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Welcome to The Questors Theatre, one of London's best kept secrets - except to its 3,000 members. How do I know about the Questors? I am proud to have been there for over 17 years. Founded in 1929, it has since grown into the largest community theatre in Europe with a reputation for the highest standards, not only in acting but in production and design as well. Luckily, with so many members, we have a wealth of talent to call on for all aspects of production and members are encouraged to be as actively involved as they would like. Afterwards, they enjoy being the social side of the club, including the friendly Grapevine (one of the many perks of membership) and the many and varied shows in our newly refurbished 160-seat Playhouse Theatre and more intimate Studio Theatre.

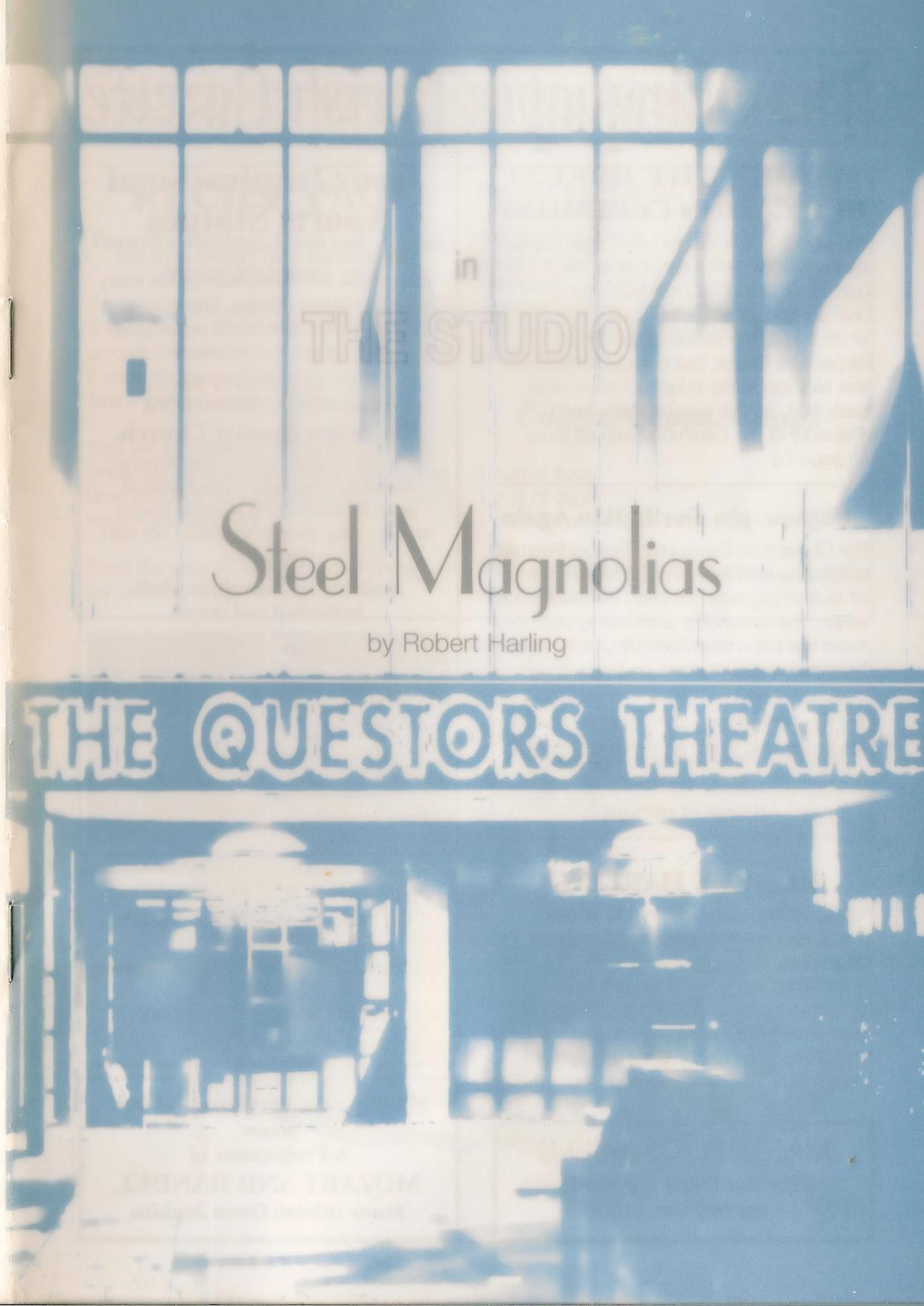
The Questors have a professionally recognised two-year acting course in conjunction with Regent's College. There are also acting courses for beginners, free backstage visiting courses, visiting companies from home and abroad, regular art exhibitions, and workshops and clubs for young people. In short, there is something for everyone and with annual membership costing as little as £23.50 (including up to 8 free shows) it's great value for money as well.

But don't just take my word for it, the next time you're in West London call into The Grapevine Bar on any Wednesday evening at 8pm for a free tour of the theatre and a drink on us!

Worth looking into? Definitely!

Judi Dench

Dame Judi Dench
President of The Questors Theatre



Steel Magnolias

by Robert Harling

THE QUESTORS THEATRE

The Chinquapin Parish Gazette

MAYOR'S WIFE HURT AT DEDICATION CEREMONY

The Mayor of Chinquapin's wife, Janice Van Meter, was hit with a baseball at the dedication of the new children's park. She did not appear to be badly injured, and when asked, the widow of the former mayor, Mrs Clairee Belcher, reassured us that Mrs Van Meter could not have been badly hurt, as she was hit in the head. (Full story of the Ceremony with pictures on page 7.)

Chinquapin Devils Win Again

The Chinquapin Devils High School Football team continued their winning streak with a 27 to 6 victory over old rivals Alexandria this week. The continuing controversy over their name has been dismissed by coach, Waddy Thibodeaux as just (cont. on page 3)

TRUVY'S BEAUTY SALON

*Help wanted
Apply in person*

ROBERT HARLING

Robert Harling was born in a town like Chinquapin in 1951. His play, **Steel Magnolias**, first performed in 1987, and made into a film in 1989, is partly based on his memories of his mother and sister. His other work includes screenplays for the films **Soapdish** (1991), **The First Wives Club** (1996), and **The Evening Star** (1996).

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Handpainted resin statues on a real wood base are the perfect gift for every young Christian athlete. These statues present Jesus as a friend in every day sporting activities.

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Reverend Q.T. Bennett of the
Riverview Baptist Church.

Join his protest against the demonic mascot of our high school football team by purchasing a Jesus Sports statue - play sport with Jesus, not with the Devils!

**Available for football, baseball,
basketball and soccer.**



KPPD

The station of choice in Chinquapin Parish
in association with **Rick's Track Lighting**
presents
SINGLE BULLET THEORY
Live in Concert

Monroe First Presbyterian Choir
present

**A Programme of
MOZART AND HANDEL**
Tenor soloist: Owen Jenkins

ROBELINE'S BOARDING HOUSE ROOMS TO LET

RECIPE PAGE

Favorite Recipes from our readers

STRAWBERRY PIE

1 Pint fresh strawberries, hulled and sliced
3/4 cup sugar mixed with 1 teaspoon
ground cinnamon
2 cups chopped walnuts
Two 9 inch unbaked pie shells

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Divide the strawberries between the pie shells and sprinkle the walnuts over the top of each. Place the pies in the oven for 5 minutes, then lower the oven temperature to 325 degrees and bake for 30 minutes. Let cool, then place in the refrigerator overnight before serving.

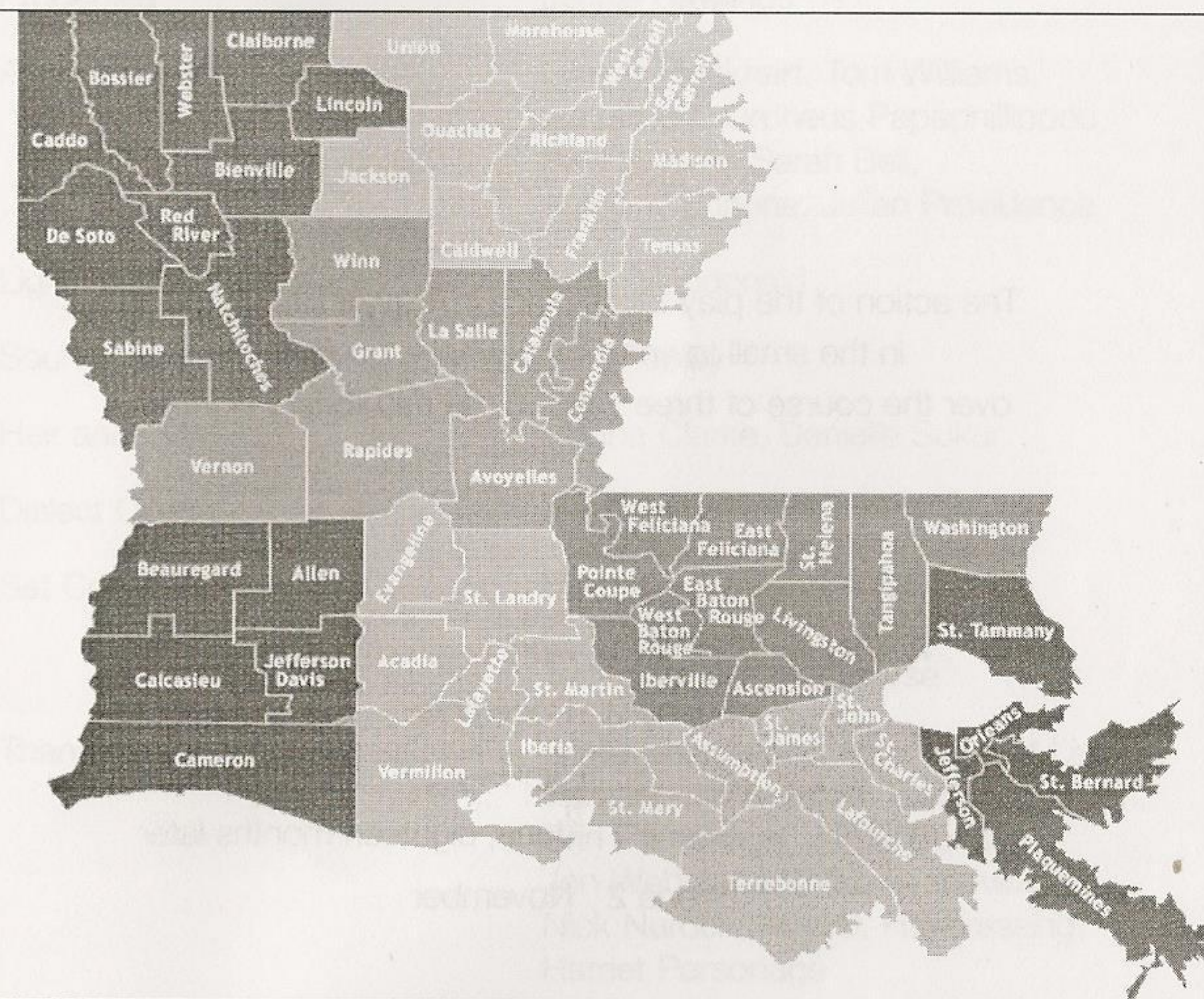
Cuppa, Cuppa, Cuppa

Toss the strawberries with the sugar and cinnamon mixture in a medium-size mixing bowl and let it sit, covered, in the refrigerator overnight.

1 cup of flour
1 cup of sugar
1 cup of fruit cocktail (with juice)

Toast the walnuts in a skillet over a medium fire until they begin to brown.

Mix it up and bake at 350 degrees until gold and bubbly.



Steel Magnolias

by Robert Harling

First performance of this production 18th January 2003

CAST

Truvy Jones	Sarah Morrison
Annelle Dupuy-Desoto	Sophie Dobson
Clairee Belcher	Vivien Kerr
Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie	Eldi Dundee
M'Lynn Eatenton	Hilary Shearing
Ouiser Boudreaux	Suzanne Gregerson

The action of the play takes place in Truvy's Beauty Salon
in the small town of Chinquapin, Louisiana,
over the course of three years in the mid to late eighties.

ACT I	Scene 1	April
	Scene 2	December
ACT II	Scene 1	June, eighteen months later
	Scene 2	November

PRODUCTION CREW

Directed by	Steve Fitzpatrick
Designed by	Mike and Elaine Hagan
Lighting Designer	Richard Bunn
Sound Designer	Paul Wilson
Costume Design and Wardrobe	Kirsty Packham
Stage Manager	Katy Gallantry
Deputy Stage Manager	Miles Davis
Properties	Jennie Rawlings
Assistant Stage Managers	Lynsey Flockhart, Tom Williams, Ian Gilbert, Orpheus Papaphillippou, Paul Wesoly, Sarah Bell, Anthony Enrione, Julian Providence
Lighting Operator	Andy Macdonald
Sound Operator	Gary Tapley
Hair and Make Up	Marina Clarke, Danielle Sukur
Dialect Coach	Eldi Dundee
Set Construction	Mike Hagan, Karen Tollady, Students from Kingston College Technical Theatre Course
Thanks to:	David Sharpe and Agfa Gavaert Limited, Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Ealing Common, Brin Parsonage, Jenny Bunn, Jon Webster and the Grapevine, Nick Nurock, Alan D. Hairdressing, Harriet Parsonage

COMING SOON

Design for Living by Noel Coward
in **The Playhouse**, 8 - 15 February

This is the closest that Coward came to writing a black comedy. It has all the brittle, sparkling wit that one would expect, but with a modern, sexy twist. A menage a trois of decadent artists in a flat in Paris - a design for living, or a recipe for hilarious disaster? Coward's play has much to tell us about sexual mores, the nature of fidelity and the difficulty of trying to live an alternative lifestyle.

The Questors Youth Theatre presents

Ernie's Incredible Illucinations by Alan Ayckbourn

In **The Studio**, 19 - 28 February

Ernie is a girl with an incredible imagination - everything she imagines becomes real, much to the consternation of her parents. They take Ernie to the doctor's in search of a cure but things don't go exactly as planned. Secret agents, a boxing granny and mountaineering in the local library make this a hilarious story and fun for all ages.

and

The Chrysalids by David Harrower from the novel by John Wyndham

In **The Studio**, 19 - 28 February

Set in a post apocalyptic future, The Chrysalids deals with issues of prejudice and narrow-mindedness. It tells the story of David, who lives in a world where those who consider themselves normal, the 'Norms' rule, and try to destroy anyone they see as different, the 'Mutants'. David is different, he is telepathic, but how can he hide this difference and avoid a terrible fate?

A View From The Bridge by Arthur Miller

in **The Playhouse**, 15 - 22 March

This is a powerful drama about incestuous love, jealousy and betrayal from one of the twentieth century's most celebrated playwrights. It tells the story of Eddie, a longshoreman in 1950's New York, a decent, often loveable man, doomed to destroy himself because of a fatal flaw in his character - the nature of his love for his niece, Catherine.

Run for Your Wife by Ray Cooney

in **The Playhouse**, 5 - 12 April

This is a much acclaimed farce from the master of farces. John Smith is a London cabby with his own taxi, a wife in Streatham, a wife in Wimbledon, and a knife-edge schedule. By strict adherence to this schedule, he has been a successful, if tired bigamist, for three years. But one day, after gallantly intervening in a mugging, he is taken to hospital and in the ensuing complications John tries bravely to cope with a succession of prying policemen, the press and two increasingly irate wives until he manfully confesses the truth - but no-one believes him!

ART EXHIBITIONS

We have a whole series of exciting exhibitions
planned for this season,
both in the Upper Foyer and in the Grapevine Bar.

Currently in the Upper Foyer you can see photographs
of the forthcoming production of Sweeney Todd,
by Questors photographer Kathy Kelleher.

If you are interested in exhibiting your own work,
please contact Jane Mason in the Questors Office on
Tuesdays or Thursdays on 020 8567 0011

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