

The cast of the original production was:
Robin Ellis (John), Michael Elphick (Peter),
Colin Welland (Willie), John Bird (Raymond),
Helen Mirren (Angela), Janine Duvitski (Audrey),
Colin Jeavons (Donald).

The screenplay has been adapted for the theatre
and, as such, remains one of Dennis Potter's best
known and most successful plays. It is a standard
text for GCSE Drama.

ALTON FRINGE THEATRE

Has been performing plays, musicals and other dramatic
presentations in Alton for over 20 years. Recent
performances have included:-

2008 *Salome* and *Kindertransport*.

2009 *Charles Darwin* and *Moll Flanders*.

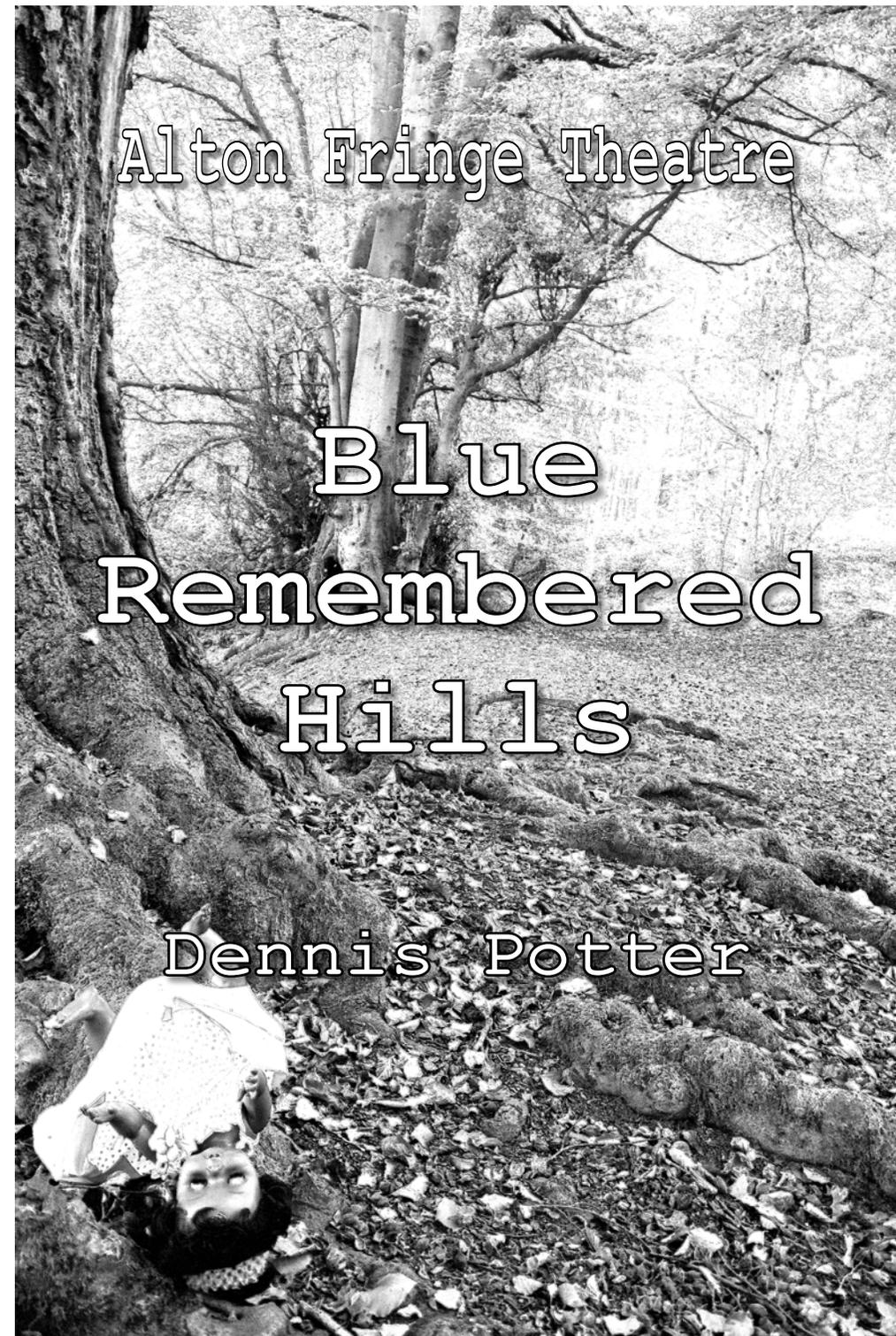
2010 *Great Expectations* and *Medea*

2011 *Passages from India*

The Theatre's home is the Drama Studio at Amery Hill
School. Membership of the *Fringe* is free and would-be
actors and supporters are welcome.

If you would like to join, or receive information on future
productions, please fill in the form, available at the studio
entrance, or contact Lesley Willis, 28 Borover Lane, Alton,
GU34 1PB Tel. 01420 83416

For further details of all our activities and how to contact us
go to www.altonfringe.com.



Blue Remembered Hills

Cast in order of speaking

Willie	Lesley Willis
Peter	Barbara Raynor
John	Penny Cushing
Raymond	Sarah Castle-Smith
Angela	Jo Foulkes
Audrey	Catherine Gerlach
Donald	Chris Chappell

Company

Director	Alison de Ledesma
Lighting	Andrew Stickland
Sound	James Willis
Stage manager	Louise Dilloway
Costumes	Jo Hopkins
Front of house/bar	Morris Hopkins & Friends of the Fringe

*The play is set during the long summer holiday in the
West Country in 1943
There is no interval*

Acknowledgements

Rehearsal facilities :	Tim Guilding, Amery Hill School
Box Office :	The Wardrobe
Workshop :	Mira Shapur
Dialogue & fight director :	Tim Guilding
Programme & publicity material :	James Willis

Dennis Potter was born on the 17th May 1935 at Berry Hill in the Forest of Dean, a location he returned to many times as inspiration for his work. After attending Bell's Grammar School, he moved to St. Clement Danes School in London while his family lived in Hammersmith. At this time, the ten year old Potter was sexually abused by an uncle, an experience he would later allude to in his writing. After National Service (working in the Intelligence Corps and War Office) he won a scholarship to New College, Oxford, reading PPE and editing *Isis*, the student magazine.

After a spell of journalism at the BBC and as the TV critic for the *Daily Herald*, Potter turned his hand to writing plays for television and stood (unsuccessfully) as the Labour candidate for Hertfordshire East. In a writing career spanning over 35 years, Potter produced some of the most memorable television drama of the 20th Century, notably *Son of Man*, *Brimstone and Treacle*, *Pennies from Heaven* and *The Singing Detective*.

Blue Remembered Hills was first broadcast on BBC 1 on 30th January 1979 as one of the Play for Today series. Shot entirely on location, it is a highly naturalistic portrayal of child behaviour, the theme being “the child is father of the man”. The naturalism, however, is offset by the device of having mature adults portray the seven year old children. Childhood, for Potter, is not the innocent and romantic memory, but rather a deeper insight into the way the human mind and emotions work - at whatever age.

In an interview with John Cook in 1990, Potter said “The loss of Eden is experienced by each and every one of us as we leave the wonder and magic and also the pains and terrors of childhood. Whereas the discipline is imposed by an adult, when children are amongst themselves, it's all continual fidget and movement, exploration, speculation, wonder. In a sense to lose that is to lose Eden, it is to be expelled from the Garden.”