

 THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

*A Lovely Sunday  
for Creve Coeur*





# THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY

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

IN THE STUDIO

*First performance: 16th January 1988*

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## *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur*

*by*

**TENNESSEE WILLIAMS**

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DIRECTED BY SIMON MEADON  
DESIGNED BY JOHN ROLFE  
COSTUMES BY HILARY BALL  
LIGHTING BY NICK PITT  
SOUND BY MARTIN COSTNER

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## CAST

DOROTHEA ..... SARAH ANSON  
BODEY ..... ANNE RENN  
HELENA ..... CAROLINE HARRINGTON  
MISS GLUCK ..... ANNIE KIMBER

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The action takes place in an apartment in St. Louis, late one Sunday morning in June 1935.

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Stage Manager ..... JIM CRADDOCK  
Deputy Stage Manager ..... SHARON COLLIS  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... GRAHAM HODSON  
Properties ..... ARUNA REDDY  
Lighting Operators ..... KATHRYN AUSTIN  
LUCY WINDRIDGE  
Lighting Assistants ..... PETER GIBBS  
GARY MOSS  
Prompters ..... GWENAN EVANS  
JEAN KOLBE  
Production Photographs ..... PAUL WALKER

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THERE WILL BE AN INTERVAL  
OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

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*The Questors would like to thank*  
**GUNNERSBURY PARK MUSEUM,  
DOUG KING, CHRISTINE BRANDT,  
PETER MAITLAND,  
THE ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF  
AND DOROTHY BARBER**  
*for their generosity and help with this production*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Tennessee Williams was born Thomas Lanier Williams in Mississippi in 1911. Grandson of an Episcopalian clergyman, Williams's childhood was so crowded with confusion that he retreated for refuge into a world of creative fantasy. But that world was punctuated by his own family members — specifically his rough and hard-drinking father Cornelius Coffin Williams. Poised between his mother's fiercely-held gentility and his father's rough, emotional heedlessness, the boy began to create strangely touching stories which became some of the most haunting plays ever written. Into each he poured the lessons taught him by the joy, pain and poetry of his own life.

From the morning after his brilliant success with *The Glass Menagerie* in 1945, he found himself, at 34, considered to be the greatest dramatic voice in the American theatre. There followed in 1947 his first Pulitzer Prize for *A Streetcar Named Desire*. The great years of Williams's success produced *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, *Sweet Bird of Youth* and in 1961 *The Night of the Iguana*. He then fell into a decline emerging only occasionally from his turbulent world of alcohol abuse and drug addiction with other inferior works.

In 1978 however, he wrote *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur* — literally 'A Lovely Sunday for Heartbreak' — and it was acclaimed as a "delicate and touching" play which had echoes of his earlier successful works. In it Dorothea, one of Williams's most engaging "marginally youthful" forever hopeful Southern belles, is home waiting for a phone call from the principal of the high school where she teaches civics — the man she expects to fulfill her deferred dreams of romance and matrimony. Focusing on one morning and one encounter of four women, Williams once again skilfully explores, with comic irony and great tenderness, the meaning of loneliness, the need for human connection, as well as the inevitable compromises one must make to get through "the long run of life".

SIMON MEADON

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# **STUDENTS AT WORK**

A CHANCE TO SEE THE CURRENT SECOND YEAR  
QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP IN AN EVENING OF  
ONE-ACT PLAYS IN THE STUDIO

**THE SHEWING-UP OF BLANCO POSNET**  
*by* BERNARD SHAW

**THE ORCHESTRA**  
*by* JEAN ANOUILH  
*translated by* Miriam John

**THE MARTYRDOM OF PETER OHEY**  
*by* SLAWOMIR MROZEK  
*translated by* Nicholas Bethell

**DIRECTED BY WENDY STONE**

## **PERFORMANCES**

FEBRUARY 27, 28  
MARCH 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12  
AT 7.45pm IN THE STUDIO  
MEMBERS FREE

DETAILS OF THE QUESTORS TWO YEAR PART-TIME  
STUDENT COURSE CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE  
THEATRE OFFICE DURING WORKING HOURS.

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# COMING EVENTS

NEXT IN THE PLAYHOUSE

## THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE

by Bertolt Brecht

Directed by David Emmet

Jan 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 at 7.45pm

Jan 24 at 3.00pm

sponsored by STEPHEN BLAND and CO.  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



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NEXT IN THE STUDIO

## STUDENTS AT WORK

Feb 27, 28

March 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 at 7.45pm

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REHEARSED READING

FEB 28, at 1.00pm in the Studio Members Free

**JOSIE CARBOLIC** Pinteresque one act play

by John Miles-Brown

Directed by John Horwood

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COMING SOON TO THE PLAYHOUSE

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

by William Shakespeare

Directed by Geoff Webb

Feb 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27 at 7.45pm

Feb 21 at 3.00pm

Feb 24 at 7.15pm (Schools performance)

sponsored by THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND



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## ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE QUESTORS YET!

For full details of membership, pick up an application form from the Box Office Foyer or telephone 01-567 0011 (10am — 5pm, Mon — Fri). 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.