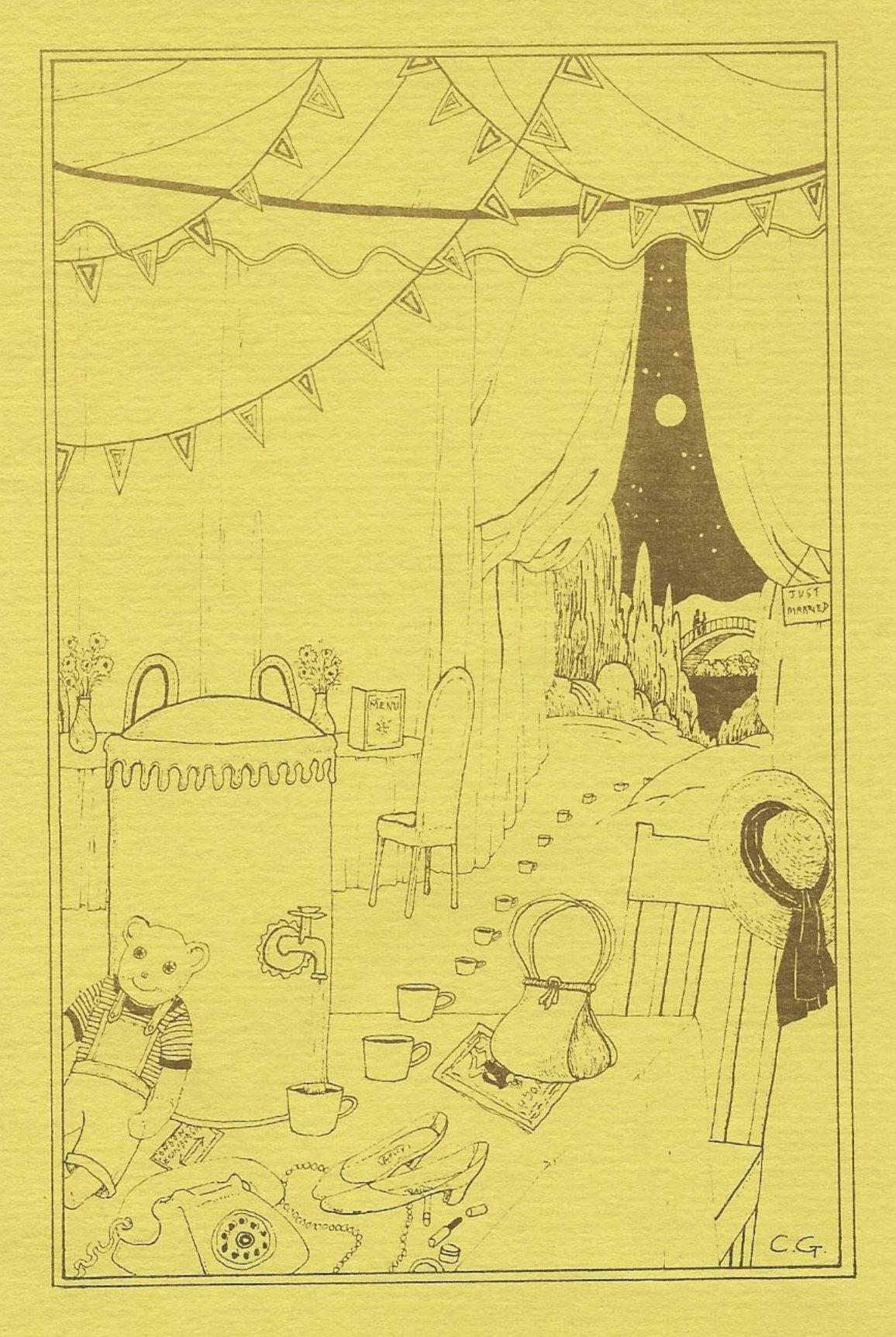
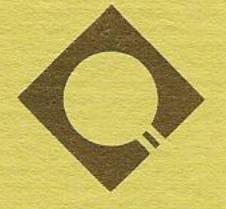
QUESTORS STUDENT &

DIVERSIONS



February-March 1979

The Questons S



First Performance February 26th 1979

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Diversions is made up of eleven short plays. Of these eleven, only five are 'tried and tested', as it were - the other six are new. They are being presented for the very first time on any stage they are, in fact, WORLD PREMIERES! Now, although we are the first to admit that they may never be presented on any stage again, we are, nevertheless, rather proud of them. Ideas for these plays have been gained from various sources - incidents from life (such as Journey) or from improvisations worked on during our acting classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays (such as A.B.C. and Helping). Triangles, No Reply, and Waltz have grown out of a single idea of one of the students or the director - the idea has been improvised and eventually the dialogue that has emerged has been written down to form a short play. What you see tonight, then, is the culmination of many hours of rehearsals - rehearsals not in the usual sense, because often we have had to chop, change and re-write the play in hand. Often we have not known how the play will end — at least two of tonight's plays did not have a definite end till last week. We expect no awards for them; our hope is that you will enjoy them.

About the five 'tried and tested' plays we have no doubts at all. Each of them is written by a master of his craft:

JAMES SAUNDERS has long been associated with The Questors — in fact, many of his plays (plays like Next Time I'll Sing To You, Barnstaple and several other one-act plays) have been premièred here. His many plays include: Alas, Poor Fred, A Scent Of Flowers, After Liverpool and Bodies. A Man's Best Friend, which you will see tonight, was first performed as a part of Mixed Doubles at Hampstead in 1969.

HAROLD PINTER, actor, director and playwright. His work includes The Birthday Party, The Caretaker, The Homecoming, Old Times, No Man's Land and Betrayal, currently playing at the National Theatre. Night, which is perhaps his shortest play ever, was also originally presented in Mixed Doubles.

ALAN AYCKBOURN, like Saunders and Pinter, needs very little introduction to modern audiences. (Plays by all three playwrights have been presented at The Questors in recent years.) Ayckbourn's work includes Relatively Speaking, Absurd Person Singular, Time and Time Again, The Norman Conquests, Just Between Ourselves, Ten Times Table, and Joking Apart, currently at the Globe Theatre.

JAMES CHINN

tudent Group preser

THE COMPANY

SARAH ANDREWS
ROSALIND BURNS
JANE GILLAN
OENONE GRANT
EDDIE GROSSMAN
ROBERT HINES
TARI KHAN
PAUL MESSING
KRYSTYNA PIERCHALA
DALE RANDALL
AMANDA SUMMERS
FIONA WILLAN

Directed by
JAMES CHINN

Designed by
JOHN ROLFE

Costumes Designed by CATHERINE GRUBB

ts DIVERSIONS

OPENING
The Company

A MAN'S BEST FRIEND by James Saunders Robert and Amanda

MOTHER FIGURE by Alan Ayckbourn Krystyna, Rosalind and Dale

TRIANGLES by Sarah and Oenone Sarah and Oenone

NO REPLY by Amanda Amanda, Krystyna and Rosalind

BETWEEN MOUTHFULS by Alan Ayckbourn Tari, Paul, Fiona, Jane and Dale

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

JOURNEY by Oenone Rosalind and Eddie

WALTZ by James Chinn Fiona, Jane and Tari

NIGHT by Harold Pinter Sarah and Paul

A.B.C. by Robert and Dale Robert and Dale

HELPING by James Chinn Krystyna and Amanda

GOSFORTH'S FETE by Alan Ayckbourn Oenone, Sarah, Robert, Paul, Eddie and the Company

FINALE
The Company

Stage Manager				. ANDREW MUIR
Deputy Stage Manager				. ALAN HALE
Assistants				. RITA TAYLOR KAREN BECKITT
Lighting				, JEREMY HALL
Assisted by	•			. GEOFFREY BARKER NIGEL ROFFE
Sound .				, ALAN B. SMITH
Assisted by		•		MURRAY COOKE PAUL GOODERHAM
Properties .				BEVERLEY MANNIN
			•	. MOIRA GROOME SUE RICHARDSON
Wardrobe .				. FREDDIE EDWARDS
Dance Numbers				. IRENE BRADSHAW

Food provided by Safeways

THE QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP, now in its 32nd year, provides a two-year preliminary training course for actors. It is a part-time, not a vocational, course and its purpose is to train actors to work in The Questors Theatre. For the first year of the course some 20 students are accepted, attending Speech, Movement and Acting classes totalling five hours a week. Aprroximately twelve of these are accepted into the Second Year Course, which is more intensive, involving rehearsals, the present one of a group of short plays, and a final one in the main theatre in July. Members of the Group may then audition for acting membership of The Questors. Many of our acting members now playing leading parts in Questors productions graduated from previous Student Groups.

Director of Studies
Second Year Acting Tutor
Movement Tutor
Speech Tutor

- ALFRED EMMET

- JAMES CHINN

- IRENE BRADSHAW

- GORDON LUCK

COMING IN THE THEATRE

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

by Robert Bolt

March 10th - 17th

IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST

by Steve Gooch an adaptation of Voltaire's *Candide*

April 6, 7, 8, 19, 20, 21

INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR THEATRE WEEK

April 22nd - 28th

AND IN THE STUDIO

NO QUARTER

by Barrie Bermange

May 3rd - 6th

EARLY PLAYS OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

May 24th - 27th