

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

In the Studio

STUDENTS LOOK-IN

The First Year Group in a varied and entertaining programme of presentations and prepared improvisations.

Wednesday and Thursday 4 and 5 July at 7.45pm

In the Playhouse

Student Group Production

TWO PLANKS AND A PASSION

by Anthony Minghella

King Richard II visits the town of York in 1392 during the annual performance of the mystery plays. The citizens' in-fighting to impress the king is the background to a very funny, heart-warming and deeply moving play.

14, 17, 18, 20, 21 July at 7.45pm

Sunday 15 July at 3.00pm

Sponsored by *Duffy's Wine Bar*

In the Studio

THE QUEEN OF SPADES AND I

by Sylvia Freedman

A cleverly witty and tense drama mingling biographical details of the Russian author Pushkin's colourful life with his famous story *The Queen of Spades*.

21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 July at 7.45pm

REHEARSED READING — Upper Foyer

THE FINAL READING IN PLAYS OF THE SIXTIES AFTER THE RAIN

by John Bowen

Sunday 8th July at 7.45pm

Admission FREE to Members and Guests

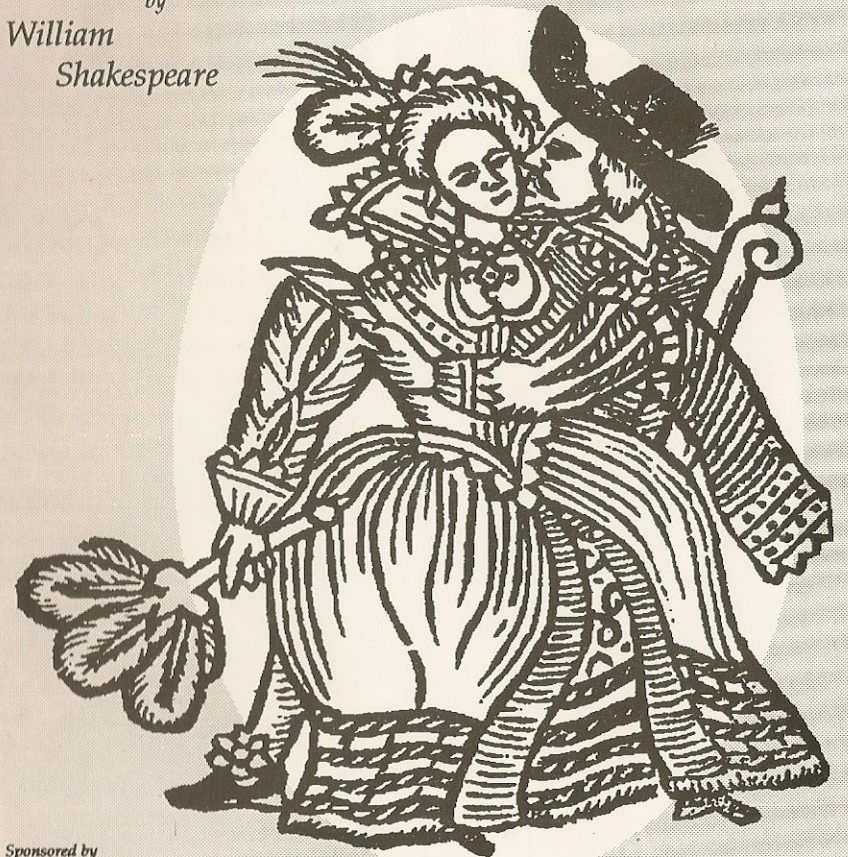
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THE QUESTORS THEATRE



The Taming of the Shrew

by
William
Shakespeare



Sponsored by

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We're happy to lend a helping hand.



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CONSTRUCTION HOUSING PROPERTY TRADING WORLDWIDE

Sponsors for The Taming of the Shrew

ABOUT THE PLAY

THE SUBJECT of a shrewish woman and how to tame her had been written about long before Shakespeare. The Ancient Greeks were familiar with the type, in Xanthippe, and Chaucer's wonderful creation, the Wife of Bath, became an archetype. Shakespeare's subplot too, in which the various suitors to Bianca disguise themselves as tutors to gain admittance to Baptista's house, was thought to have been based on an Italian play, *I Suppositi* by Ariosto, about taking on new identities.

The origins of the version we know today, which is based on the Folio edition of 1623, are mysterious. There is no Quarto text, although there is a Quarto dated 1594 of a play called 'The Taming of A Shrew'. This is a very garbled version of Shakespeare's text, and appears to contain chunks of verse lifted from Marlowe. The most likely explanation is that Shakespeare's *The Shrew* was written first and that *A Shrew* was a rough version put together from memory by actors and dramatists on tour in the provinces without prompt-books. Between 1592 and 1594, England was hit by the worst plague of the Elizabethan years, and the London theatres closed. Actors kept going only by splitting up into small touring companies and often had to sell or pawn what little they had (including, presumably, their books) to eat.

The plot of *The Taming of the Shrew* is relatively straightforward and uncluttered — unusually so for Shakespeare. Baptista, a nobleman of Padua, has two daughters Bianca, the younger, is much wooed while Kate, the elder ('The Shrew') has no suitors. Baptista insists that Bianca may not marry before Kate and settles a considerable dowry on his elder daughter. Petruchio, an adventurer, undertakes to woo Kate, partly for the money and partly to help his friend Hortensio who is one of Bianca's suitors. After a series of verbal and physical fireworks Petruchio marries Kate and takes her to his country house.

Bianca is eventually won by Lucentio, one of Hortensio's rivals, while the latter ends up with a rich widow. In a bizarre wager at the end of the play as to whose wife is the most submissive, Petruchio surprisingly wins — The Shrew has been tamed.

The Taming of the Shrew

by William Shakespeare

First performance Saturday 23rd June 1990

CAST

INDUCTION

Christopher Sly, *A drunken tinker* BILL RUDDERHAM
The Hostess of a Country Ale House RENATA NASH
A Lord PATRICK McQUILLAN
Page CECILY BLYTHER
Huntsmen and Servants attending KEN HANKS
DAVID WHEATLEY, EDDIE CULLEN
The Players DAVID PEARSON
GRAHAM WILLIAMS, JOHN CAREY,
NIGEL LAWRENCE, PIERS WHIBLEY

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Lucentio, *a gentleman of Padua* PIERS WHIBLEY
Tranio, *his servant* GRAHAM WILLIAMS
Baptista, *a wealthy Paduan* DAVID PEARSON
Katherina, *Baptista's elder daughter* GILLIAN KERSWELL
Bianca, *Baptista's younger daughter* CAROLINE BLEAKLEY
Gremio, *suitor to Bianca* VINCENT McQUEEN
Hortensio, *suitor to Bianca* NIGEL LAWRENCE
Biondello, *Lucentio's second servant* JOHN CAREY
Petruccio, *a gentleman of Verona* MICHAEL LANGRIDGE
Grumio, *Petruccio's servant* MARTIN MUSA LEV
Servant to Bianca CHRISTINE ST. JOHN
Servant to Baptista KEN HANKS
Curtis, *Petruccio's second servant* EDDIE CULLEN
Servants at Petruccio's House DAVID WHEATLEY
KEN HANKS, CECILY BLYTHER, RENATA NASH
Tailor JOHN MARTIN
Haberdasher CECILY BLYTHER
A Pedant of Mantua ALAN CHAMBERS
Vincenzio, *Lucentio's father* PATRICK McQUILLAN
A Widow CECILY BLYTHER
Officer DAVID WHEATLEY

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director PAT GOWMAN
Assistant Director TONY WORTH
Set Designer RAY DUNNING
Costume Designer LIZ TAULBUT
Wardrobe PAM MADDOX, SARAH MULBERRY
and Costumiers MARY ANDERSON, CAROLINE BAILEY,
JULIA COOKE, JULIET COOKE, ANNE GERARD,
JACKIE HULBERT, SAMANTHA LADD, TRUDY McCALLUM,
ELIZABETH PRITCHETT, TESS WALSH
Properties MARGARET BERRY
assisted by ANN SCURFIELD
Lighting Designer STEVE HAMES
Lighting Operator CHRIS TEMPLE
Sound PETER THOMPKINS
Wigs and Make-up JOCEYLN ANDREWS,
KAREN MORGAN of GREASEPAINT
Construction HOWARD DENSLEY, GRANT FILSHILL
Prompter BARRIE BLEWETT
Lighting Assistants JOHN SMITH, ROBERT COWARD
Stage Manager PETER COLLINS
Deputy Stage Managers HELEN HEAP, LINDA ZIEBA
Assistant Stage Managers CAROLINE FISHER,
ANTHONY DAVEY, SARAH ROBBIE,
JULIE McQUEEN, KRIS COLLIER,
JON WEBSTER, BRYN PARSONAGE

Thanks to STEVE ANDERSON
CHRIS SYDENHAM, MARY BIVER, PHIL PINKHAM,
ROGER BRACE, MARK SANGER, DENYS GASKILL,
FRANK POWER, SAVIO DE SOUZA, UNA SAPLAMIDES,
GHISLAINE CUENOT

ART EXHIBITION IN THE UPPER FOYER 2 — 30 June 1990

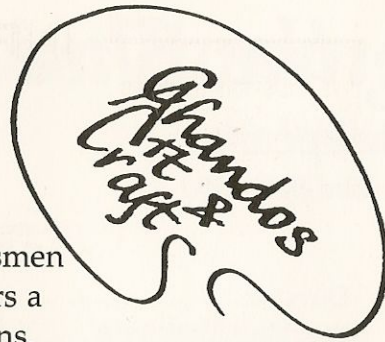
We are a small group of artists and craftsmen based in Harrow. The membership covers a wide range of professions and occupations.

We produce work in oils, watercolour, line and wash, pastels, drawings, miniatures and monoprints.

The crafts include Fabergé style eggs, silver and gold jewellery, wood-turning, photography, china painting, and pottery, all work being for sale.

We hold exhibitions annually in Gayton Library, Harrow, in the Spring and Winter, and in September in the Stanmore Library.

Most of our members also exhibit with other local societies. For further information please ring 081-427 9522.



*In the front garden of the
Playhouse before and after
this performance*

CONVERSATION

A Sculpture with Voices

*by Ghislaine Cuenot
(In French)*

*Artiste: Ghislaine Cuenot
Sound: Nigel Worsley*

INFORMATION

THE GRAPEVINE CLUB

The Questors has a fully licensed Bar which is now open to all members. The Bar is open every evening plus lunchtimes on Sundays. Questors members are requested to sign in their guests when entering the bar.

THE HOTPLATE

Delicious hot and cold food is available in the upper Foyer between 6.30pm and 8.00pm during the run of Playhouse productions, and coffee, tea, and cakes are served during the interval. No hot food will be provided at the Sunday matinées.

NOTE

The Hotplate is not open for Studio productions, but when Studio performances coincide with those in the Playhouse, it will endeavour to serve those audiences whenever this is possible.

NEW MEMBERS EVENINGS

Why not attend one of our new, or prospective members evenings, and have a conducted tour of the Theatre complex. Tours start and finish at the Grapevine Bar, 8.00pm every Wednesday.

THE STUDENT GROUP

The Questors runs a two year part time student course in Acting; details can be obtained from the office.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS

There are a number of groups for younger members. These cater for all age groups, from 5-17. The classes are intended to create awareness of the theatre and provide a stimulating channel for imagination.

For The Questors Theatre

Artistic Director
Studio Director
Director of Studies
Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Secretary
Finance Director
Administrative Director
Stage Director
Theatre Manager
Productions Administrator
Membership Secretary
Publicity Manager
Programme Editor
Questopics Editor
Press Officer
Sponsorship
Box Office Manager
Front of House Manager
Hotplate
Floral displays
Haberdashery
Wardrobe Equipment
Wardrobe Care

David Emmet
Paddy O'Connor
David Emmet
Martin Bowley
Roger Kelly
Fiona Nicholson
Ken Kettle
Lucille Terry
Steve Anderson
Elaine Orchard
Jill Gee
Lindsay Udell
Eric Lister
Ken Ratcliffe
Gwenan Evans
Simon Higginson
Geoffrey Sellman
Ken Parker
Douglas Thomas
Dorothy Dent
Barralets of Ealing
Gütermann
Wilkinson Sword
Persil and Comfort
courtesy of Lever Brothers.

ADMINISTRATION

The Questors office is open from 9.30am until 5.00pm every weekday. If you wish to make contact for details of membership, or hiring the Theatre and rehearsal rooms, telephone the office on 081-567 0011.

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to become a member please fill in the application form (copies in the Foyers); just send it to the Theatre with the appropriate subscription.

BOX OFFICE

For personal callers the box office is open evenings only from 6.45pm to 8.45pm on days of performance and five days prior to each Playhouse production.