

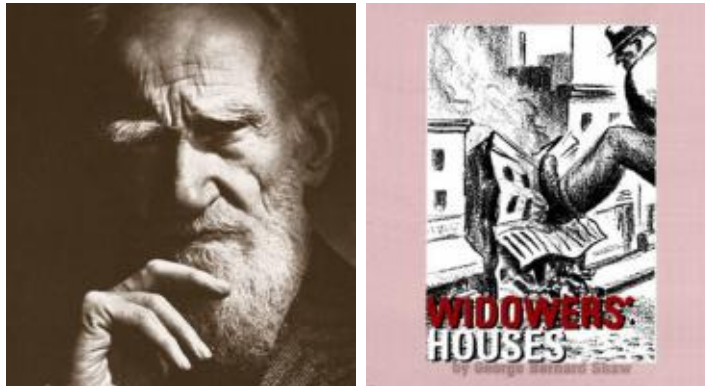
The Birmingham Committee
of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program Presents

Bernard Shaw: Plays Unpleasant
Widowers' Houses, presented by ShawChicago

Performing scenes from George Bernard Shaw's *Widowers' Houses*, ShawChicago looks at how Shaw fashioned a new kind of theater out of the conventions of Victorian melodrama. Following the scenes, Joel Kaplan will speak about Shaw as a socially-conscious playwright.

Thursday, May 07
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Claudia Cassidy Theater

FREE EVENT, Reservations Encouraged by calling 312-742-TIXS



Professor Joel Kaplan is a freelance writer and theatre historian based in Birmingham, U.K. and Florence, Italy. From 1995 to 2003 he served as Director of the University of Birmingham's Postgraduate Centre for the Study of Drama, and Chair of the University's Department of Drama and Theatre Arts.

The author of numerous books and articles on Oscar Wilde, Noel Coward, and Theatre History, he has most recently served as academic consultant to the British Broadcasting Company, the Royal National Theatre and London's Orange Tree Theatre.

Particular areas of interest are 19th and 20th century theatre, medieval drama and performance reconstruction. Recent books include *Plays in Production: The Importance of Being Earnest* (Cambridge UP, forthcoming); *Look Back in Pleasure: Noel Coward Reconsidered* (Methuen, 2000); *Theatre and Fashion: Oscar Wilde to the Suffragettes* (Cambridge UP, 1994; both w Shelia Stowell); and the *Edwardian Theatre* (Cambridge UP, 1996; w Michael Booth).

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