



The Importance of Being Earnest Movie Trailer: Transcription

Length: 2:45

Opens with shots of the outside of a building, two women in the living room of a nice house, and another scene with a woman showing a shocked expression on her face. All of this has the following words shown over the shots: "We announce with pride, a motion picture achievement of rare distinction and rare distraction."

This is followed by a shot of a man singing in the bathtub with two male servants behind him.

The narrator begins speaking. As he speaks, we see a shot of two women stepping forward to each embrace a different man.

Narrator: Seldom has the cinema united so many outstanding talents in a single motion picture.

A man swings an umbrella at a glass dome filled with flowers, shattering the top. Several others in the house then look up to where the sound of breaking glass came from.

Narrator: Here is the scintillating immaculate wit of Oscar Wilde, brilliantly captured on the screen by the artistry of Anthony Asquith and a distinguished cast of stars.

Shot of characters Gwendolen and Jack pretending to be Earnest talking with one another.

Gwendolen: The moment Algernon first mentioned to me he had a friend called Earnest, I knew I was destined to love you.

Jack's hand shakes, causing his tea cup to clatter.

Jack: You really love me, Gwendolyn?

As the narrator introduces the characters, the camera focuses on each person as they're introduced.

Narrator: Michael Redgrave is the impetuous Jack Worthing, Joan Greenwood is adored, adoring Gwendolen, and Edith Evans the outrageous, outraged Lady Bracknell.

Lady Bracknell: Mister Worthing!

This is followed by more close ups of other cast members in their roles, including a shot of Miss Prism talking to a doctor.

Narrator: Michael Denison is the gay, disarming Algernon Moncrieff, and Margaret Rutherford the preposterous Miss Prism.

Miss Prism: What you do not seem to realize, dear doctor, is that by persistently remaining single, a man converts himself into a permanent public temptation.

Doctor: Oh.

A scene with characters in the library is shown with the following words placed over the shot, "The Importance of Being Earnest, an Anthony Asquith Production. Produced by Teddy Baird."

This is followed by close ups of the actors in the movie as they are listed one by one with the words on screen: "Starring: Michael Denison, Edith Evans, Joan Greenwood, Miles Malleon, Michael Redgrave, Margaret Rutherford, and this is Dorothy Tutin, enchanting in her first screen role."

This is followed by a shot of the characters Cecily and Algernon speaking with one another.

Cecily: I can't understand how you're here at all. Uncle Jack won't be back til Monday afternoon.

Algernon: That is a great disappointment. I am obliged to go out by the first train on Monday morning. I have a business appointment that I'm anxious... *(catching sight of Cecily's face)* ...to miss.

A shot of Jack and Lady Bracknell talking to one another. The camera switches from a wide shot to close ups of the characters each time they speak.

Jack: I don't actually know who I am by birth. I was, well, I was found.

Lady Bracknell: Found?

Jack: In a handbag.

Lady Bracknell: A handbag?

Jack: In the cloakroom at Victoria Station.

Jack and Miss Prism are sitting close to one another at table. Miss Prism is surprised while Jack looks happy.

Miss Prism: You?

Jack hugs Miss Prism.

Jack: Mother!

Miss Prism throws her arms up in the air in alarm.

Miss Prism: Mr. Worthing, I am unmarried!

Followed by a shot of Gwendolen and Cecily walking together, then a shot of Jack and Gwendolen embracing with the following words: "Oscar Wilde's superb comedy exquisitely filmed in color by technicolor. The Importance of Being Earnest, a British film released through General Film Distributors LTD."