
Gestetner

AWARD WINNER

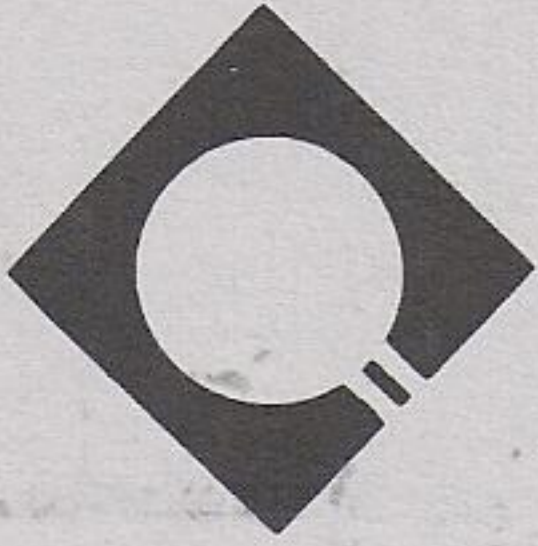
**THE DEATH OF
JOE HULL**



BY JOHN FEAY



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

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

First performance: 29 May 1987

THE QUESTORS STUDENT PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

The Death of Joe Hill was selected as the best of just over 100 scripts submitted in the Questors' Student Playwriting Competition. When the contest was launched in May last year, with a £1000 prize from our sponsors Gestetner, our greatest fear was that there would be a dearth of worthwhile scripts. An early trickle of plays reassured us a little and then towards the closing date in November we were overwhelmed with a positive torrent (fifty in the last week!).

Much to our relief, there were plenty of good quality plays. A panel of readers whittled them down to a short-list of six and from these the winner and runner-up were selected. We are most grateful to our distinguished judges, Judi Dench, Michael Williams and Roger Rees for their help in this respect.

John Fay, the author of Joe Hill, is a 23-year-old drama student at Manchester University and a native of Liverpool. He's been writing since he was 16 and two of his plays have been performed by Liverpool Youth Theatre. This play deals with the life and execution of the American folk singer and trade union pioneer of the title, who is probably as well known for having composed the railway ballad *Casey Jones* as for his political work.

The runner-up will be performed in the Studio in June. It is *The Brick* by Nigel Swain, of Warwick University and deals with confrontation between the military and a group of revolutionaries in a future Britain where the streets are filled with political violence. We had not originally intended to have a runner-up but the first two plays were so outstanding it was decided to produce both.

The object of the competition was to improve our links with universities and colleges and to encourage new members and fresh talent from that area. There are signs that this year's competition has already done that and the Committee of Management have therefore decided to run a further competition next year and possibly make it an annual event. Eventually we hope The Questors' Student Playwriting Competition will become a regular and leading feature of the theatrical scene in this country.

MIKE GREEN (*Organiser*)

THE DEATH OF JOE HILL

BY

JOHN FAY

THE COMPANY

JO COPE

TOBY EEDY

GABRIEL FARRELL

ROBERT GORDON CLARK

JOHN HORWOOD

PETER KNIGHT

BARBARA MCGOWAN

KEN RATCLIFFE

ANNE SAWBRIDGE

DEREK STODDART

CHRIS WALDOCK

SUE WEST

JANE BLAKEWELL	: lighting operator
SUE BLAKE	: stage manager
HARRIET BOWES	: properties
DEBBIE CLARK	: assistant stage manager
BETH CROWLEY	: poster/programme cover design
ANDREW DAVEY	: lighting
STUART DOLIN	: sound operator
GABRIEL FARRELL	: sound
JENNIFER HENLEY	: prompter
KEN JOSH	: designer
NEIL McARTHUR	: music
CLAUDINE MURPHY	: deputy stage manager
PAUL WALKER	: poster/programme and production photos/period prints
HELEN WALKER	: director

with special thanks to **DANNY DEMPSEY,**
SEAN GRAHAM, MICHAEL GREEN,
MURRY HORWHICH, BRIAN MOOREHOUSE,
JENNY RICHARDSON, MIKE WILLMOT-DEAR

'Hanging is none too good for the I.W.W. They would be much better dead, for they are absolutely useless in the human economy; they are the waste material of creation and should be drained off into the sewer of oblivion there to rot in cold obstruction like any other excrement.'

— *San Diego Tribune*, 1912

At a protest meeting held in the streets of Salt Lake City the night before the execution of Joe Hill a speaker cried out, 'Something is going to happen. Joe Hill will never die. You hear it, everybody? Joe Hill will never die.'

The Man Who Never Died
Barrie Stavis

SONGS

<i>There is a power in the Union</i>	}	Billy Bragg
<i>Everybody's joining it</i>		
<i>We're going to Salt Lake City</i>	}	Joe Hill
<i>Casey Jones — the union scab</i>		
<i>The Preacher and the slave</i>		
<i>There is power</i>		
<i>The rebel girl</i>		
<i>Workers of the world awaken</i>		
<i>Joe Hill</i>		Ralph Chaplin
<i>I dreamed I saw Joe Hill last night</i>		Hayes / Robinson
<i>The popular wobbly</i>		T-Bone Slim

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES

SATURDAY, MAY 30th 1987

PRESENTATION BY ROGER REES TO THE WINNER OF THE QUESTORS PLAYWRITING COMPETITION, JOHN FAY, AFTER THE PERFORMANCE OF *THE DEATH OF JOE HILL*.

**The Questors Student Playwriting
Competition was sponsored by
Gestetner.**

Gestetner

In a word, Reprographics

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**Gestetner Limited, Gestetner House,
210 Euston Road, London NW1 2DA Tel: 01-387 7021**

The Production of *Joe Hill* forms part of The New Plays Festival of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain, which is the Guild's 40th Anniversary project.

The New Plays Festival has been made possible by the generosity of The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, and we gratefully acknowledge their grant aid for this production.

THE OPEN DISCUSSION

on The Death of Joe Hill

will be held on **TUESDAY, 9th JUNE** at 7.45pm.

This is your opportunity to give us your views on
A WORLD PREMIÈRE

Do join the cast and production team on this occasion
in the **SHAW ROOM.**

Admission Free

All Welcome

COMING EVENTS

IN THE PLAYHOUSE

20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 JUNE at 7.45pm;
21 JUNE at 3.00pm

ANIMAL FARM

by George Orwell adapted by Peter Hall

(This production will also be presented at The Minack Open Air Theatre, Cornwall, in August.)

IN THE STUDIO

12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20 JUNE at 7.45pm

THE BRICK by Nigel Swain

** Runner up in The Questors Student Playwriting Competition sponsored by Gestetner*

Together with The Death of Joe Hill this production forms part of the NEW PLAYS FESTIVAL OF THE LITTLE THEATRE GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN and is grant aided by the CARNEGIE UNITED KINGDOM TRUST.

SPECIAL FUND RAISING PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY/SATURDAY 5 & 6 JUNE,

MICK LANGRIDGE *presents a late night entertainment* **BODY LANGUAGE**

SUNDAY 21 JUNE

An evening with **DONALD SWANN**

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE QUESTORS?

Full details are available in the leaflets by the Box Office or you can telephone the Theatre Manager during the day on 01-567 0011 (10 am - 5 pm). Why not attend one of our NEW OR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS EVENINGS and have a conducted tour of the Theatre Complex, starting at 8.00pm, every WEDNESDAY, from The Grapevine Bar.
