

Coming productions

In the Studio

Retreat by James Saunders

A middle-aged man and a 19-year-old girl together in a room late at night take each other on a journey of exploration into the realms of grief and guilt. As layer after layer is stripped away we see how they can find comfort and healing from each other. This is one of those plays that grips you so totally and affects you so beautifully that you feel you want to spend the whole night in the company of these two wounded but fascinating human beings.

21, 25 - 28 June, 2 - 5 July at 7.45pm; 22, 29 June at 2.30pm

In the Playhouse

Hard Times by Charles Dickens, adapted for the stage by Stephen Jeffreys

The wide expanse of Dickens's novel, with its attack upon the stunting rigour of an industrial revolution which tended to convert workers into machines of hard labour, is triumphantly brought to life in this skilful adaptation for the stage.

11, 15 - 19 July at 7.45pm; 13 July at 2.30pm

1997/98 SEASON

Listed below are some of the 23 productions planned for next season, many of which are **FREE** to members

LITTLE WOMEN by Louisa M Alcott, adapted by Peter Clapham

A DOLL'S HOUSE by Henrik Ibsen

SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER by Oliver Goldsmith

LETTICE AND LOVAGE by Peter Shaffer

HEARTBREAK HOUSE by George Bernard Shaw

THE ROSE TATTOO by Tennessee Williams

THE CHALK GARDEN by Enid Bagnold

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST by Dario Fo

THE TEMPEST by William Shakespeare

THE DREAMS OF ANNE FRANK by Bernard Kops

FIREMAN SAM by Alison Boyle

THE DRESSER by Ronald Harwood

QUARTERMAINE'S TERMS by Simon Gray

JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK by Sean O'Casey

COME BACK TO THE FIVE AND DIME JIMMY DEAN, JIMMY DEAN

by Ed Graczyk

The Christmas Show will be **GRIMM TALES** adapted by Carol Ann Duffy

and directed by Tim Supple, based on the famous fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm



GODSPELL

Conceived and Originally Directed by
JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK

Music and New Lyrics by
STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Originally Produced on the New York Stage by
EDGAR LANSBURY / STUART DUNCAN / JOSEPH BERUH

Director's note

Godspell as conceived by John-Michael Tebelak is a jubilant celebration of the Gospel as told by St. Matthew. It was the belief of John-Michael and his generation that the passion of Jesus Christ was to teach love and joy in the hearts of people rather than hate and sadness.

In staging these well-known sayings and stories of the Bible, John-Michael called on many theatrical devices – pantomime, children's games, charades, puppetry, vaudeville antics, minstrel shows, tap and soft shoe dancing and songs and music of many colors – folk, ballad, pop, rock, light musical comedy and dramatic.

The actors are cast primarily as clowns, in improvised costumes, to enact the simple stories, sayings and parables of the Gospel.

Lawrence Carra
Professor of Play Directing
Carnegie-Mellon University, USA

The first performance of *Godspell* was "off" Broadway on 17th May 1971 at the Cherry Lane Theatre, New York. Stephen Nothian played Jesus and David Haskell played Judas for 2,124 performances. It later moved to the Broadhurst Theatre on Broadway for another 527 performances.

A film was made in 1973 starring Victor Garber, David Haskell, Jerry Sroka, Lynne Thigpen and Robin Lamont. "Hippies in the streets of New York! Somewhere between Sesame Street and the gospel according to Laugh-In" – Bruce Williamson.

The first London run was at Wyndham's Theatre with Julie Covington, David Essex, Marti Webb and Jeremy Irons. It ran for three years.

On the Internet today there are many *Godspell* websites.

Cast comments

Kate "This has been a great experience: meeting lots of great people and having a laugh. But we always do what Mike tells us to do."

Kim "I've had a great time rehearsing *Godspell* with loads of new people. I'm tired but will carry on with the cast till the end. Hope you enjoy it. Thanks to everyone, especially Mike."

Chris "The stewards will have to stop the audience from getting up and dancing in the aisle."

Regine "O' I thank thee, O God that I am not like other men, greedy, dishonest, adulterous or for that matter like that tax gatherer. I pray twice a week, get that, twice a week and I pay my taxes on all that I get. Hope you enjoy it."

Zoya "It's a groovy, funky kind of thing! So be a happening chick and join in with the singing."

Rosie "I am just soooooo tired, but I know it will be worth it in the end. It's a great show and I am having a lot of fun. I've been given a great opportunity and it's just great!!!"

Nick "We see a side of Judas that demonstrates that he's not such a bad guy: he can sing, dance and betray the Son of God!"

Felicia "Who said, 'Never work with children or animals?' Well, I don't know about the animals, but the kids in this show have been great (and the adults haven't been bad either!). I've had so much fun."

Roisin "Sonia is my character in this play / she doesn't have that much to say. / But she makes an impression none the less, / in a high-brow fashion – and a low-cut dress!"

Alan "Yes, it was fun. Honest. No, I'm not lying, I did enjoy it. I never lie – AAAGGGHHH! Run! Save yourselves! *Godspell*'s coming. Be afraid – be very afraid."

GODSPELL

Conceived and Originally Directed by JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK Music and New Lyrics by STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

First performance, Saturday 14th June 1997

Cast

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Gilmer | REGINE KASOGO |
| Robin | ROSIE ALLEN |
| Joanne | SARAH-KATE McINTYRE |
| Peggy | FELICIA MASSIAH |
| Sonia | ROISIN RAE |
| Lamarr | ALAN MEHDIZADEH |
| Herb | KIMBERLEY BANTLEMAN |
| David (<i>Judas</i>) | NICK MINARDI |
| Jeffrey | CHRIS WAPLINGTON |
| Stephen (<i>Jesus</i>). | STEPHEN THOMPSON |

Chorus – HANNAH ENCKE, LUCY BOYLE, ELOISE BAND, LISA CRAIK,
LAURA MARKER, KATY PILMER, TIA LEWIS, JOANNA SEAGAR,
ROANN McCHISKY, DANIELLE WALLIER, EMILY MATHISON,
ANNIE COTTON, ANGELA SCHLEGEL, KARIS RAEBURN,
NADINE COOPER, LYDIA LOUDON, CLARE BOWLAND, TINA AHIR,
NIEMA COLE, JESSICA COBHAM-DINEEN, JESSICA FREELS,
ANDREW LUMMIS, RENATA NASH

There will be an interval of 15 minutes.



THE PLAYHOUSE IS EQUIPPED WITH AN INFRA-RED SOUND TRANSMISSION SYSTEM FOR USE BY PEOPLE WITH HEARING DIFFICULTIES. IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO USE THIS SYSTEM WITH PERSONAL HEARING AIDS SWITCHED TO THE **M** POSITION. To obtain the appropriate receiver please contact the Duty House Manager.
THE PLAYHOUSE IS EQUIPPED WITH A LIFT WITH ACCESS TO THE BAR AND UPPER FOYER LEVELS FOR THOSE WITH MOBILITY PROBLEMS.

Production

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Director | MICHAEL DINEEN |
| Assistant Director | LINDA SHANNON |
| Musical Director | PAUL CLARK |
| Choreography | RENATA NASH |
| Drums | PETER KENNEDY |
| | ALEX MARKER |
| Guitar | MICHAEL DUVOISIN |
| Set Concept | PAUL CLARK |
| | MICHAEL DINEEN |
| Set Designer | ALEX MARKER |
| Set Construction | JIM CRADDOCK |
| | NICK HAWKER |
| Stage Management Team. | ALISON MEIK |
| | JACKIE TOWNSEND |
| | CHRIS BENNETT |
| | EDDIE TOLLAND |
| Prompt | HELEN BENNETT |
| Lighting Designer | ANDREW DIXON |
| Lighting Team | ZOYA MATHISON |
| | HENRY BROOM |
| | TYRONE RODRIGUEZ |
| | JOE WIATE |
| | PAUL SABBAGH |
| | IAN HOWLETT |
| | JULIE CRUTTENDEN |
| | GREASEPAINT |
| Special Magic Effects | ELKIE McAULEY HOLLAND |
| Vocal Coaches | JESSICA FREELS |
| | RAJ AHIR |
| | ANDREW LUMMIS |

Special thanks to: JIM CRADDOCK, PAUL BEER, ANN HOWLETT, RUTH MALCOLM, RON MEIK, VICKY BUTLER, THOMAS HILL and all "GET-IN" HELPERS, JACKIE PILMER, KEVIN WEST, AINE McGREEVY

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.

Musical numbers

In order of performance

Prepare Ye

Save The People

Day By Day

Learn Your Lessons Well

Bless The Lord

All For The Best

All Good Gifts

Light Of The World

Turn Back, O Man

Alas For You

**By My Side*

We Beseech Thee

On The Willows

Company

Stephen

Robin

Peggy

Joanne

David

Lamarr

Company

Sonia

Stephen

Peggy and Gilmer

Jeffrey

Company

**By My Side*, lyrics by Jay Hamburger, music by Peggy Gordon

Calling all Kids and Parents - DID YOU KNOW

The Questors runs weekly drama workshops for young people (5-17) during term-time. If you have enjoyed *Godspell* and would like to get more involved - in any way - contact Alice Pennicott in the Questors office on 0181 567 0011, between 9.00am and 5.00pm.

Future Youth Productions will be *The Dreams of Anne Frank* and *Fireman Sam*. For these we'll need actors, singers, dancers and musicians. We'll also need backstage technicians, but would prefer you to be over 16.

We look forward to seeing you!

Questors 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 matinees.

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 it 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.

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Art exhibitions

Upper Foyer Gallery

2 June - 28 June

BASIL WYNBERGEN

I left Brussels in 1948 returning to the UK for good and although I worked outside painting through until 1994, I have always continued to draw and to paint, in both oils and gouache at every opportunity. My work is figurative and now being retired, I am painting professionally both land- and seascapes full time, frequently using Ealing motifs as landscape subjects.

In the Grapevine Gallery

31 May - 28 June

TOM PEARCE

Tom Pearce is an addict, a drawing addict. Whereas some people cannot give up smoking or drinking Tom Pearce cannot give up drawing. Having taught drawing from the model for a number of years as a lecturer in further and higher education his prime subjects are people. The caricatures that Tom Pearce has produced for this exhibition show his obvious love of the theatre and those that entertain and delight on the stage.