

"WHO IS ON THE LINE?"

Szakonyi's former radio play "Furnished Room and Philodendron" acquired major international acclaim. His diversified and strong lyric method of depiction provides unique features for his works. This time he has again excelled with his fine tones: the main character of the play is an old spinster, who tries to break out from her pressing solitude in a peculiar manner. She answers various advertisements and bargains about the most impossible things; she becomes involved in the exchange of apartments, bargains for a car and utilizes every possibility to to establish a half-an-hour contact, which result from these "business affairs". Her imagination runs away with her, she lies about her nonexistent family, glitters in imaginary roles, scolds ungrateful men, although, perhaps, she has never had anything to do with men. She always retreats at the suitable moment, and it is not revealed that she has to return to her heartbreaking loneliness, to nothing, except her numerous cats, only to regain her fighting spirit next day and start to cut out more advertisements.

This play is a series of tragicomic situations, full of grotesque and moving motives, which never turn into gushing and sentimental trivialities. Szakonyi's major merit is his excellent method in which he describes people, and the deep humanist view, which radiates from all his works. His latest drama "Break-down" is the major hit of the season. Almost every theatre in the country has included it in their repertoire and also many theatres abroad.

This radio play also contains almost all of the author's outstanding qualities. That is why he was awarded one of the main prizes at this year's radio play contest.