



NO REPRIEVE RUTH ELLIS HANGED

By our Reporter



Sealed her own Fate

Amanda Whittington's outstanding drama 'The Thrill of Love', written two years ago, examines the life and times of Ruth Ellis. This production will coincide with

the 60th anniversary of her arrest for the murder of her lover, David Blakely. In an age when sexual exploitation and domestic violence were taboo subjects and the plea of diminished responsibility was not yet enshrined in law, Ruth sealed her own fate when she admitted carrying a gun with the intention of killing Blakely. Ironically, had she been carrying his child, she would have escaped the gallows. In fact, she had miscarried ten days before the murder after he had punched her in the stomach.

Petition reaches 33,000 Signatures

Thirty-three thousand people petitioned the Home Secretary for a reprieve. Police reinforcements were called to disperse a crowd of five hundred people who had broken through cordons to beat on the doors of Holloway Prison the night before her execution. She was the last woman to be hanged in England.

A World of Vice

The play does not sensationalise. It tells the story of four women who worked in the drinking clubs of central London during the 1950's, dreaming of bright lights but being drawn into a world of vice. Ruth's wartime romance had ended when her Canadian fiance, and father of her son, told her he had a wife and three children waiting for him. She was complex, generous, caring and very brave. However, she was also ambitious, self-seeking and possessive to a point of violent obsession.

Memorable

We have a memorable play to perform and an excellent ensemble cast, backed by a very talented technical team.

THE THRILL OF LOVE

by Amanda Whittington

Directed by Miles Jenner

**Saturday May 16 –
Saturday May 23 2015**

Evenings 7.45

Matinee

Saturday May 23 at 2.45pm

Tickets £10 (£8 for members)