

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

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

Box Office: 020 8567 5184
Admin: 020 8567 0011
Fax: 020 8567 8736
Email: enquiries@questors.org.uk
Website: www.questors.org.uk

The Questors Theatre
Mattock Lane
Ealing
W5 5BQ



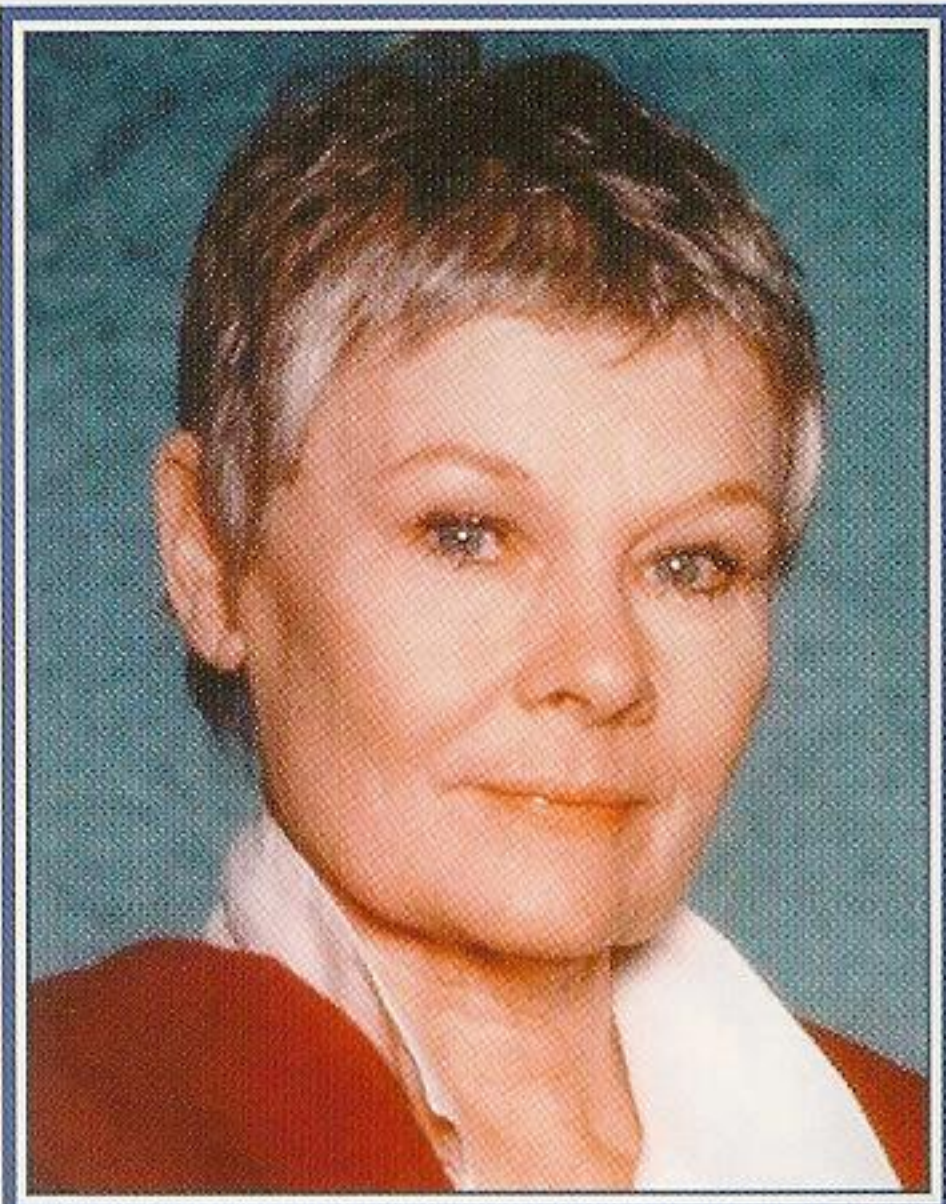
THE QUESTORS THEATRE



THE QUESTORS THEATRE



The Weir



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



Our Irish Selection:

The Donahue Sisters (May 23, 24, at 7.45pm, 25 at 8.45pm)

and

Juno and the Paycock (May 26 and 27 at 7.45pm)

The Weir

by Conor McPherson

The Weir

by Conor McPherson

**'Come away oh human child,
To the waters and the wild,
With a fairy hand in hand,
For the world's more full of weeping,
Than you can understand.'**

W.B. Yeats: The Stolen Child

The Weir by Conor McPherson was first produced by the Royal Court on 4 July 1997 and has been successfully presented around the world ever since. Conor McPherson was born in Dublin in 1971 and is one of Ireland's most exciting young playwrights. He has been the recipient of many awards including the Laurence Olivier award for Best New Play for *The Weir*. In common with much of his earlier work *The Weir* focuses on language and story-telling in general and the use of dramatic monologue in particular. McPherson justifies this monologue form by saying that this helps to explore the creation of a "shared sense of narrative" between playwright, actor and audience. "I love the intimacy of someone just confiding directly with you and the game that is being played in doing so".

The main ingredient is local colour, the comfortable, timeworn jokes and habits of a contemporary rural Irish town, seen through the lens of a tiny bar on a night when it is deserted except for five people. As the establishment's two most loyal patrons, the voluble mechanic Jack and the more reserved middle-aged Jim, who still lives with his mother, and the owner/barman, Brendan, gradually warm to an outsider brought into their midst by the self-important Finbar. They find themselves telling her ghost stories, from local lore and from their own experience. Each anecdote whets the eerie edge of the evening, until the outsider, Valerie, recalling her own heartbreaking encounter with the uncanny, supplies the bar-room encounter with an emotional focus.

Against a background of familiar behaviour, drinking, flirting and observing social niceties, McPherson paves the way for forays into the supernatural. Gradually, as the play unfolds, we begin to perceive another reality. The telling of yarns turns the shabby bar into a juncture between ordinary life and another level of existence, just as the local weir, whose photo hangs on the bar-room wall, forms a juncture between two levels of water; the turbulence between those levels representing the emotions, regrets and petty jealousies running below the apparent stillness of everyday rural life.

By means of story, McPherson's characters, and his audiences, briefly see beyond the cluttered contingencies of everyday life to something more elemental.

The Weir is a subtle illustration of loneliness, failure, isolation and the individual tragedy of loss and the sadness of wasted lives.

As Jack laments:

Down in the garage. Spinning small jobs out all day. Taking hours to fix a puncture. Stops you thinking about what might have been and what you should have done. It's like looking away.

Adapted from the article **G:'C**

Anne Neville - Director

Anne has appeared in numerous productions including *Mother Courage*, Mrs Alving in *Ghosts*, Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*, Ranevskaya in *The Cherry Orchard*, Winnie in *Happy Days* and most recently Rima in *Dolly West's Kitchen*. Anne has also directed many plays at The Questors including *Faith Healer*, *Translations*, *The Venetian Twins*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Macbeth* and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

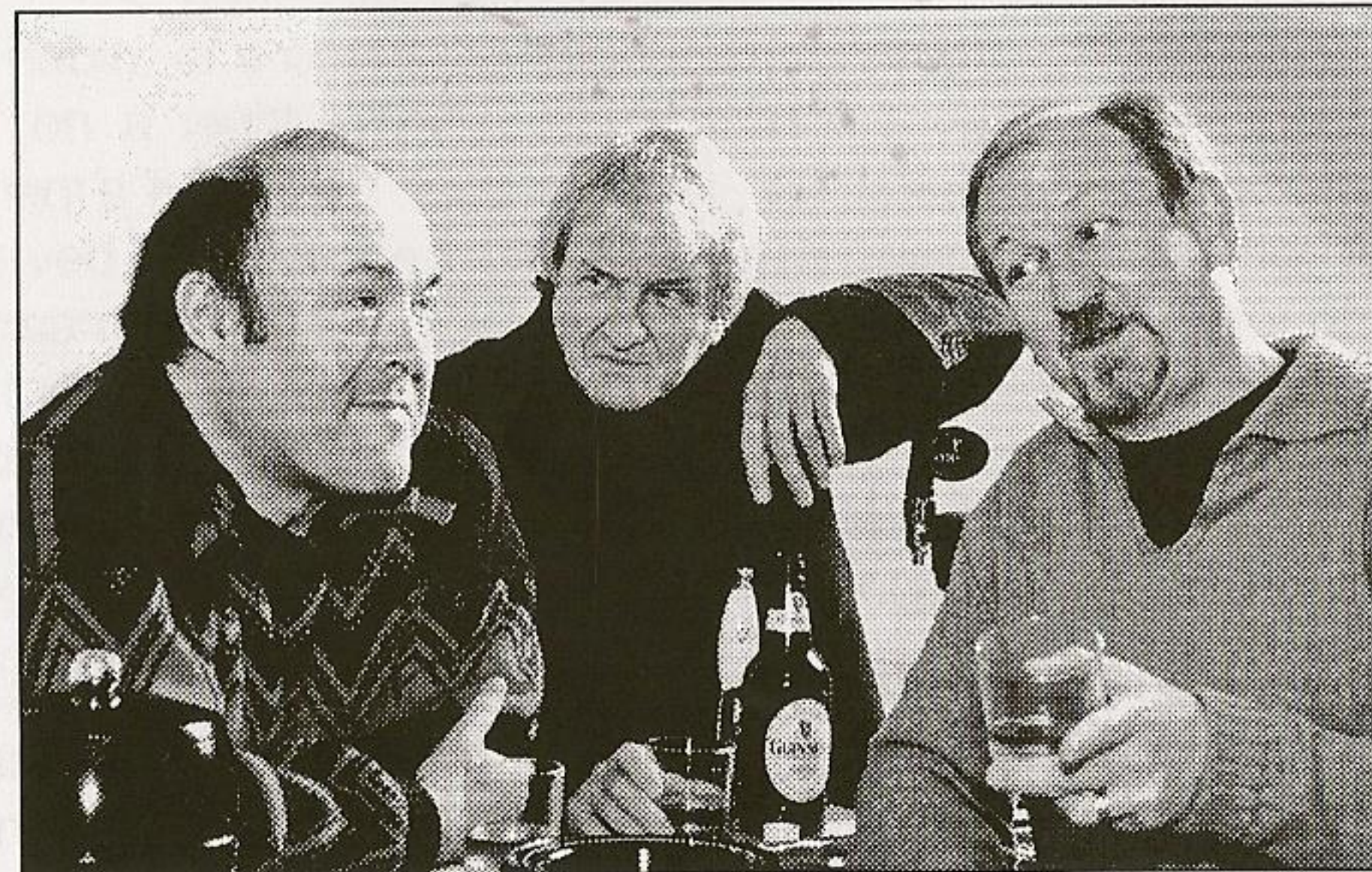
The Weir

by Conor McPherson

First performance 11 May 2006

Cast

Jack	Tony Barber
Brendan	Kevin Boland
Jim	Anthony Curran
Finbar	Phillip Sheahan
Valerie	Judy Claybourne



The play takes place in a bar in the west of Ireland.

It is a windy night in early April 1997.

Running time is approximately 1.30 hrs.

Please note there will be no interval.

Production Team

Director	Anne Neville
Designer	John Horwood
Scene Painter	Dennis Dracup
Set Construction	John Horwood
Stage Manager	Jane Arnold-Forster
Deputy Stage Manager	Melissa Naylor
Lighting Designer	Andrew Dixon
Lighting Operator	Kathryn Ruthven
Sound Designer	Alun Jones
Wardrobe	Sarah Andrew (or nominee)
Props	Peter Salvietto
Prompt	Sue Oliver
Standby Prompt	Wendi Kelly
Assistant Stage Managers	Andrew Davies Carol Hunter Bernard Brady Marcus Reddington Paul Wilson Liz Cooper Henry Broom Chris Tomlins Penny Letham
Photography	Ian Cole
Special thanks to	Fullers Cellar Services Team Meg Stern O'Neill's in Ealing Colin Horne Nigel Bamford Denis Dracup Nigel Worsley Jon Webster John Wibberley The Studio's In House Services team Peter and Hazel Hales Oliver Turner Chris Edwards Ruth Parry



Tony Barber - *Jack Mullen*

Tony first appeared in 1957 in Alfred Emmet's production of *Henry V*, immortalised in Michael Green's 'The Art of Coarse Acting'. After completing the two year student group he appeared in numerous productions including many new plays. Most recently he played Kurt the German in Tony Rushforth's *Seascape*.



Anthony Curran - *Jim*

Anthony graduated from the student group in 1994 and since then he has been seen in nearly 30 productions. He was Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Arlecchino in *The Venetian Twins* and most recently Sgt. Kite in *The Recruiting Officer*.



Kevin Boland - *Brendan*

Kevin trained at The Academy in Whitechapel and has worked in the UK and Ireland. Theatre includes *Comedians (Etcetera)* *Irish Hebrew Lesson* (King's Head), *The Playboy of the Western World* and *The Beauty Queen of Leane* at The Questors. He has recently finished filming *Reckless Minds* for FCEK Films.



Judy Claybourne - *Valerie*

Judy completed the student course in 2005 and has since been in *The Shape of Things* by Neil LaBute. Other acting highlights include being the voice of Staubli (a talking Hoover attachment on a German toy vacuum cleaner) and some radio plays



Phillip Sheahan - *Finbar Mack*

Phillip has been a member of The Questors since 1974, making his contribution as an actor, writer and director. His acting credits over the years are numerous and feature many appearances in new plays performed or premiered at The Questors. He has also been in seven Questors productions at The Minack Theatre, Cornwall, three Edinburgh Festival productions, and a very successful tour to Israel with *The Play's the Thing*, a PG Wodehouse play directed by Michael Green (which also featured Anne Neville).

Most notable of Phillip's writing credits are for his work with *Playback* (The Questors Reminiscence Group) including *Soapsud Island*, *The Cuckoo School* and *Cradle to Grave*.

Picture Credits: Ian Cole

ART EXHIBITIONS ARE AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR ANYONE WISHING TO EXHIBIT THEIR WORK HERE

GRAPEVINE BAR

April 29 to May 13 - Jenny Berglund
Colourful photographs of botanical and abstract images.

May 20 to June 3 - Karin Van Der Plas
Original oil paintings inspired by early history, symbolism and stories of mythologies and legends.

UPPER FOYER

April 29 to May 13 - Julia Gadd
We are delighted that Julia returns to display her larger pieces of work on canvas.

ANY ARTISTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL JANE MASON ON 020 8567 0011 ANY TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS OR THURSDAYS.

O
r
c
h
a
r
d
T
r
a
v
e
l
L
t
d

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!!!

www.orchardtravel.co.uk - Tel: 020 8567 4647

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

JOIN THE HDTV REVOLUTION

'THE BIGGEST REVOLUTION IN HOME VIEWING SINCE COLOUR TELEVISION'

SEE HIGH DEFINITION IN ACTION AND FIND OUT WHAT HDTV WILL MEAN TO YOU

SEVENOAKS
SOUND & VISION

- HI-FI & HOME CINEMA
- PLASMA SCREENS
- PROJECTION
- MULTI-ROOM AUDIO
- INSTALLATION
- EXPERT ADVICE

SEVENOAKS SOUND & VISION
24 THE GREEN, EALING
020 8579 8777
www.ssav.com

leaders in home entertainment

