

Brian Friel

**REHEARSAL  
DIARY**

*(Faith Healer, 1979)*

*Edited by Peter Fallon*



Gallery Books

1979

January

Wednesday

31-334 Week 5

31

En Route. FLIGHT 105.

Left *ARISTOCRATS* rehearsals y'day evening — the first time the play revealed a sure contour + moments of depth.

John Kavanagh — courageous, daring in his exposure; S. Rea more watchful, almost sly, not attempting until the ground was firm but then showing his talent.

After rehearsals to the *Flowing Tide* where the whole cast joined to say goodbye. Also Joe joined then by David H. in his submarine commander coat + cravat. Looking, I thought, pinched. Finally we got to Wynns where we were joined by Eunan O'Donnell, straight out of the tradition of talented + mad Donegal teachers. As H said — a hedge schoolmaster.

Now to N.Y. + *Faith Healer*, Mason + Quintero. On one level I can't see it failing. That doesn't mean it must be a success.

On arrival N.Y.C. letter from Mort: Mason, wife, Ed F, José + Mort + I all meet for drinks at 6.30 in Rose Room.

Mason looking very fresh. Eager to establish his Britishness. She too garrulous — nerves? Much talk about diamonds + burgundy + private jets. When they left, Quintero + I exchanged impressions in a gossipy way. He mentioned a 'fight' when some thugs beat up himself + Tennessee Williams last week. [A.W. says story was in the N.Y. Times].

Flanders perky, uneasy, cheeky. Valuable for Teddy.

Morty told the group that he has read *ARISTOCRATS* + it's my best play. So?

Dinner later with A.W. I don't hear half of what she says.

January  
M T W T F S S | M T W T F S S | M T W T F S S | M T W T F S S | M T  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 | 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 | 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 | 29 30 31

1979

JANUARY

Wednesday 31

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