**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### In the Studio

**STUDENTS’ LOOK-IN**

Between them, the First Year Student Group and the Introductory Group give their audiences a feast of imagination and playmaking. There is not time to get bored; you may see up to twelve mini-plays in an evening, all different, all entertaining.

7, 8 July at 7.45pm

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### In the Playhouse

**STUDENT PRODUCTION**

**YOU CAN’T TAKE IT WITH YOU**  
*by George S Kaufman and Moss Hart*

A wonderful classic American comedy by the master craftsmen of the golden pre-war era. Packed full of wonderful characters and with a plot that cocks a snook at government authority.

17, 20-24 July at 7.45pm; 18 July at 2.30pm

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### In the Studio

**THE GROTESQUE FARCE OF MR PUNCH THE CUCKOLD**  
*by Ramon Maria del Valle-Inclán*  
*translated by Dominic Keown and Robin Warner*

The British premiere of a bawdy, poetic play by a Spanish playwright who is just beginning to be discovered in this country. Here, stylised, are the tragi-comedy, jealousy and violence of the story of Mr. Punch.

24-31 July at 7.45pm

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### SOME OF THE NEW SEASON’S PRODUCTIONS

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After seeing *The Playboy of the Western World* when it was first performed at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin in 1907, the poet William Butler Yeats pronounced it “picturesque, poetical, fantastical, a masterpiece of style and of music, the supreme work of our dialect theatre”.

He omitted to mention that it is also ironic, funny and very much alive. Certainly the play marked a turning point in the development of Irish drama. By writing an Irish play about ordinary (or more accurately, extraordinary) Irish people Synge broke new ground and, in the process, provoked riots. “A currant cake and a watch were thrown”, observed Yeats, “the owner of the watch claiming it at the stage door afterwards”. The fate of the cake is not recorded.

The energy of those early audiences is more than matched by the energy of the play: every character, and there is a whole exuberant gallery of them, is vividly realised. And all of them have a glorious way with language; “speech as fully flavoured as a nut or an apple”, witty, colourful and perverse.

The imaginative life of the play springs from its setting, rooted as it is in an isolated community in the far West of Ireland, an area known for its wildness and poverty. An old man on the Aran Islands told Synge the original tale on which *Playboy* is founded, but the landscape and the community were things Synge knew well from “a popular imagination that is fiery and magnificent and tender”.

In this community social life centres on Michael James Flaherty’s shebeen. A festival or a wake are equally occasions for enjoying good company and serious drinking. Most welcome of all is a man with a strange, fine story to tell. John Millington Synge was born near Dublin in 1871, youngest of five children and son of a barrister. In his early teens he moved away from his family’s Protestant religion and argued fiercely with his brother, who as land agent of the family estates, had evicted tenants for non-payment of rent. He studied, unwillingly, at Trinity College, Dublin but his first important interest was music, an interest which took him to Germany, Italy and France. In Paris there came a crucial meeting with Yeats, who turned Synge’s growing interest in drama back towards Ireland. *Playboy*, written when he was thirty-five, is his fifth play. He was secretly engaged to Molly Allgood, of the Abbey Theatre, the first Pegeen Mike. Synge died in 1909.
THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD
by J.M. Synge
First performance of this production Saturday, June 19th 1993

CAST
in order of appearance

Margaret Flaherty, known as Pegeen Mike ........................................ MARIANNE MARCH
Shawn Keogh, her cousin ................................................................. KELVIN WEST
Michael James Flaherty, her father ................................................ PAUL BOTLY
Jimmy Farrell ..................................................................................... MICHAEL GREEN
Philly Cullen ..................................................................................... TERRY JERMYN
Christy Mahon .................................................................................. MARK FITZGERALD
Widow Quin ....................................................................................... JOAN MAYNARD
Susan Brady ....................................................................................... SOPHIE PARSONS
Sara Tansey ....................................................................................... AMANDA ALDRED
Honor Blake ....................................................................................... KATY BEARD
Nelly ................................................................................................ HELEN SCHOLES
Old Mahon.......................................................................................... MICHAEL GABE
The Bellman ....................................................................................... KEVIN BOLAND
And also:

The action takes place in a wayside bar (shebeen) owned by Michael James Flaherty on a road near a village on the wild coast of County Mayo in the far West of Ireland.

The first Act passes on an evening of autumn, the other two Acts on the following day.

It is the time of the harvest, the half pagan festival of Lughnasa, a time for fairs and celebrations and, particularly, a lucky time for weddings when anything might happen and the bride wears golden yellow.

There will be an interval between Acts II and III.

PRODUCTION

Director ................................................................. PAT GOWMAN
Designer ................................................................. TESSA CURTIS
Dialect ................................................................. KEVIN BOLAND
Dresser ................................................................. JENNY RICHARDSON
Prompt ................................................................. GORDON MILLER

CREW

Stage Management ......................................................... THE MANAGEMENT
D.S.M. ................................................................. ROZ PALMER
Lights Design ............................................................. MARTIN SAPSED
Lights Operators ......................................................... HENRY BROOM, JOHN PHILPOT
Sound Design ............................................................... ROBIN THOMPSON
Sound Operator ........................................................... MELANIE NUNN
Wardrobe ................................................................. LORAINA CARPENTER
Assistant ................................................................. KIM LANCASTER
Props ................................................................. CLARE WARREN
Make-up ................................................................. SARAH FRY
ASM's ................................................................. NIGEL WORSLEY, ELIZABETH NEVILLE, DAVE CHAPMAN
Construction ................................................................. AMRIPAL MAHAL,
PATRICIO CORTI, JIM CAITHNESS, KEITH ELDER,
PETER COLLINS

Set Painters ................................................................. CLAIRE GOTT, GEOFF MOORE

With thanks to Bob Hoskins, Robert Cooper, Jim Craddock, John Moore,
Rob Hughes, Odette Lawley, Geoff Moore, Diana Nesbitt

THE PLAYHOUSE IS EQUIPPED WITH AN INFRA-RED SOUND TRANSMISSION SYSTEM FOR USE BY PEOPLE WITH HEARING DIFFICULTIES. To obtain a headset please contact the duty house manager.
The Playhouse is equipped with a lift for the benefit of those with mobility problems. The Questors acknowledges the generosity of the ADAPT fund in making this possible.

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
19 - 26 June 1993

ETCHINGS AND DRAWINGS BY CATHERINE GRUBB

Catherine Grubb was born in Bellshill, Lanarkshire in 1945, of Scottish and Lithuanian
parentage. She was brought up and educated in London, returning to Scotland in 1963 to
study at Edinburgh University and Edinburgh College of Art, graduating with an Honours
Degree in Fine Art in 1968. She continued at the University as a post graduate student in the
History of Art department researching medieval artists’ sketchbooks. It was during this
time that she also began to study etching seriously, and this became her chief artistic interest.

Since leaving University in 1971, she has divided her time between working as a
freelance artist and part-time teaching, including 17 years at Harrow School of Art. At
present she is lecturing in History of Art at a West London Girls School.

Catherine joined The Questors in 1976 as a member of the Student acting group,
although most of her subsequent activities have been in the field of costume design — most
recently for Too Clever By Half last October.

This is Catherine’s 7th exhibition at The Questors, and most of the work on show is
landscape based. Some images are of specific places, others evoke memories of holidays
in Italy, Sussex, Cornwall, and — most recently — two voyages in the Outer Hebrides,
including the remote island of St. Kilda.

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the self-employed. |

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: David Emmet
Studio Director: Simon Thomas
Director of Studies: David Emmet
Chair: John Davey
Vice-Chairman: Doug King
Company Secretary: Sue Blake
Club Secretary: Christine Garland
Finance Director: Ken Kettle
Stage Director: Kris Collier
Theatre Manager: Elaine Orchard
Productions Administrator: Jeff Gee
Membership Secretary: Allic Pennicott
Programme Editor: Vincent McQueen
Questopics Editor: Barbara Neville
Marketing Manager: Sam Jennings
Sponsorship: Geoffroy Sellman
Box Office Manager: Ken Parker
Programme Sales Organiser: Val Blaxland
Front of House Manager: Eric Lister
Press Officer: Sarah Wood
Floral displays: Barraletts of Ealing
Haberdashery: Total Craft
Wardrobe Equip.: Wilkinson Sword Scissors... Fiskars Ltd
Wardrobe Care: Perali, Comfort and Stergene
courtesy of Lever Bros.
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 8756.

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.

Members of The Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain and The International Amateur Theatre Association