I was photographed naked on a cushion very early in life, an insane, toothless smile slitting my face and pleats of fat overlapping me like an ill-fitting overcoat. Later, at the age of two, I was photographed again. This time in a lace dress, leaning against a garden roller and laughing hysterically. If these photographs can be found they will adorn this book." Thus begins the life story of one of the most celebrated characters in British theatrical history, in the first of Coward's autobiographies, first published in 1937. Displaying an early dedication to the theatre, Present Indicative hints at the success that would come to Coward as actor, playwright, novelist and performer. Each line is punctuated with his trademark effervescent wit, making this book a comic tour de force in it's own right, as well as a "must read" for anyone with an interest in the British stage. "He is simply a phenomenon, and one that is unlikely to occur ever again in theatre history" Terence Rattigan Presents three comedies of manners by playwright Noel Coward, including "Blithe Spirit," in which a man is visited by the ghost of his first wife; "Hay Fever," the story of a family of bohemians who wreak emotional havoc on weekend visitors; and "Private Lives," in which a newly divorced couple find themselves in adjoining hotel rooms while honeymooning with their new spouses.

Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Commentary (plays not included). Pages: 53. Chapters: Cavalcade, Private Lives, Blithe Spirit, Hay Fever, Present Laughter, Post Mortem, Design for Living, Easy Virtue, This Happy Breed, Tonight at 8:30, Ways and Means, Hands Across the Sea, After the Ball, Fumed Oak, Relative Values, Waiting in the Wings, Red Peppers, Still Life, Shadow Play, Sail Away, Family Album, The Astonished Heart, Conversation Piece, We Were Dancing, London Calling!, Cowardy Custard, A Song at Twilight, The Vortex, Star Chamber, Words and Music. Oh, Coward!, The Girl Who Came to Supper, Ace of Clubs, Nude with Violin, Sigh No More. Set to Music, Semi-Monde, This Year of Grace, Look After Lulu!, The Rat Trap, Operette, Pacific 1860, Quadrille, On With the Dance, Peace in Our Time, The Better Half, South Sea Bubble, This Was a Man, The Queen Was in the Parlour, Sirocco, Fallen Angels. Excerpt: Private Lives is a 1930 comedy of manners in three acts by Noel Coward. It focuses on a divorced couple who discover that they are honeymooning with their new spouses in neighbouring rooms at the same hotel. Despite a perpetually stormy relationship, they realise that they still have feelings for each other. The play has fascinated various literary theorists. Its second act love scene was nearly censored in Britain as too risqué. Coward wrote one of his most popular songs, "Some Day I'll Find You," for the play. After touring the British provinces, the play opened the new Phoenix Theatre in London in 1930, starring Coward, Gertrude Lawrence, Adrienne Allen and Laurence Olivier. A Broadway production followed in 1931, and the play has been revived at least a half dozen times each in the West End and on Broadway. The leading roles have attracted a wide range of actors; among those who have succeeded Coward as Elyot are Robert Stephens, Richard Burton and Alan Rickman, and...

Noël Coward on (and in) Theatre

Three Plays

Blithe Spirit

Plays by Noël Coward

Future Indefinite

The love and friendship between two married couples and best friends are put to the test when a postcard arrives with a picture of Capri on one side, and on the other, news of the imminent arrival of a certain handsome Frenchman.

Brief Encounter (1945), adapted from Noel Coward's play Still Life, is a classic of British cinema – a tale of emotional love between a married woman and a man she meets while waiting for a train. Though it's a film made by men, it is the woman's voice we hear recounting the story of a small-town love affair and her renunciation of it. In his lucid analysis of the film, Richard Dyer explores how its depiction of powerful feelings kept under wraps is a definitive example of a particularly English style of impassible restraint, but also how it spoke to a gay audience for whom this subject – forbidden love between ordinary people – had a special resonance. This reissued edition features original cover artwork by Rania Moudaress and a substantial new foreword that revisits the film and recent readings of it, covering its enduring legacy and adaptation for theatre and television.

Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Commentary (works not included). Pages: 64. Chapters: Films directed by Noel Coward, Noel Coward albums, Plays by Noel Coward, Songs written by Noel Coward, Brief Encounter, Cavalcade, In Which We Serve, Private Lives, Blithe Spirit, Hay Fever, Present Laughter, Post Mortem, Design for Living, Easy Virtue, This Happy Breed, Tonight at 8:30, Ways and Means, Hands Across the Sea, After the Ball, Fumed Oak, Relative Values, Waiting in the Wings, Red Peppers, Still Life, Mad About the Boy, Shadow Play, Bitter Sweet, Sail Away, Family Album, The Astonished Heart, Conversation Piece, We Were Dancing, London Calling!, Cowardy Custard, A Song at Twilight, The Vortex, Star Chamber, Words and Music. I Went to a Marvellous Party, Oh, Coward!, The Girl Who Came to Supper, Ace of Clubs, Nude with Violin, Sigh No More, If Love Were All, Set to Music, Mad Dogs and Englishmen, Semi-Monde, This Year of Grace, Look After Lulu!, The Rat Trap, Operette, Pacific 1860, Quadrille, On With the Dance, Peace In Our Time, The Better Half, Noel Coward at Las Vegas, London Pride, South Sea Bubble, This Was a Man, Don't Let's Be Beastly to the Germans, The Queen Was in the Parlour, Sirocco, Could You Please Oblige Us with a Bren Gun?, Fallen Angels, I'll See You Again, World Weary. Excerpt: Private Lives is a 1930 comedy of manners in three acts by Noel Coward. It focuses on a divorced couple who discover that they are honeymooning with their new spouses in neighbouring rooms at the same hotel. Despite a perpetually stormy relationship, they realise that they still have feelings for each other. The play has fascinated various literary theorists. Its second act love scene was nearly censored in Britain as too risqué. Coward wrote one of his most popular songs, "Some Day I'll Find You," for the play. After touring the British provinces, the play opened the new...

A Play in Three Acts

The Vortex

Brief Encounter

Still Life /by Noel Coward : Directed by Dennis Garnhum, 2000 - House Program

The Noël Coward Reader

The definitive account, in his own words, of one of the most popular figures in British theatre. The second and concluding volume of Noël Coward's legendary autobiography includes Future Indefinite and the unfinished Past Unconditional. With his trademark wit, Coward delivers anecdotes about his travels in South America, Hollywood encounters with an array of contemporary stars and directors, and his later theatrical successes, including the Broadway triumph of Design For Living. The showbiz glamour aside, we also encounter a middle-aged man coming to terms with a world in disarray; his confused feelings towards the war and his own part in it exposing a more serious and thoughtful side to a performer and raconteur more usually associated with frivolity. Future Indefinite sees Coward transformed from a 'brazen odious little prodigy' into one of the most exuberant characters in British theatrical history. "His writing is superb, his precise languid drawl put down on the page" Daily Express

D.C. Recreation Department, twenty-third annual one-act play tournament 1951, Falls Church Community Theatre, Inc. presents "Still Life," a play in five scenes from "Tonight at 8:30," by Noel Coward, directed by Harry Meese, assistant director, Betty White.

Noël Coward on theatre was as dazzling and entertaining as his masterful plays and lyrics. Here his ideas and opinions on the subject are brilliantly brought together in an extraordinary collection of commentary, lyrics, essays, and asides on everything having to do with the theatre and Coward's dazzling life in it. The book No 8 l Coward wanted, promised, threatened to write—and never did. Including essays, interviews, diary entries, his views on his fellow playwrights: "My Colleague Will," Shaw, Wilde, Chekhov, Barrie, Maugham, Eliot, Osborne, Albee, Beckett, Miller, Williams, Rattigan, Pinter, and Shaffer. Coward on the critics—many of whom irritated him over the years but came to admire him: James Agate, Alexander Woolcott, Graham Greene, Kenneth Tynan among them. And on the plays he wrote, among them: The Vortex; Hay Fever; Private Lives; Design For Living; Blithe Spirit. Here is the Master on the producers who crossed his path: André Charlot, C. B. Cochran, Binkie Beaumont. And the actors in the Coward galaxy: John Gielgud, Laurence Olivier, Gertrude Lawrence, the Lunts, etc. . . . His views on the art of acting: additions, rehearsals, learning the lines, clarity of delivery, timing, control, range, stage fright, fans, theater audiences, revivals, comedy, "the Method," plays with a "message," taste, construction, "Star Quality," etc. . . . And last, but No 8 l Coward least, his experience in, and thoughts on: revue, cabaret, television, and musical theater. Bitter Sweet, Conversation Piece, Pacific 1860, After the Ball, Ace of Clubs, Sail Away, The Girl Who Came to Supper, Words and Music, This Year of Grace, London Calling! . . . and much more. Ingeniously, deftly compiled, edited, and annotated by Barry Day, Coward authority and editor of The No 1 Coward Reader and The Letters of No 1 Coward.

Present Indicative

My Life with Noel Coward

In Which We Serve, Brief Encounter, The Astonished Heart

Hay Fever

Cavalcade, Private Lives, Blithe Spirit, Hay Fever, Present Laughter, Post Mortem, Design for Living, Easy Virtue.

The definitive biography of one of the twentieth century's most celebrated and controversial dramatists. To several generations, actor, playwright, songwriter, and filmmaker Noel Coward (1899-1973) was the very personification of wit, glamour, and elegance. Given unprecedented access to the private papers and correspondence of Coward family members, compatriots, and numerous lovers, Samuel Johnson Prize-winning biographer Philip Hoare has produced an illuminating and sophisticated biography of Coward, whose relentless drive for success and approval fueled the stunning bursts of creativity that launched the once-painfully middle class boy from the suburbs of London into a pantheon of theatrical deities that includes Gilbert and Sullivan, Oscar Wilde, and George Bernard Shaw. As much the embodiment of a lifestyle as an actual inhabitant of it, Coward's carefully cultivated image defined the aspirations of untold numbers of actors, artists, and writers who succeeded him, and Hoare's meticulously researched biography peels away the layers of this complex persona to reveal the man underneath it all, whom The Times of London decreed upon his death to be the most versatile of all the great figures of the English theater.

The third volume of Coward's plays contains some of his best work from the thirties. Design for Living - is about a triangular alliance between two men and a woman, based on friends of Coward's, which he waited to write "until she and he and I had arrived by different roads in our careers at a time and a place when we felt we could all three play together with a more or less equal degree of success." Cavalcade was Coward's most ambitious stage project, set during the Boer War, which cost £30,000 in its day and which includes scenes of the relief of the sinking of the Titanic and the coming of the Jazz Age. Conversation Piece is a musical comedy that Noel wrote for the Parisian star Yvonne Printemps and includes the song "I'll Follow My Secret Heart". Also in the volume are three short plays including Tonight at 8.30 - Hands Across the Sea, a gentle satire of colonialism and London Society. Still Life which became the film Brief Encounter and Fumed Oak a suburban comedy about a 'worm who turns'. The volume is introduced by Sheridan Morley.

I'm a happily married woman. Or rather I was until a few weeks ago. This is my whole world and it's enough, or rather it was until a few weeks ago. Your heart dances. The world seems strange and new. You want to laugh and skip and fall forever? You are in love. You are in love with the wrong person. Laura, the respectable suburban wife, and Alec, the idealistic, married doctor, meet in a station buffet, fall passionately in love but are doomed never to find fulfilment. David Lean's iconic 1945 movie, Brief Encounter, was written by Noel Coward and was based on one of his one-act plays, Still Life, written a decade earlier. Emma Rice, Artistic Director of Kneehigh Theatre Company, has adapted this timeless tale of joy and heartache for the stage, interspersing the romantic action with nine Coward ditties.

Still Life /by Noel Coward : Directed by Dennis Garnhum, 2000 - Performance Films

Home Chat

A Comedy in Three Acts

Still Life

Kipfisk, Cloudberries and Life After Kids

Three volumes of his verse were published in Coward's lifetime, but while The Complete Verse features all of the work from these three volumes it also presents previously unpublished material for the very first time. Coward expert Barry Day has collected together the additional verse which Coward sent to family and friends and which paints a vivid portrait of his more private life. For anyone who has enjoyed the Diaries or the Letters of Noel Coward, The Complete Verse offers further enjoyment and appreciation of Coward's wit, insatiable interest in people and skilful rendering of his public and private lives. Day's linking narrative situates the verse in the events of Coward's life.

Written as a vehicle for Coward's own acting talents alongside his frequent stage partner Gertrude Lawrence, Tonight at 8:30 is Coward's ambitious series of ten one-act plays which saw him breathe new life into the one-act form. First performed in London in 1936, the plays perfectly showcase Coward's talents as a playwright, providing a sparkling, fast-paced and remarkably varied selection of theatrical comedy. All ten plays are collected together into this volume that features both Coward's own proface and an introduction by Barry Day, editor of The Letters of N 8 l Coward. Coward wrote of the first series of three plays with characteristic delight: "They are all brilliantly written, exquisitely directed, and I am bewitching in all of them." Gertrude Lawrence wrote to Coward in 1947, "Dearest No 8 l, wherever I go . . . all I hear is "Please revive Tonight at 8.30!" "Tonight at 8.30 surprises as much as it delights as, in some of the plays, Coward takes us to a world far removed from that of the wealth and glamour of the debonair London socialites who dominated much of his earlier work. But The Master's polish and sparkle are never far away as music and song intertwine with the wit and insight of one of our greatest ever playwrights." Chichester Festival Theatre, 2006.

Two-time Academy Award winner Sir David Lean (1908 – 1991) was one of the most prominent directors of the twentieth century, responsible for the classics The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957), Lawrence of Arabia (1962), and Doctor Zhivago (1965). British-born Lean asserted himself in Hollywood as a major filmmaker with his epic storytelling and panoramic visions of history, but he started out as a talented film editor and director in Great Britain. As a result, he brought an art-house mentality to blockbuster films. Combining elements of biography and film criticism, Beyond the Epic: The Life and Films of David Lean uses screenplays and production histories to assess Lean ' s body of work. Author Gene D. Phillips interviews actors who worked with Lean and directors who knew him, and their comments reveal new details about the director ' s life and career. Phillips also explores Lean ' s lesser-studied films, such as The Passionate Friends (1949), Hobson ' s Choice (1954), and Summertime (1955). The result is an in-depth examination of the director in cultural, historical, and cinematic contexts. Lean ' s approach to filmmaking was far different than that of many of his contemporaries. He chose his films carefully and, as a result, directed only sixteen films in a period of more than forty years. Those films, however, have become some of the landmarks of motion-picture history. Lean is best known for his epics, but Phillips also focuses on Lean ' s successful adaptations of famous works of literature, including retellings of plays such as Brief Encounter (1945) and novels such as Great Expectations (1946), Oliver Twist (1948), and A Passage to India (1984). From expansive studies of war and strife to some of literature ' s greatest high comedies and domestic dramas, Lean imbued all of his films with his unique creative vision. Few directors can match Lean ' s ability to combine narrative sweep and psychological detail, and Phillips goes beyond Lean ' s epics to reveal this unifying characteristic in the director ' s body of work. Beyond the Epic is a vital assessment of a great director ' s artistic process and his place in the film industry.

A Biography of Noel Coward

We Were Dancing; The Astonished Heart; ' Red Peppers ' ; Hands Across the Sea; Fumed Oak; Shadow Play; Ways and Means; Still Life; Family Album; Star Chamber

Private Lives

The Life and Films of David Lean

'The actual facts are so simple. I love you. You love me. You love Otto. I love Otto. Otto loves you. Otto loves me. There now! Start to unravel from there.'
Design for Living is a wickedly witty dark romantic comedy by Noel Coward. Initially banned in the UK, this provocative play portrays three amoral, glib and stylish characters and their hopelessly inescapable, if also unconventional, emotional entanglement. From 1930s bohemian Paris to the dizzying heights of Manhattan society, a tempestuous love triangle unravels between a vivacious interior designer, Gilda, playwright Leo and artist Otto - three people unashamedly and passionately in love with each other. They are trapped in what Coward called 'a three-sided erotic hodge podge.'
With Coward's trademark piquant style, this lively, funny but also atypical play looks at dazzling, egotistical creatures and their self-destructive dependence on each other.

Exploring themes of bisexuality, celebrity, success and self-obsession, Design for Living is a stylish and scandalous comedy.

I am shirking off the chains that have shackled me for so long - I have suddenly come to realise that I am a woman - a living, passionate, pulsating woman - it never occurred to me before. Janet Ebony and her best friend, Peter Chelsworth, are innocently sharing a sleeping compartment when their train to Paris is involved in a disastrous railway accident. Outrage and scandal ensue as Janet's husband, Paul, and her fearsome mother-in-law accuse Janet and Peter of adultery. Aghast at their families' accusations, Janet and Peter decide to take revenge by inventing an adulterous affair ... Written with Noel Coward's trademark wit and insight, Home Chat is a distinctly modern comedy about female sexuality and fidelity in a society rigidly governed by decorum and reputation. This edition was published to coincide with the first revival of the play since its premiere in 1927.