

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### *In the Studio*

#### **Sketches in the Dark**

*by Scott Perry*

Winner of last year's Student Playwriting Award sponsored by DHL, Scott Perry provides us with a fast-moving black comedy in which one passionate and frustrated man attempts to fulfil his creative potential as an artist. His wife has other ideas, but the 'proper' job hardly turns out as expected.

13 - 20 May at 7.45pm

### *In the Playhouse*

*The English Première of*

#### **Biography**

*by Max Frisch*

*translated by Michael Bullock*

What would you do if you had a chance to replay your life over again? This is the prospect opened up by the protagonist of Frisch's play. This two act play is a real piece of 'theatre' in its truest and purest form.

20, 23 - 28 May at 7.45pm

21 May at 2.30pm

### *In the Studio*

#### **Rhythm of the Road**

*by Jim O'Connor & Tony Chapman*

There have been laundry women, film studios and schools — and now the fourth reminiscence project rides into the Studio on its own two wheels to tell the story of cycling in Ealing from the 1930s to the present day by uniting the stories of seven men and three women.

17 - 24 June at 7.45pm

### *In the Playhouse*

#### **Dancing at Lughnasa**

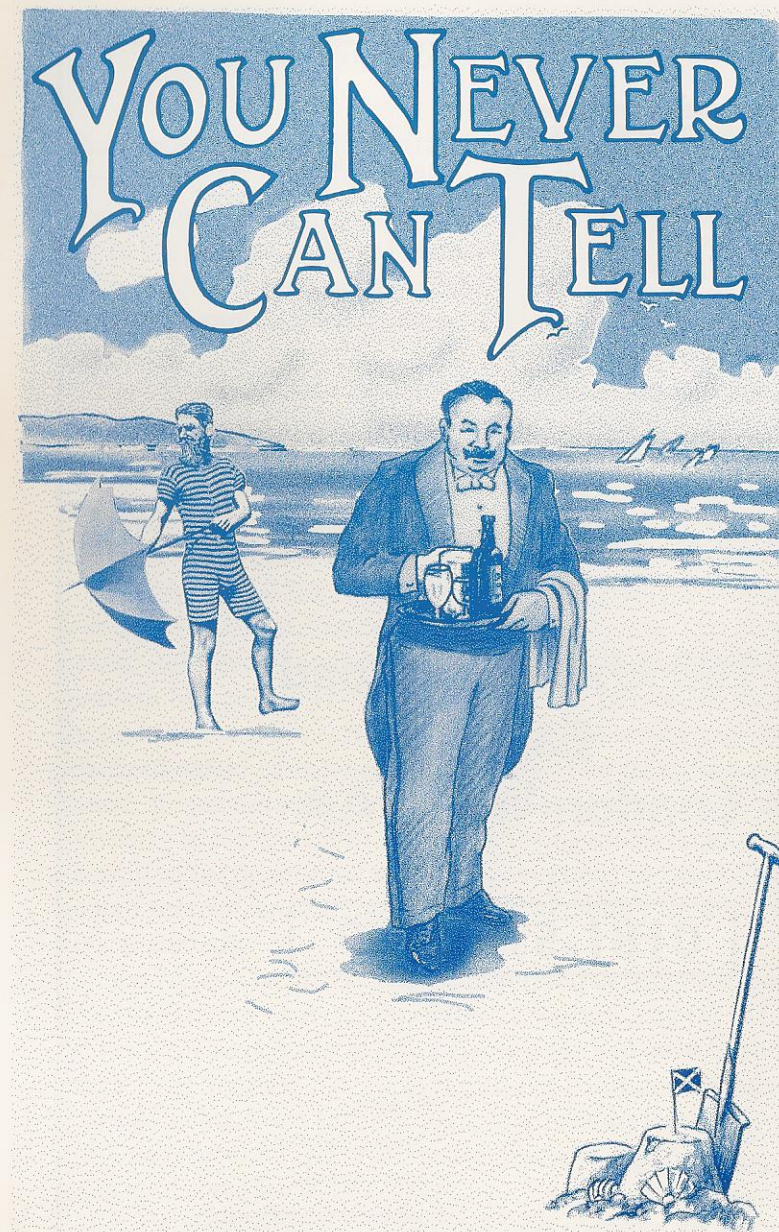
*by Brian Friel*

A major success in the 1980s for the National Theatre and one of the most talked about plays of that decade, this work tells the story of five sisters and their brother, setting the play in Donegal at the time of the pagan festival of Lughnasa in the Summer of 1936. Moving and amusing but above all else enriched by a beautifully rich and poetic use of language.

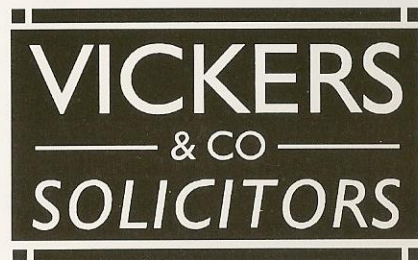
24, 27 June - 1 July at 7.45pm

25 June at 2.30pm

Sponsored by Grant Thornton



By **BERNARD SHAW**



Partners:

Alec Atchison  
Stephen Ingall  
Clive Asher  
Maurice Guyer

Consultant:

Lesley Vickers

*Sponsoring  
for the Third Year Running*

**183 Uxbridge Road  
Ealing  
London W13 9AA**

**0181-579 2559**

IF YOU ARE:

- moving home
- buying or selling a business
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- making a will
- winding up a relative's estate
- involved in divorce proceedings

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- local solicitors
- keen to help
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- supporters of The Questors

*'Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow'*

**You Never Can Tell** was written specifically for the West End stage and as a reaction to Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. It is the sunniest of the *Plays Pleasant* and is his brilliant attempt to humanise comedy.

In his Preface to *Plays Pleasant* Shaw described *You Never Can Tell* as an attempt to answer the many requests of managers in search of fashionable comedies for West End theatres. 'I had no difficulty in complying', he explained,

'as I have always cast my plays in the ordinary practical comedy form in use at all the theatres, and far from taking an unsympathetic view of the popular preference for fun, fashionable dresses, a little music, and even an exhibition of eating and drinking by people with an expensive air, attended by an if-possible-comic waiter, I was more than willing to shew that the drama can humanize these things as easily as they, in the wrong hands, can dehumanize the drama'.

*You Never Can Tell* has all the extravagant materials of those farces Shaw was growing so familiar with as a dramatic critic: lost parents, antiphonal twins, outrageous coincidences, transparent disguises and the crowning emblem of a comic waiter. But despite this parade, he objected to the play being billed as a farce, fearing that this label would pack it off to the dehumanized world of mechanical comedy. 'The thing is a poem and a document', he protested to Archer, 'a sermon and a festival, all in one'. Using dentistry as his metaphor, Shaw was trying under laughing gas (specifically identified in the original manuscript version) to 'pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow', and, at the same time, to modify the stock materials of theatrical comedy.

*You Never Can Tell*, which he described as 'the *East Lynne* of my plays', was his attempt to write for, without succumbing to, the theatre of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. He had written about Wilde's comedy for the *Saturday Review* at the end of February 1895 and begun his first attempt at *You Never Can Tell* some four months later. Part of *The Importance of Being Earnest* he had criticized as being 'almost inhuman enough' to have been conceived by W. S. Gilbert.

'I cannot say that I greatly cared for *The Importance of Being Earnest*. It amused me, of course; but unless comedy touches me as well as amuses me, it leaves me with a sense of having wasted my evening.'

Extract from Michael Holroyd's biography of Shaw:  
Volume I *The Search for Love*.

1. The taking of food and drink into the auditorium is NOT permitted.
2. The use of cameras, video-cameras or tape equipment during the performance is also prohibited.
3. 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.

## ART EXHIBITION IN THE UPPER FOYER

1- 31 May 1995

### THE MONDAY CLUB

The six members of the *Monday Club*, Manouk Baghjian, Georgia Clayton, Daphne Gaffen, Jane Harding, Joan Stokes, and Richard Wodynski are all members of Ealing Art Group and have exhibited together locally. Between them they represent the diversification of talent, media and technique that can be found in Ealing's very own art group.

For details of Ealing Art Group, Secretary - Mrs Gould 998 5662.

## ART EXHIBITION IN THE GRAPEVINE GALLERY

8 April - 31 May 1995

### SUSAN HIBBERD BA(HONS)

Theatre Design (1986); Graduate Diploma in Professional Art Studies - Photography (1987)

To me it is magic how a photograph can catch hold of the visual moment and evoke such powerful memories or imaginings, or, as is most usual, a combination of the two. My work most commonly reveals my desire to catch a watchful sense of the moment within the passing of time.

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Harley White Group, Sinclair House, The Avenue, Ealing W13 8NT

**0181-998 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 thi 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 Steering Committee Chair  
Studio Director  
Director of Studies  
Chair  
Vice-Chairman  
Company Secretary  
Club Secretary  
Finance Director  
Stage Director  
Marketing Director  
Theatre Manager  
Productions Secretary  
Membership Secretary  
Marketing Officer  
Programme Editor  
Questopics Editor  
Sponsorship  
Box Office Management  
Programme Sales Organiser  
Front of House Manager  
Press Relations  
Haberdashery  
Wardrobe Equipment  
Wardrobe Care

Alan Chambers  
Simon Thomas  
David Emmet  
John Davey  
Steve Hames  
Sue Blake  
Christine Garland  
Ken Kettle  
Kris Collier  
Simon Green  
Elaine Orchard  
Christine Greening  
Alice Pennicott  
Fleur Lloyd  
Vincent McQueen  
Nigel Lawrence  
Geoffrey Sellman  
Ken Parker  
Val Blaxland  
Eric Lister  
Trish Fox  
Tootal Craft

Wilkinson Sword Scissors..Fiskars Ltd  
Persil, 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 0181-567 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. 0181-567 8736.

### Box Office

For personal callers the box office is open every Wednesday evening 6.45pm to 8.30pm; Monday to Friday 11.00am to 12 noon; during productions 6.45pm to 8.30pm; Sunday matinées 2.00pm to 2.30pm; Studio productions 6.45pm to 8.00pm.