Miller Play Opens
Everyman Season

By Robert O'Donoghue

A scene from "A View From The Bridge" at Everyman Playhouse next week.

A View From The Bridge - By Arthur Miller

The play opens with Arthur Miller's haunting and deeply moving play, "A View From The Bridge," set in New York's docklands, it tells the story of Eddie, the longshoreman, his wife Catherine and their nephew and two relatives who have entered the United States illegally. Under the quiet and solid surface of the hard-working family man, Eddie is torn by emotions and desires that even he does not completely understand. From these suppressed feelings and dark imaginings rise tensions and jealousies that finally erupt into violence and betrayal.

From the beginning of the play, one is acutely aware of the tensions within the family. Eddie (Joe O'Gorman) argues with his wife Beatrice (Mavis Morrisson). Their niece, Catherine (Mary Pendle) has just succeeded in getting a job, but Eddie argues - with passion - that she is too young and that it is dangerous for a young girl to be out on the streets and exposed to dubious characters.

Drury is gripping and dramatic. In the Miller tradition, the language is often lyrical and flowing, always emotive. The title "A View From The Bridge" can be taken to apply to the Brooklyn - which is nearby - or to any bridge which serves as a vantage point from which to observe the sweep and flow of the action.

Mary O'Connor has designed an exciting and unusual setting for the play, involving a soaring and stark web of scaffolding which runs the full width of the stage and then swoops down - by flights of steps - into two encircling arms - that seem to reach out to the audience. Complex and mood-setting lighting has been devised by Liam Carroll to complement the dramatic set. Indeed, in order to achieve this complex engineering feat, Atlantic Scaffolding Services were called upon to do the construction and the names generously sponsored this show - a welcome boost in these days of recession.

"A View From The Bridge" opens on Monday night at 8 p.m. and all seats will be obtainable at £1.50.

Award For "El Nido"

In competition with 259 films from 59 countries, the Spanish film "El Nido" (The Nest), was awarded the prize for best direction at the IX International Film Festival of the Red Cross at Varna, Bulgaria.

Jaime de Arminan directed this film which has been one of the latest hits of last year, and has had a very good run at the ticket office as well as in the critics' reviews. The young star of the film, Ana Torrent, received a special mention from the panel.