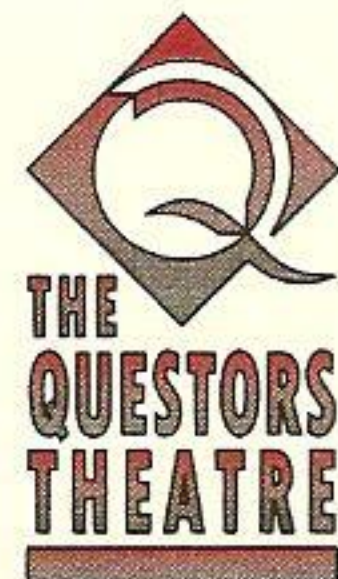




K I N G I L L E A R



PROGRAMME NOTES

English Literature through school, sixth form, university, and back to teaching it - you really get to know and love *King Lear* pretty well.

Then you get a part in it.

And it is astonishing. Suddenly, really, personally, you discover what a wonderful writer of plays this man was. He didn't do EngLit., he wrote plays. To speak his words, you have to work like a detective on the emotional shape of your character's life in the gaps between the speeches and the scenes. As you do that, you find moments in your feelings when you are given *exactly the right words to say* - and you realise that Shakespeare has been there ahead of you. Shivers down the spine. Four hundred years - it's nothing. It doesn't matter how many productions, how many actors there have been before. He wrote the words and I'm saying them. That is **exciting**.

Production

Director	Peter Field
Assistant Director	Duncan Aldridge
Set designed by	Spencer Butler
Assisted by	Duncan Barton
Costumes designed by	Spencer Butler
Assisted by	Sarah Galton
Lighting Designer	Richard Meade
Sound Designer	Colin Horne
Stage Manager	Sylvia Wall
Fight Coach	Peter Kennedy
Prompts	Bridgett Strevens and Susan Oliver
Properties	Jenny Richardson
Construction & Flying	Duncan Barton, Anthony Bridges, Peter Collins,
Lighting Operator	Sally Milton
Production Electrics	Christopher Tomlins
Steelwork	Francis Stevenson
Wardrobe	Elizabeth Bisinotto, Anne Gilmour, Julie Nash, Alex Pycz
ASMs	Debbie Arnsby, Tom Butler, Victoria Miles, Ruth Simpson, Karen Sloan, Elaine Wein,
Hair and Make-up	Alison Denman, Lynn Jackson
Additional Music	Duncan Aldridge

KING LEAR

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

First performance of this production 27th May 2000

Running time-Approximately 3 hours including the interval

Cast

King Lear	Keith Parry
Gonerill-his eldest daughter	Alison Pollard
Regan-his second daughter	Charmian Norman-Taylor
Cordelia-his youngest daughter	Claire Garrigan
Earl of Gloucester	Norman Wilkinson
Earl of Kent	Paul Francis
Duke of Cornwall-husband of Regan	Steve Fitzpatrick
Duke of Albany-husband of Gonerill	Michael Hislop
King of France-suitor of Cordelia	Emanuel Vlahakis
Duke of Burgundy-suitor of Cordelia	Jeremy Booth
Edgar-son of Gloucester	Christopher Cullen
Edmund-bastard son of Gloucester	Peter Kennedy
Fool	Cameron Smillie
Oswald-Gonerill's steward	Jonathan Rose
Doctor	Jeremy Booth
Curran-Gloucester's steward	James Hall
Knights/servants/messengers	Jason Etherington, James Hall, Tony Marshall, Hugh Macgregor, Laurence Taylor, Alex Young
Regan's children	Annalie Ranger, Jennifer Ranger

Many thanks to

Roger Brace, Richard Bridgen, Jim Craddock, Bernice Davis, Tina Harris,
Gordon Miller, Phil Pinkham, Christine Sydenham, John Turner,
Jon Webster and Questors' House Services Team for all their help.
The British Red Cross for the loan of wheelchair and High End Systems and
Flying Pig Systems for the loan of lighting equipment.

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FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

17th June - 1st July

LADY BETTY *by Declan Donnellan*

IN THE STUDIO

This exciting and startling play, set in Roscommon in the West of Ireland in the late 1700's, is the true and tragic story of a servant girl, Betty, who, made pregnant by her master, is cast out of her community to a life of poverty and isolation. An ironic twist of fate, many years later, forces her to confront her tragedy once more and her life is turned upside down. Lady Betty was first performed in 1989, to great critical acclaim, by the "Cheek By Jowl" Company and we are grateful to Declan Donnellan for giving us the rights to perform this stunning piece at The Questors.

1st July - 8th July

THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE *by John Dighton*

IN THE PLAYHOUSE - The 53rd Student Group's Graduation Production

There's a certain type of farce that is so quintessentially English that only the English can do it - and this is it! One of the best examples of its kind, this classic farce from 1948 imagines the mayhem that results when a girls' school is billeted on a boys' school just after the war.

2000/2001 SEASON

Next season's line up will include **THE HERBAL BED** by Peter Whelan, **MY NIGHT WITH REG** by Kevin Elyot, **TRAINSPOTTING** by Irvine Welsh, **TONGUES OF FIRE** by David Fletcher, **A LITTLE HOTEL ON THE SIDE** by Feydeau and adapted by John Mortimer, an as yet untitled new play by our very own Tony Rushforth and of course our special Christmas show **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** for which we are already taking bookings.

9th December 2000 - 6th January 2001

Kenneth Grahame's **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**

Adapted for the stage by Alan Bennett with additional lyrics & music by Jeremy Sams

IN THE PLAYHOUSE

Hang spring cleaning! Go boating with Mole and Ratty. Thrill to Toad's passion for fast travel. Follow Mr Badger down secret passages. Join the River Bankers in beating the living daylights out of the Wild Wooders in the battle for Toad Hall! Book early for the best seats in town this Christmas as the Questors is magically transformed into the setting for Alan Bennett's sparkling adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's enduring classic.

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