



Tom Fooleries

THE QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP
PRESENTS

VINEGAR TOM

NIGHT

BYE BYE BLUES

THE ERPINGHAM CAMP

CARYL CHURCHILL

HAROLD PINTER

JAMES SAUNDERS

JOE ORTON



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY SECOND YEAR STUDENT GROUP

PRESIDENT: JUDI DENCH OBE
VICE-PRESIDENTS: SIR BRIAN BATSFORD, ALFRED EMMET OBE,
ROGER REES, MICHAEL WILLIAMS

First performance: 1 March 1987

VINEGAR TOM

Vinegar Tom is the name of a cat-like beast depicted on a 17th Century engraving along with Matthew Hopkins, the famous (or infamous) witch-finder. The head resembles a bull's (with horns), the body is elongated like a greyhound's and the tail is thin and extremely long.

The Vinegar Tom of the play (never seen) is Joan's old cat — a real one — which spends its time doing the things which cats do, like raiding neighbouring dairies for cream.

The difference between the reality and the fantastic representation gives an indication of the thesis which underlies Caryl Churchill's play: we are capable of creating our own monsters (including witches) out of the ordinary and everyday, if we come to them with wrong or twisted motives. Men, particularly, create witches as scapegoats for their own troubles or to satisfy their fantasies.

Caryl Churchill's plays *Top Girls* and *Cloud Nine* have both been seen recently at The Questors. *Vinegar Tom* was written for, and in co-operation with the feminist theatre group, Monstrous Regiment, in 1976.

NIGHT

This short sketch about a married couple involved in a late night discussion in which they recall their first meeting, originally appeared in 1969 in *Mixed Doubles*, which included short plays by a number of well-known live writers, including Pinter.

BYE BYE BLUES

Also a short piece, this was first presented at the Richmond Fringe in 1973. James Saunders is no stranger to The Questors; many of his plays have been presented here since 1962, which saw the original production of *Next Time I'll Sing to You*. In *Bye Bye Blues*, Saunders is concerned with the aftermath of the 'Freedom' revolution — where freedom within relationships is the paramount, almost obsessive consideration.

TOM-FOOLERIES

DIRECTOR JOHN DAVEY
DESIGNER RAY DUNNING
Lighting Design ANDY MILLARD
 assisted by **AUSTIN O'HARA**
Costume Design NIKKI TAIT
 assisted by **JACKIE TYE** (for *The Erpingham Camp*)
 assisted by **THERESE GILLAN**
Riley's red coat made by BRIAN MOORHOUSE

VINEGAR TOM by CARYL CHURCHILL

Music by Helen Glavin

Cast in order of appearance

MAN	PAUL MOREL
ALICE	KERRY DRURY
JACK	PAUL JIGGINS
MARGERY	MARY DRAKE
BETTY	TORY MAGRIE
JOAN	PAULA RODNEY
SUSAN	SUE GASSER
DOCTOR	PAUL MOREL
ELLEN	DAVINA SPENCER
BELLRINGER	PAUL MOREL
PACKER	SIMON BOSSELL
GOODY	JENNIFER FOY
SPRENGER	TANYA SCOTT-WILSON
KRAMER	JENNIFER FOY
SINGER	TANYA SCOTT-WILSON
MUSICIANS	ANDY PARK
	PAUL JIGGINS

The play takes place in the 17th Century in and around a West Country village.

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

NIGHT by HAROLD PINTER

MAN **NIGEL LAWRENCE**
WOMAN **MARY DRAKE**

BYE BYE BLUES by JAMES SAUNDERS

MAN 1	SIMON BOSSELL
WOMAN 1	TANYA SCOTT-WILSON
MAN 2	DAVID TERRY
WOMAN 2	TORY MAGRIE
MAN 3	ANDY PARK
WOMAN 3	JENNIFER FOY

STUDENT GROUP STAFF

Movement	JOHN WILSON
Speech	PENNY DYER
Acting (1st Year)	DAVID EMMET
Acting (2nd Year)	JOHN DAVEY
Introductory Group	CORNELIA CARDEW
Make-up	JULIA CRUTTENDEN

THE ERPINGHAM CAMP by JOE ORTON

Cast in order of appearance

ERPINGHAM	NIGEL LAWRENCE
RILEY	PAUL MOREL
LOU	PAULA RODNEY
TED	PAUL JIGGINS
EILEEN	DAVINA SPENCER
KENNY	DAVID TERRY
PADRE	ANDY PARK
W E HARRISON	KERRY DRURY
JESSIE MASON	SUE GASSER
REDCOATS	MARY DRAKE
	SIMON BOSSELL
	JENNIFER FOY
	TORY MAGRIE
	TANYA SCOTT-WILSON

LATE 1960s: A HOLIDAY CAMP IN THE HOME COUNTIES.

THE ERPINGHAM CAMP

Joe Orton's shocking death in August 1967 robbed the theatre of a fine playwright, once dubbed 'the Oscar Wilde of The Welfare State'. Two months before his death *The Erpingham Camp* made its first appearance at the Royal Court, having been presented the previous year as a television play. Orton's holiday camp is a world in miniature, in which political attitudes in the outside world are held up to ridicule through the medium of stylish farce.

STAGE MANAGER	:	MARK PEARMAN
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER	:	SOPHIE TURNER
PROPERTIES	:	DENYS GASKILL
SOUND	:	DAVE ELLIS
PROMPTER	:	JULIE MITCHELL
ASSISTANT	:	JOHN CLOAD
STAGE MANAGERS	:	EDDIE CULLEN SALLY DAVIS JOHN PATTERSON DAVID SLOTTVED PETER TERRY
MAKE-UP AND HAIR BY	:	TONY CORNISH SUSIE EDWARDS NINA GAN SHARON HUNT RIK SISSINGH

WITH THANKS TO STEVE ANDERSON,
JIM CRADDOCK, RACHELLE ELLIS, MALCOM
FRANCIS, DOUG KING, PAUL WILLEY

***WILL THE AUDIENCE PLEASE LEAVE
THE SHAW ROOM DURING THE INTERVAL
TO ALLOW FOR ADJUSTMENTS
TO BE MADE TO THE STAGE AREA***

THE QUESTORS THEATRE STUDENT GROUP

The Group performing *Tomfooleries* is the 40th Questors Student Group to have formed, since the inception of the Student training course in 1947. During that time many hundreds of actors and actresses have been trained for The Questors; over a third of our current acting members are Student Group graduates.

Most Questors members will undoubtedly be aware that we run a Student Training Course for Actors, but may be less aware of the way in which the course works. Initially founded as a one-year course, it soon developed into the two-year course it still is. Run as an adult education class under the auspices of the Borough of Ealing, its primary purpose is to prepare young actors for work at The Questors, but it has also trained many young people who have subsequently gone to drama schools and progressed onto the professional stage. Recently, as many as six students or ex-students have been accepted by leading drama schools each year.

COMING EVENTS

IN THE PLAYHOUSE

THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

by William Shakespeare

20 — 28 March

(please note Sunday performance at 3pm.)

SHAKESPEARE 50

— A sponsored MARATHON reading

A special Fund raising event (in and around the Playhouse)

20 — 22 March

also

EVADNE MILKY'S *Tales from Shakespeare No. 4*

TWO GENTLEMEN — devised by Kevin Madley

27 — 28 March, 11pm.

FUND RAISING CONCERT

HARVEY AND THE WALLBANGERS

10 & 11 April 11pm

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