A Streetcar Named Desire.

Tennessee Williams

The Questors Theatre Company
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS was born in 1914 in Columbia, Mississippi, where his grandfather was the episcopal clergyman. (He was christened Thomas Lanier Williams.) When he was twelve, his father, who was a travelling salesman, moved with his family to St. Louis, where both ‘Tennessee’ and his sister found it impossible to settle down to city life. He entered college during the depression and left after a couple of years to take a clerical job in a shoe company. He stayed there for two years, spending the evenings writing. In 1938 he entered the University of Iowa and completed his course, at the same time holding a large number of part-time jobs of great diversity. In 1940 he received a Rockefeller Fellowship for his play *Battle of Angels* and he won the Pulitzer prize in 1947 (for *A Streetcar Named Desire*) and again in 1955 (for *Cat on A Hot Tin Roof*). Despite receiving this award, *Cat on A Hot Tin Roof* was banned in London but eventually produced privately in 1958. Many of his plays have been successfully adapted for the screen and these include: *Baby Doll*, *Cat on A Hot Tin Roof*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *The Rose Tattoo*.

*A Streetcar Named Desire* received its first performance in England at the Aldwych Theatre in 1949, where it was directed by Laurence Olivier.

Tennessee Williams prefaced the published edition of *A Streetcar Named Desire* with the following poem:

> And so it was I entered the broken world  
> To trace the visionary company of love, its voice  
> An instant in the wind (I know not whither hurled)  
> But not for long to hold each desperate choice.  
> — Hart Crane  
> *The Broken Tower.*
CAST

in order of appearance

NEGRO WOMEN
EUNICE HUBBEL
BLANCHE DuBOIS
SAILOR
STANLEY KOWALSKI
HAROLD MITCHELL (Mitch)
STELLA KOWALSKI
STEVE HUBBEL
PABLO GONZALES
YOUNG COLLECTOR
MEXICAN WOMAN
DOCTOR
NURSE
Winnie Miller
Jennifer Tudor
Anna Brown
Richard Lewis
Robin Ingram
Geoff Webb
Sarah Morrison
Peter Knight
Rodney Prynne
Paul MacWilliams
Pam Gower
Gerry Blake
Vivien Kerr

Stage Manager: Doug Arundel
Deputy Stage Manager: James Gilles
Deputy Stage Manager (Administration): Beverley Hunter
Assistant to the Designer: Robert Hughes
Properties: Joan Curry
assisted by: Lisa Lawrence-Jones
Wardrobe Mistress: Jane Allan
assisted by: Sylvia Wall
Sound Design: Charles Lacaille
Sound Operator: Grace Lacaille
Lighting Operators: John Hadler, Neil Carmody
assisted by: John Campbell
Assistant Stage Manager: Sue Hamilton
Prompt: Sue Sotheran
The Moonlake Casino Trio: Jack Fleetcroft (violin)
Judith Moreland (piano)
Frances Jennison (cello)

At the Four Deuces Piano: Sammy Price

You've seen the play .................. now come to the

DISCUSSION

on this production, which will be held on Tuesday, 22nd September
at 7.45 p.m. in the Bernard Shaw Room.

The Discussion will be led by a panel of three well-known and
experienced Questors: Bill McLaughlin, Ann Silver and Alfred
Emmet, who will discuss both the play and the production. The
director and members of the cast will also be present.

If you would like to join in the discussion, or if you would just
like to come along and listen, you are very welcome.

NOTE THE DATE
TUESDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER at 7.45 p.m.
in the Bernard Shaw Room

All are welcome

Admission is free

The play is set in New Orleans in the Summer of 1947.

There will be an interval of fifteen minutes between
Act 2 and Act 3.
AMERICAN PLAYS AT THE QUESTORS

The Questors first presented a play by an American playwright forty-two years ago in 1939. Since then many productions of plays by major American writers (and by some lesser-known writers) have taken place. These include several plays by Tennessee Williams. No doubt there are some members who have seen and can remember all the relevant productions, which are listed here:

1939  Days Without End  : Eugene O'Neill
1940  The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden  : Thornton Wilder
1950  The Gentle People  : Irwin Shaw
1951  The Merchant of Yonkers  : Thornton Wilder
1952  You Can't Take It With You  : Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman
1958  Summer and Smoke  : Tennessee Williams
1959  The Cave Dwellers  : William Saroyan
1960  The Glass Menagerie  : Tennessee Williams
1962  Death of a Salesman  : Arthur Miller
1963  Long Day's Journey Into Night  : Eugene O'Neill
1967  The Crucible  : Arthur Miller
1971  A Delicate Balance  : Edward Albee
1972  Suddenly Last Summer  : Tennessee Williams
1975  The Price  : Arthur Miller
1977  Something Unspoken  : Tennessee Williams
1978  Small Craft Warnings  : Tennessee Williams
1978  The Rimers of Eldritch  : Landford Wilson
1979  Early Plays of Tennessee Williams:
  - Lady of Larkspur Lotion
  - The Dark Room
  - Portrait of a Madonna
  - Hello From Bertha
  - Auto-da-Fe
  - Lord Byron's Love Letter
1979  One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest  : Dale Wasserman

During the run of A Streetcar Named Desire there will be a display of photographs and programmes of previous productions by The Questors of plays by Tennessee Williams.

And during the run of Forty Years On — the ever-popular ANNUAL GIFT STALL!!

The Gift Stall will be in the Main Foyer, and the Book Stall in the West Foyer from 7 p.m. each evening and daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Sunday 12 — 2 p.m.).

Gifts for the Stall are still needed.
CONTINUING THE NEW SEASON . . .

IN THE MAIN THEATRE . . .

FOURTY YEARS ON
by ALAN BENNETT
10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 OCTOBER
A very funny play by one of the country's most popular and amusing playwrights. Dust off the old school tie and come along!

THE WINTER'S TALE
by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 18, 20, 21 NOVEMBER
One of Shakespeare's last plays which represent the summit of achievement of the world's greatest dramatist. A very moving play in which the elements of love, jealousy, friendship, loss and redemption mingle.

AND IN THE STUDIO THEATRE . . .

HANS KOHLHAAS
by JAMES SAUNDERS
28 OCTOBER -- 1 NOVEMBER
James Saunders is well known as the author of many plays presented at The Questors, including Next Time I'll Sing To You, A Scent Of Flowers and The Borage Pigeon Affair. One of his most recent plays, Bodies, enjoyed a long and successful run in the West End. Hans Kohlhaas was first seen in a very exciting Studio production at The Questors in 1972, and is now to have a long-awaited revival. The original production was the result of extended co-operation between the author and the cast, and James Saunders is working with the new cast on a revision of the text. Not to be missed!

MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL
by T.S. ELIOT
19 -- 28 NOVEMBER
This classic of the modern theatre, based on the murder of Thomas a Becket in the Cathedral at Canterbury is being given an extended run in the Studio Theatre.

During the run of A Streetcar Named Desire there will be an exhibition in the Foyer of oil paintings by JEANNE WALPOLE.