

Iván MÁNDY

A FAMILY TABLEAU

One of the most significant figure of contemporary Hungarian literature, Iván Mándy recently has been writing ever more radio plays, perhaps because the inner characteristics of the genre correspond to Mándy's lyrical mentality. His peculiar way of representation, a style which is a compound of unreal and real elements, is again the source of a peculiar artistic experience for his public.

Main hero of the play is the author himself, who is being visited by the woman photographer of a literary review. She must take photos of the writer's home. And while she makes the necessary preparations of taking the photos, we are getting to know the writer's family. There is the mother, a fragile creature, living mostly in memories of the past; the similarly past-bound father, who feels a late revival of his buried literary ambitions, and wants to draw the photographer's attention to himself. And, in the meantime, we are shown that the writer himself makes desperate efforts to divert the young woman's attention from this far not idealistic milieu, from the home that is unable to get out of a general defeat.

A Family Tableau offers good opportunities for the actors - a radio play full of genuine good roles, full of humour and tender lyric.

Duration: 35 minutes