

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

In the Playhouse

THE PLAY'S THE THING

by Ferenc Molnar
adapted by P.G. Wodehouse

A piece of top-class nonsense, utterly trivial and hilariously funny, set in the crazy world of 1920's Broadway musicals.

Molnar is recognised as one of the leading Hungarian writers of the twentieth century, famous for writing comedies and dramas including *Liliom*, upon which *Carousel* was based.

11, 14-18 April at 7.45pm; 12 April at 3.00pm

Sponsored by FIELD AVIATION LTD.

In the Studio

A DREAM PLAY

by August Strindberg

In this surreal and epic drama the god Indra sends his daughter down to earth to discover whether Man's bitter complaint about human suffering is justified. Once there, she becomes consumed by Man's mortality and the weight of the clay from which he is formed subsumes her divinity and threatens her return to heaven.

25 April - 2 May at 7.45pm.

In the Playhouse

DON JUAN, or THE LOVE OF GEOMETRY

by Max Frisch
translated by Michael Bullock

A somewhat unusual vision of the theme of Don Juan, this comedy by playwright and author Max Frisch, who died recently, is a highly entertaining version of the traditional Don Juan story.

Set in Seville, but a Seville of fantasy, this play combines humour, philosophy and eroticism.

2, 6-9 May at 7.45pm

Sponsored by CHELSEA BUILDING SOCIETY

In the Studio

THE TYPISTS

by Murray Schisgal

This modern play by an American playwright is directed for The Questors by Oxana Meleshkina, professional actress, director and film-maker and Artistic Director of a small Arts Centre in Moscow. In an exciting cultural exchange, Ms Meleshkina will be taking the production back to Moscow after the run here at The Questors.

23-30 May at 7.45pm.

Printed and published by THE QUESTORS LIMITED

 **THE QUESTORS THEATRE**
1992 European Season

temperament

by **vacлав havel**

Translated by George Theiner

Sponsored by

Grant Thornton 

Grant Thornton

We congratulate The Questors Theatre on its 1992 European Season and wish all patrons an enjoyable evening.

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VACLAV HAVEL

Vaclav Havel was born in Prague on 5th October 1936. He enjoyed a comfortable childhood, remembering himself young as a 'well-fed piglet', but his bourgeois origins made him ineligible for formal higher education during the Stalinist period. However, while employed in a chemical laboratory he went to evening classes and matriculated in 1954.

After military service Havel was variously a man of the theatre, a dissident, a brewery worker and, for four or more years, a prisoner. He practised and reflected on politics, writing many essays which were published in *samsizdat* form and he eventually became one of the most influential members of the Charter 77 movement.

His first play was performed at the Theatre on the Balustrade in 1963. *Temptation* was written in 1986, following Havel's release after a long term in prison and before the momentous events of 1989 had really begun to brew.

The 29th December, 1989, saw this extraordinary man elected to the Presidency of Czechoslovakia.

Temptation is very much a play of our times. Most appropriately for the Questors' European season it is a variation on the Faust legend — one of the key themes of European literature, which has fascinated writers from Marlowe to Goethe to Thomas Mann. Havel had this potent theme in mind in his early years in prison. On his release he came back to it to use it as a kind of exuberant trampoline from which to bounce his lively and perceptive comments on life in pre-1989 Czechoslovakia.

Temptation is a fascinating mixture of meticulously observed realism and disturbingly credible fantasy. Like The Questors declared policy, it is 'bold, brave and exciting'. At the same time it is very lively and very funny.

It was performed at The Other Place, Stratford on Avon in 1987, but for many of us this Questors production can be seen as a first. A Havel play in our programme may be long overdue, but now, in 1992, while we enjoy this witty and brave play in its own right, we can also enjoy the extra resonance that hindsight gives us, having seen something of the events in Czechoslovakia which the author himself so significantly helped to bring about.

Havel has said that what pleases him most is when something happens which should happen in all art, namely "that the work of art somehow exceeds its author or is, so to speak, cleverer than he is; and that through the mediation of the writer, no matter what purpose he was consciously pursuing, some deeper truth about his time reveals itself and works its way to the surface".

We hope we have done justice to Havel's intention.

PAT GOWMAN

TEMPTATION

by Vaclav Havel

(translated by George Theiner)

First performance Saturday 14th March 1992

Cast

Dr Henry Foustka, <i>scientist</i>	ROBIN INGRAM
Fistula	JOHN TURNER
The Director	ROGER LEWIS
Vilma, <i>scientist</i>	ANNE SAWBRIDGE
The Deputy Director	DAVID WHEATLEY
Maggie, <i>secretary</i>	FIONA NICHOLSON
Dr Libuse Lorencová, <i>scientist</i>	SARAH ANDREWS
Dr Vilém Kotrlý, <i>scientist</i>	PAUL BOTLY
Dr Alois Neuwirth, <i>scientist</i>	JOHN BAKER
Mrs Houbová, <i>Foustka's landlady</i>	IRIS FESTENSTEIN
Dancer	DES NOCTOR
Petruska	KATAYOUN THURLOW
Secretary	JOHN MARTIN
First Lover	LORRAINE COOK
Second Lover	ANTHONY GRIFFITH

Scene 1	The Institute
Scene 2	Foustka's Flat
Scene 3	The Institute Garden
Scene 4	Vilma's Flat
Scene 5	The Institute

INTERVAL

Scene 6	Foustka's Flat
Scene 7	The Institute
Scene 8	Vilma's Flat
Scene 9	Foustka's Flat
Scene 10	The Institute Garden

Production

Director	PAT GOWMAN
Designer	JOHN ROLFE
Music Composer	IAN AMOS
Lighting Designer	ANDREW DIXON
Lighting Operator	FRANCIS CLAUSON
Follow Spots	SAM KLIGER, JULIETTE HAYWARD
Sound Designer	ROBIN THOMPSON
Recording Engineer	NIGEL WORSLEY
Sound Operator	DERRY BOURKE
Stage Manager	JO BOOTH
Deputy Stage Manager	CULLEN HENSHAW
Assistant Stage Managers	DEBBY SEED, TEX JAMES, KEVIN O'DOWD, LESLEY WRIGHT, MARK LAHAISE, SUZY TAYLOR, CHARLIE FANE, MARGARET CROSBY, LEILA BAYANDOR
Costume Design	JANE ALLEN
Wardrobe	JOAN GRIFFIN, VALERIE PALMER, MARY TARPE
Props	CHRIS PRICE, JILL HALLINELL, VICKY LINGLY
Movement	DIANA NESBITT
Construction	PAUL WORSLEY, TOM MORTON, BOB HOSKINS
Flying	PETE KENDRICK, MARTIN UDALL
Make Up	ALISON BRADLEY, ALEX VOLPE, PAM WRIGLEY OF GREASEPAINT

Thanks to SPECS SAVERS, LAURENCE BRADY,
MAGGIE ROLFE, JENNY RICHARDSON, TIM GODFREY,
JIM CRADDOCK

Patrons are requested to turn off portable telephones and beepers in the auditorium, since the activation of these during a performance is offensive to audience and actors alike. The taking of food and drink into the auditorium is NOT permitted, neither is the use of cameras, video-cameras or tape equipment during the performance.

ART EXHIBITION IN THE UPPER FOYER

14 — 21 March 1992

by EILEEN MITCHISON

Eileen Mitchison was born in Ealing (in the 1920's) and studied at Ealing Art College. After bringing up her family of four, she was able to resume her interests in art and gardening.

As a gardener, she has specialised in growing roses and is a member of The Royal National Rose Society where her paintings have been exhibited at their Summer Festival and at The Royal Horticultural Society.

This interest is reflected in her paintings, many of which are of specimens grown in her own garden. Other subjects include landscapes, flora, fauna and birds. Most paintings exhibited are done in oils.

She has been commissioned to paint for clients in countries as far afield as America, Africa, the Caribbean and also in Europe.

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HARLEY WHITE



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081-998 4942

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
and
Director of Studies }
Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Secretary
Finance Director
Administrative Director
Stage Director
Theatre Manager
Productions Administrator
Membership Secretary
Programme Editor
Questopics Editor
Press Officer
Sponsorship
Box Office Manager
Programme Sales Organiser
Marketing Manager
Front of House Manager
Floral displays
Haberdashery
Wardrobe Equip. Wilkinson Sword Scissors . . Fiskars Ltd
Wardrobe Care Persil and Comfort courtesy of Lever Bros.

David Emmet

Martin Bowley

Doug King

Fiona Nicholson

Ken Kettle

Jim Craddock

Steve Anderson

Elaine Orchard

Jill Gee

Alice Pennicott

Vincent McQueen

Barbara Neville

Sam Jennings

Geoffrey Sellman

Ken Parker

Val Blaxland

Robert Gordon Clark

Roger Kelly

Barralets of Ealing

Tootal Craft

Dry-cleaning by C.D.S.

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. 081-567 8736.

BOX OFFICE

For personal callers the box office is open evenings only from 6.45pm to 8.30pm on days of performance and five days prior to each Playhouse production.