

## THE QUESTORS THEATRE

### Its easy to join...

- Come to the main office during office hours.
- Join us in the Grapevine Bar at The Questors Theatre on a Wednesday at 8pm for a free guided tour and a drink on us.
- Pick up a membership form from the foyer
- Call **020 8567 0011** during office hours
- Find out more at [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

### Questors membership (there are 3 categories) gives you...

#### Company member:

- 50% discount on your ticket (excluding Christmas Shows)
- Ticket reservation facility (conditions apply)
- Special offers & invitations
- Club Magazine and monthly mailing
- The chance to act, direct and get involved backstage or with front of house
- Membership of The Grapevine Club

#### Playgoer Member:

- 20% discount on your ticket (excluding Christmas Shows)
- Regular monthly mailing
- Membership of The Grapevine Club

#### Friend:

- Regular monthly mailing
- Membership of The Grapevine Club

#### Discounts at:

Holmes Place, Butlers restaurant, Ealing Dance Centre, Monty's Tandoori

#### Three ways to book tickets:

- Ring our Box Office on 020 8567 5184 or call in and collect tickets  
Open Mon – Fri 11.00am to 1.00pm; Show Nights & Wednesdays  
6.45pm to 8.30pm, Sunday Matinees 2.00pm - 2.30pm
- Fill in a booking form (included with diary notes) and return to Box Office
- Book online at [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

Box Office: 020 8567 5184  
Admin: 020 8567 0011  
Fax: 020 8567 8736  
Email: [enquiries@questors.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@questors.org.uk)  
Website: [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

The Questors Theatre  
Mattock Lane  
Ealing  
W5 5BQ

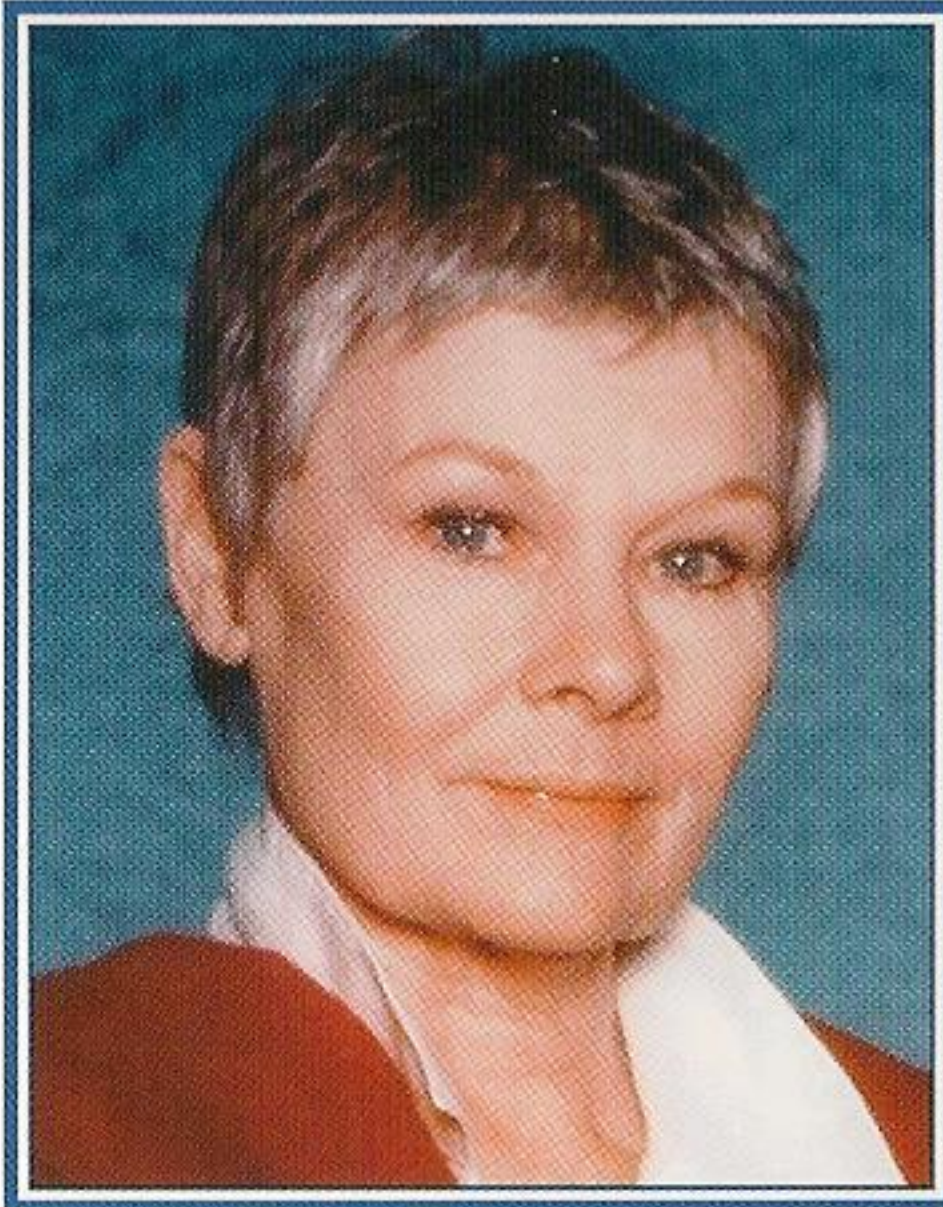


# After The Dance

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**Welcome** to The Questors Theatre, one of London's best kept secrets - except to its 2,500 members. How do I know about the Questors? I am proud to have been their President for over 20 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 direction 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. Alternatively, they simply enjoy the social side of the club, including the friendly Grapevine Bar (one of the many perks of



membership) and the many and varied shows in our 350 seater Playhouse Theatre and our more intimate Studio Theatre.

The Questors runs a professionally recognised two-year acting course in conjunction with Kingston College. There are also acting courses for beginners, free backstage training 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 from £12.00 - £47.50 depending upon level of commitment 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!

Dame Judi Dench  
President of The Questors Theatre



# After The Dance

by Terence Rattigan

This production is supported in memory of Tim Godfrey (1935 – 2004).

# After The Dance

by Terence Rattigan

*After the Dance*, Rattigan's second play, opened in London in the summer of 1939. After the huge success of his farcical comedy, *French Without Tears*, the new play was eagerly awaited. The first night was, it appears, a triumph. The influential novelist and critic Charles Morgan announced that "in Mr. Rattigan we have not only a successful writer of farce but a dramatist of serious consequence." Even James Agate, who had dismissed *French Without Tears*, wrote, "I see nothing here that is not praiseworthy".

After only sixty performances however, the play closed. It was briefly revived at The Croydon Theatre in 1940 but was then left unperformed for more than fifty years. Always hyper-sensitive to criticism and fearful of failure, Rattigan omitted it from his *Collected Plays*, and in a rare interview in 1976 at the end of his life, dismissed it as "rather heavy" and "turgid". It was not until 1992 that the play was given a proper revival. A terrific television production with Anton Rodgers, Gemma Jones, John Bird and Imogen Stubbs received excellent reviews; and in 2002 the Oxford Playhouse finally mounted a professional stage production. Michael Billington, in *The Guardian*, hailed the play as a lost masterpiece, concluding that he was "utterly convinced that this is one of Rattigan's finest studies of the English vice of emotional repression."

The initial failure of *After the Dance* is not hard to explain. It was, quite simply, the wrong play for its time. A world on the edge of war was not interested in the goings-on of the self-indulgent Mayfair Set of the play. Perhaps too, the original audience was uncomfortable with such a morally ambiguous play. Just where did Rattigan's sympathies lie? Were they with the ageing partygoers or with the earnest younger generation? The answer, surely, is neither. The Scott-Fowler set is both appalling and endearing; Peter and Helen both admirable and priggish. Perhaps the most sympathetic character in the play is also the most contemptible – the slothful layabout, John. It is not surprising, perhaps, that the British public should prefer the more straightforwardly uplifting plays that Rattigan produced immediately afterwards – *Flare Path* and *While the Sun Shines*.

The recent revivals of *After the Dance* show that the play is fully worthy to stand alongside such favorites as *The Deep Blue Sea* and *The Browning Version*. It is remarkable to see how prescient Rattigan was in this play. It was, after all, written before war had broken out; but Rattigan

clearly realised that war was inevitable. By the end of the play, Cyril has been called up and Moya is holding a gas mask party. Who knows what might happen to the other characters? Maybe Peter is wounded at Dunkirk, while Helen is dropped into occupied France to work for the Resistance. The reason one thinks in these terms is that Rattigan had a genius for creating characters so real that they live on in the memory as much more than just characters from a play. *After the Dance* is a work of great emotional tension and reality. It is also extremely funny. Perhaps soon, The National Theatre will give it the major production it so surely deserves.

**Director - Francis Lloyd** trained at Central and worked in rep in Northampton, Colchester, Southampton and Sheffield before training as a barrister. He joined The Questors in 1994 to play Bohun in *You Never Can Tell*. Parts since then include Henry Bell in *The Revengers' Comedies*, John in *Oleanna*, Manotolini in *Nicholas Nickleby*, Brazen in *The Recruiting Officer*, Henry Carr in *Travesties* and Wicksteed in *Habeas Corpus*.

## Running Times

**Act 1:** A morning in August

Interval: 15 minutes

**Act 2 Scene 1:** A week later, afternoon

**Scene 2:** The same night

Interval: 10 minutes

**Act 3:** Six months later, late afternoon

Set in the drawing room of the Scott-Fowlers' flat in Mayfair

# After The Dance

by Terence Rattigan  
First performance 17 February 2006

## Cast



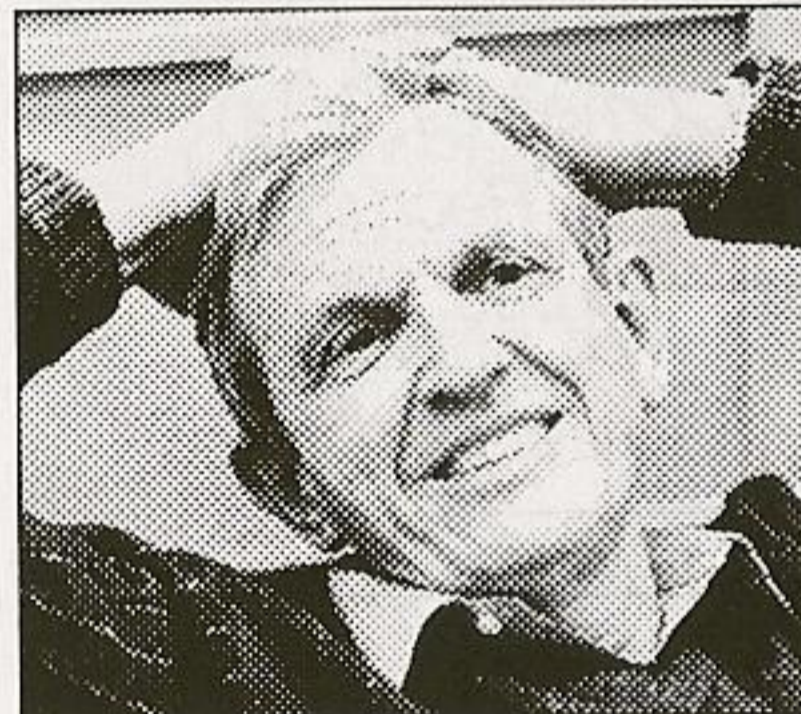
### **Peter Scott-Fowler - Iain Stirling**

Iain Stirling joined The Questors in 2001. He has since played Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice* and Trofimov in *The Cherry Orchard*. His most recent appearance was as Barry in *New Boy* which transferred from The Questors Theatre Studio to The Jermyn Street Theatre.



### **John Reid - Simon Roberts**

Simon rejoined The Questors in 2001. Recent appearances include Jimmy Porter in *Look Back in Anger* (2002), Browdie / Hawk in *Nicholas Nickleby* (2003), Robin in *A Wedding Story* (2003) and Lopakhin in *The Cherry Orchard* (2004).



### **Williams - Keith Atkinson**

Keith Atkinson, in his first role at The Questors, has previously performed for the Company of Ten, St Albans, The Kuwait Players, Phoenix Repertory & The National Theatre, Nairobi, Kenya, and the ESU Naples, Florida. He has produced/devised Dinner Theatre, musical revues and Murder Mystery events in and around deepest Kenya. He hopes his Safari to the wilds of Ealing will not be his last.....



### **Joan Scott-Fowler - Joumana Jeffers**

This is Joumana's 3<sup>rd</sup> Questors production, having previously appeared in *Plaza Suite*, and *'Tis a Pity She's a Whore*. Despite appearances, Joumana is a keen long-distance runner, with the 2006 London Marathon being her fourth marathon in the past 18 months. Collection buckets for her chosen charity are strategically placed in the bar. Your generosity is highly appreciated.



### **Helen Banner - Kate Langston**

This is Kate's fourth production at The Questors, having previously appeared as Nerissa in *The Merchant of Venice*, Gwendolen in *Travesties*, and Connie in *Habeas Corpus*, (complete with inflatables.)



### **Dr. George Banner - Ed Lewis**

Ed trained at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth and has performed in various types of roles throughout his life. His highlights have been Billy in *Billy Liar* and the varying characters in J.C.'s *Two*. This is Ed's first performance at The Questors and he looks forward to a career in the theatre.



### **Julia Browne - Kerri Logan**

Since joining The Questors in 2002 from her native Belfast, Kerri has been involved in a number of productions, most notably *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Dolly West's Kitchen* and, most recently, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*.



### **Cyril Carter - Mark Redrup**

Mark Redrup has been acting at The Questors since 1986, and has played characters many and various ever since.



### **David Scott-Fowler - David Hovatter**

David joined The Questors in the early 80's; he went through a period of doing devised plays (anyone remember *Moby Dick*?) and recently was in *R.U.R.* and *The Aleutian Islands*.



### **Moya Lexington - Mary Davies**

Mary Davies joined The Questors as an acting member in 1978. Since 2000 she has played Paulina (*The Winter's Tale*), Mrs. Betterton (*Playhouse Creatures*) Evelyn, a victim an early onset of Alzheimer's disease (*A Wedding Story*).



**Lawrence Walters - Gareth Bevan**

After an extensive career in the local theatre, Gareth joined The Questors in 1991 and became an acting member in 2002, this is his 12<sup>th</sup> production in those 3 and a half years. His wife has recently taken up crewing just to be sure she can remember what he looks like.



**Arthur Power - Robert Baker-Glenn**

Robert has acted, and occasionally directed, for over 20 years in various parts of the country but has only been a member of The Questors from 2005. Since joining he has appeared in *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Clandestine Marriage*, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* and three short plays in *The Night Shift*. His next appearance will be as Doodle in *The London Cuckolds*.



**Miss Potter - Anne Sawbridge**

Anne, an ex-Questors student, was most recently the Mother Superior in *Once a Catholic* (2004) and in 2005 appeared in *The Cure-All* and the poetry performance of *Dart*.

pictures credit: Ian Cole

**Pianist:** Lyndsey Lee

**Guests:** Ian Buckingham, Carole Hunter, Nina Lubicz-Nawrocka, Michael Smith Juliet Vaughan Turner and Alex Duvnjak.

**Pre-Show Cabaret:** Lyndsey Lee, Keith Atkinson, Gareth Bevan, Vicky Butler, Kerri Logan, Jananne Rahman; Robert Seatter, Annabelle Williams.

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**COMPETITION - SRI-LANKA**  
TO WIN ONE WEEK IN SRI-LANKA FOR 2 PEOPLE SIMPLY  
RECOMMEND THE QUESTORS TO YOUR FRIENDS!



COLLECT A YELLOW FORM FROM RECEPTION/ON-SITE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION - 020 8567 0011  
ENQUIRIES@QUESTORS.ORG.UK

**MORE PRIZES TO FOLLOW!!!**

## Production Team

<b>Director</b>	Francis Lloyd
<b>Set Designer</b>	Alison Gregory
<b>Sound Designer</b>	David Palmer
<b>Sound Operator</b>	Mark Pummell
<b>Lighting Designer</b>	Francois Langton
<b>Lighting Operator</b>	Danny Bailey
<b>Stage Manager</b>	Richard Halberstadt
<b>Deputy Stage Manager</b>	Clare Watson
<b>Assistant Stage Managers</b>	Andrew Davies, Alex Earl Rahul Mahant, Harriet Sharp
<b>Construction Crew</b>	Jim Craddock, Mike Hagan, Colin Horne, The Kingston College Students
<b>Costume Designer</b>	Sarah Andrews
<b>Wardrobe</b>	Liz Prior, Jennie Yates
<b>Make-up and Hair</b>	Kate Reilly, Laura Lilley, Deepika Rajani
<b>Props</b>	Sylvia Wall, Claire Auvache
<b>Prompt</b>	Bridgett Strevens
<b>Photography</b>	Ian Cole

**Special thanks to:** Adrian Asher, Alec Atchison, Nigel Bamford, Martin Choulds, Jane Dewey, Chris Edwards, Richard Gallagher, Simon Gould, Don Kincaid, Alex Marker, Ruth Parry, Jenny Richardson, Pam Smith, Adrienne Talbot, Bonnie Timms, Hilda Wilson.

### Art Exhibitions

In The Grapevine Bar - **Feb 4 - 18**

**View point** - An exhibition of work in a variety of media including water colour and printmaking by Margaret Hargreaves, Ginette Gillard and John Gillard, reflecting personal response to their environment.

In The West Foyer - **Feb 17 - 25**

**Habeas Corpus Exhibition** - Alison Gregory

Alison's collection of McGill inspired seaside paintings which formed the set of *Habeas Corpus* which are displayed in the West Foyer.

The paintings are available for purchase.

Please contact Jane Mason during office hours on 0208 567 0011.

# COMING SOON

THE QUESTORS THEATRE PRESENTS  
in association with THEATRESTORM

## In the Studio

March 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, at 7.45pm,  
March 5 Matinée at 2.30pm

## *coda4maKbet*

by Nicholas Jonne

Behind an unremarkable doorway in a busy modern street, somewhere in Eastern Europe, lies TEATR K. From the moment young KIMYA rings the doorbell, there is no way off this rollercoaster to hell!

Complex and vicious mind games, coupled with the relentless rigour of rehearsal, sweep us along to the chilling conclusion and awful realisation of the implications of this darkly disturbing yet witty piece of theatre.



## In the Playhouse

March 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 at 7.45pm.

## *Guards! Guards!*

by Terry Pratchett

adapted by Stephen Briggs

Ankh-Morpork, an ancient Discworld city, has a perfectly balanced co-existence of good and evil until it is thrown out of kilter by meddling, cunning, and devious forces. The existence of a 60ft fire-breathing dragon, which incinerates everything in its path, additionally ensures that chaos mounts, particularly as its power continues to grow. The drunken and apathetic citizens watch the events mount with the help of some colourful characters and attempt to confront the dragon. Unwittingly they are assisted by Carrot (a 6'6" dwarf), the honest, righteous naïve city watchman who is joined by Lady Ramkin and her pet swamp dragon and the librarian (an orang-utan who communicates by charades). *This is an amateur performance.*



All tickets can be booked through The Questors Box Office  
020 8567 5184 or online at [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

## LOOK OUT FOR!

*20th Century Rocks!* - A Dance Gallery production

March 29, 30, 31 and April 1 at 7.30pm, April 1 at 2.30pm - Prices: £12.00 to £15.00

Box Office no. 020 8845 7590

## Get the most from your membership

Many members join just to see shows, but there is so much else you can do, why not get involved?

Front of house is a great place to start. For programme selling, stewarding or serving in the Café you don't need any experience, and training can be given for anyone who fancies working in Box Office. If you want to meet people and have a good time, then the best place to be is behind the Grapevine Bar - you can volunteer for just one night or many.

Backstage staff, including stage managers, prop makers painters and wardrobe staff, are always welcomed and whatever your skills we'll find a place for you. If you have some experience then The Questors is a wonderful place to be a designer, but even if you don't you can help out on shows and you're sure to get some hands-on experience. The same goes for lighting and sound - the theatre is well equipped and a good place to learn.

You can direct if you have some experience or training, but if not then you can always look out for our training opportunities. The Questors has a high standard of acting and to maintain this anyone wanting to act will need to take an audition. These are held every month - please call the main office for details.

There are numerous other things you can do to help out. If you're free in the daytimes you can help out with envelope stuffing or delivering leaflets, and if you're a bit of a handy man or woman then there are always little jobs to be done.

If you'd like more information about active membership, you can ring the office on 020 8567 0011, Mon to Fri, 9.30 - 5.30, email us on [enquiries@questors.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@questors.org.uk)

