

www.questors.org.uk

Find out all about our forthcoming productions – along with a lot of other information about The Questors – on our web site.

Stay in touch

Just send us your details, and we'll keep you informed about our forthcoming productions at The Questors.

You can either write, phone or email us with your details.

Join us

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and become a member of The Questors?

If you enjoy a regular night out at the theatre with friends, why not become a member of The Questors? As a Playgoer Member, you'll receive a 20 per cent discount on your ticket to most Questors productions, free tickets for your children to most Questors productions, regular information about our productions, and membership of the Grapevine Bar, so you can come and enjoy a quiet evening in the Grapevine throughout the year.

Or you could join as a Company Member and receive a 50 per cent discount on your ticket and opportunities to get involved in our productions, in addition to all the benefits for Playgoer Members.

You can get all of this for just £26.00 for Playgoer membership and £52.50 (£34.00 concessions) for Company membership, with discounts for payment by Direct Debit.

You can find Membership Application forms in the Box Office Foyer, or just phone the Theatre Office.



THE
QUESTORS
THEATRE



THE QUESTORS THEATRE

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Registered Charity no 207516

TIME AND TIME AGAIN

by Alan Ayckbourn

The Studio

28 December 2007 – 5 January 2008



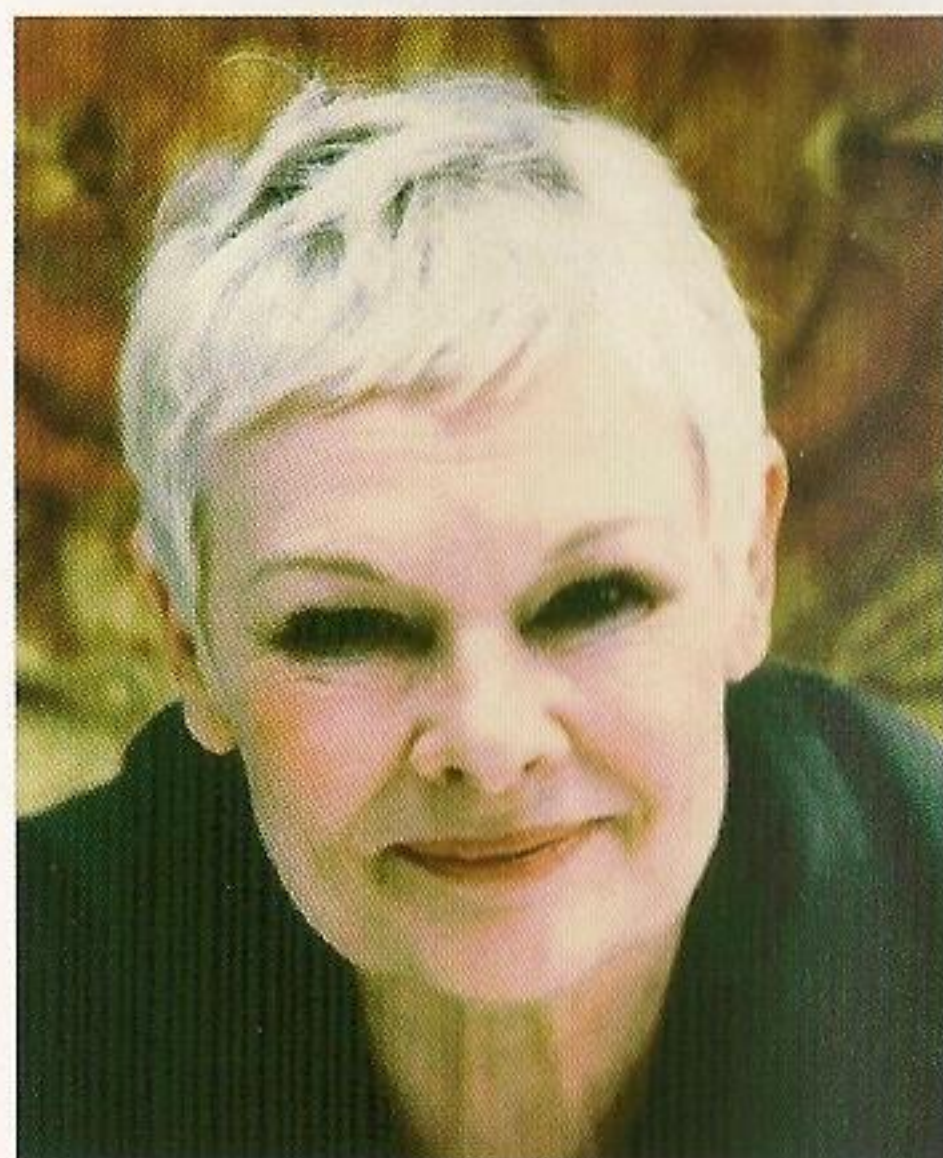
THE QUESTORS THEATRE



Welcome to The Questors Theatre, one of London's best kept secrets – except to its 2,000 members.

How do I know about The Questors? I am proud to have been its 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 perks of membership) and the many and varied shows in our 370-seat 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 The Questors Youth Theatre. In short, theatre is something for everyone, and with annual membership from £12.00 to £52.50 depending on your chosen 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 Ealing, 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



TIME AND TIME AGAIN

by Alan Ayckbourn

Time and Time Again

It is probably fair to say that *Time and Time Again* represents a pivotal moment in Alan Ayckbourn's playwriting career in that it was a move away from light-comedy into something darker and more substantial. It was also the first in a string of hits that would make him an internationally renowned playwright, followed as it was by *Absurd Person Singular*, *The Norman Conquests* and *Absent Friends*.

The inspiration for *Time And Time Again* came after Ayckbourn saw a production of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* and he decided to write a play in which the drama came from the characters without the need for plot contrivances. He also wanted to break the rules by having a hero who was totally unmotivated, had no goals and achieved nothing. So he created Leonard, a man who causes destruction all around him purely by virtue of his apathy, and who is one of Ayckbourn's most memorable characters. The playwright himself has said that this was the play in which he began to dispense with jokes or funny-lines, which he claimed he was "never very good at".

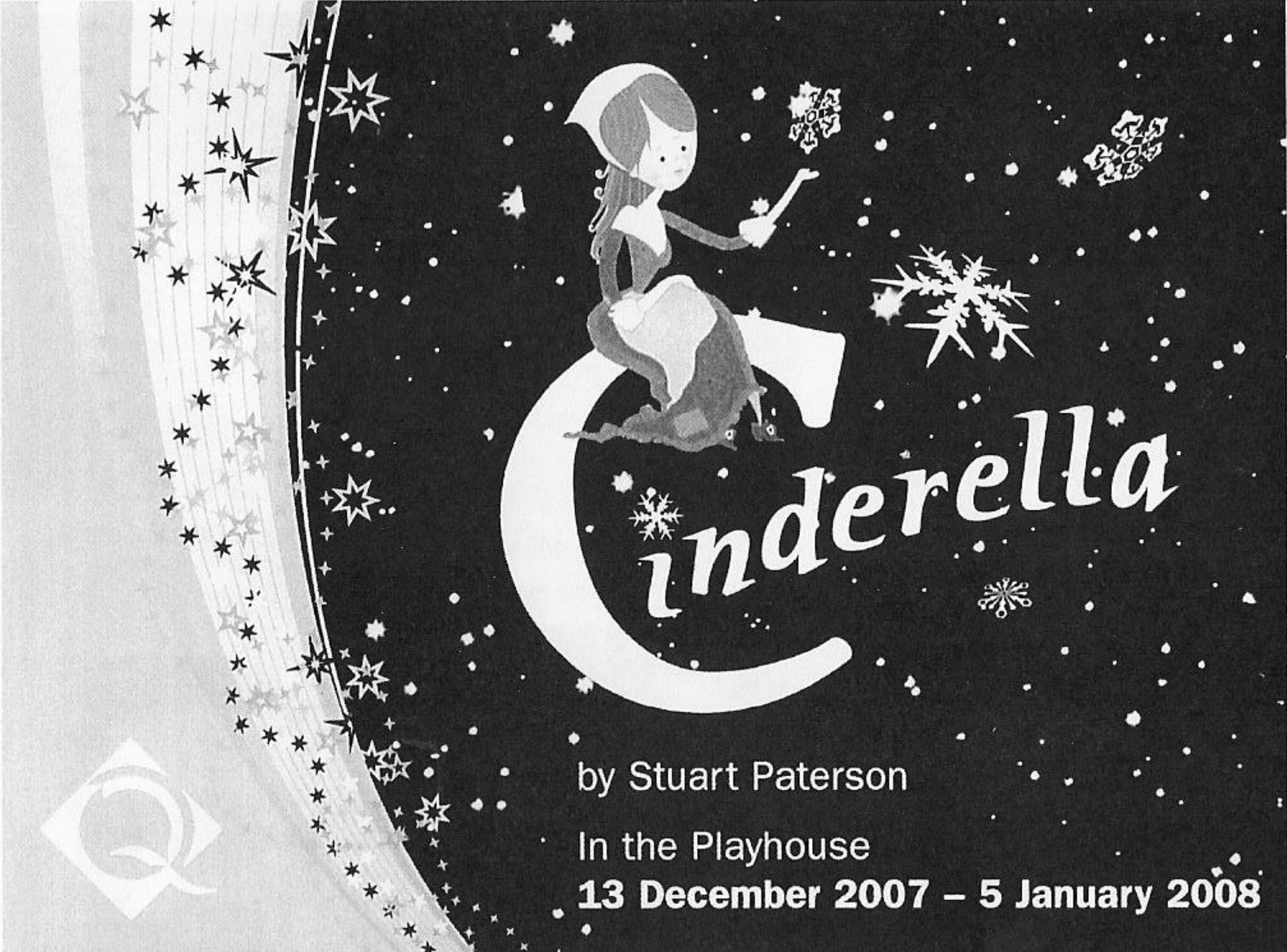
Time And Time Again revolves around one woman (Joan) and her reaction to three men (Graham, Leonard and Peter) who show their interest in her in entirely different ways. All three men, in typical Ayckbourn fashion, misunderstand Joan

and each other, which leads to a dark reading of the relationship between the sexes. The only person who seems to understand all of them is Graham's long-suffering wife, Anna. The action takes place in a back garden and a conservatory allowing for the conceit that whilst the audience hears everything that is said, the characters in the garden cannot hear what is being said in the conservatory and vice-versa.

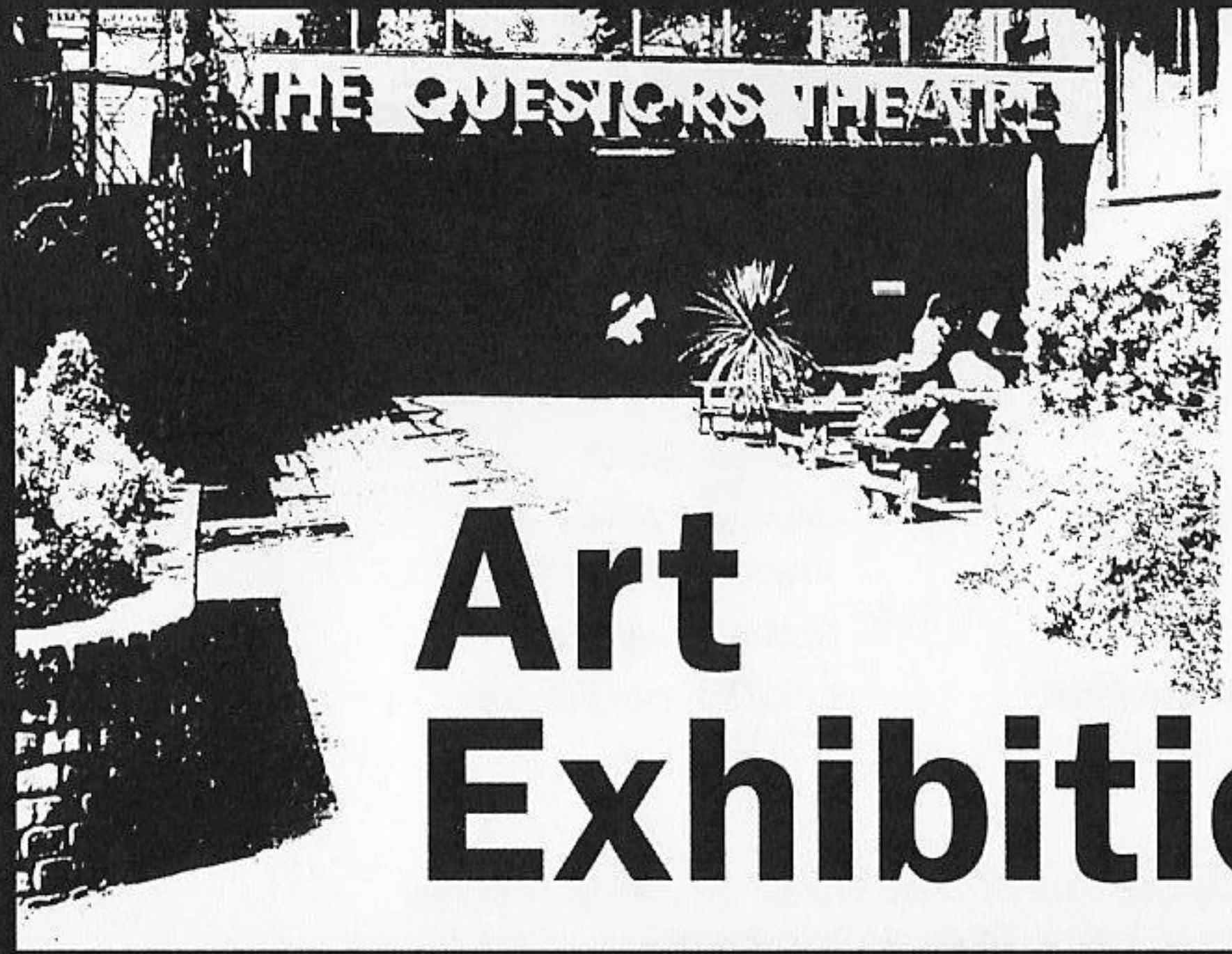
Time And Time Again was a phenomenal success in Scarborough and transferred to the West End within the space of a year. Unfortunately, it is one of the few Ayckbourn plays from this period that did not transfer to Broadway. Some have suggested that the reasons for this stem from the Americans' lack of comprehension of so passive a character as Leonard plus the play's emphasis on cricket! It has, however, been successfully staged abroad and the Stephen Joseph Theatre In The Round toured it in Canada in 1987.

Since its premiere, *Time And Time Again* has come to be regarded as vintage Ayckbourn and has become one of the perennials of the Ayckbourn canon, constantly being revived and performed by professionals and amateurs alike.

Gareth Bevan



by Stuart Paterson
In the Playhouse
13 December 2007 – 5 January 2008



Our regular art exhibitions offer a wonderful opportunity for local artists to display their work. Please take time to have a look when visiting the theatre.

Art Exhibitions

For details on upcoming exhibitions or on exhibiting your work, please contact Jane Mason in the Questors Office on 020 8567 0011.

TIME AND TIME AGAIN

by Alan Ayckbourn

First performance of this production: 28 December 2007

THE COMPANY

Leonard	Iain Stirling
Graham	Mark Redrup
Joan	Rhiannon Bevan
Anna	Juliet Vaughan-Turner
Peter	Ian Buckingham
Bernard	Himself

Director	Gareth Bevan
Stage Manager	Martin Choules
Designers	Stephen Parfitt Gareth Bevan
Construction	Zyg Staniaszek
Lighting Designer	Martin Stoner
Lighting and Sound Operator	Kwabena Amen
Properties	Jo Matthews
Wardrobe	Anne Gilmour
Prompt	Geoffrey Morgan
Make-up	Juliet Vaughan-Turner
Fight Co-ordinator	Duncan Alldridge
Photography	Ian Cole Michael Smith
Assistant Stage Managers	Kwabena Amen Jolyon Houghton
Programme Editor	Rachel Knightley
Programme Design and Print	Considerthisuk.com

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Julian Light Opera Company for the astroturf



Juliet Vaughan-Turner



Ian Buckingham



Iain Stirling



Mark Redrup



Rhiannon Bevan



Bernard

Act 1

Scene 1: Spring
Scene 2: Summer

Act 2

Scene 1: Autumn
Scene 2: The next day

Setting: a suburban garden, 1971.

Music: generally from 1971, or thereabouts. What a great era for music that was.

The play runs for 2 hours, including a 15-minute interval.

Biographies

Kwabena Amen – Assistant Stage Manager

Kwabena is new to Questors and *Time & Time Again* is his first production with us. His experience is with Caribbean theatre: acting, drumming and writing. Kwabena is a new tutor with the Questors Youth Theatre and director of a youth theatre in Southall.

Gareth Bevan – Director

This is Gareth's fifth consecutive Questors Christmas show, following *The Princess and the Pea*, *The Enchanted Knight*, *The Four Friends* and *Peter Pan*. He directed *Time and Time Again* for another company in 1978 and played Leonard. When not directing, Gareth spends most of his time trying to convince the children of Ealing that he is not, in fact, Smee.

Rhiannon Bevan – Joan

This is Rhiannon's second Questors show, following *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way to the Forum* (securing her reputation for being scantily clad) but she has been performing since she was four with companies including The Young Savoyards and Gloc Musical Theatre. She has a drama degree and performs regularly with Urban Voices Gospel Choir.

Ian Buckingham – Peter

Ian "Buckers" Buckingham has only one 'I'. He has performed in every Questors Christmas show since records began: Nana in *Peter Pan*, Mr Tumnus in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and various mice in *The Witches*. He also played Dr Grimwig in *Oliver!* and is

pleased to be portraying a human again this year.

Martin Choules – Stage Manager

This is Martin's fifth consecutive Christmas show at Questors. He was a flyman on *Peter Pan* and, as stage manager, was recently unseen on *Mercury Fur*, *Cogner au Plafond* and co-helming *The Lady in the Van*. He is grateful to *Time and Time Again* as the ideal post-Christmas show – funny, easy-going, with absolutely no mention of Christmas.

Anne Gilmour – Wardrobe

It's been a while since Anne worked on a Christmas show – *Beauty and the Beast* comes to mind – and she hopes the costumes will be a counterpoint, even an antidote to those on stage in the 'other place'. More recently she has worked on *Lady in the Van*.

Jo Matthews – Props

Jo stage-managed *Look Back in Anger*, *Sweeney Todd* (4th Wall), *Into the Woods* (with Clare Watson), *Radio Plays*, *The Dispute* and *The Legacy*, deputy-stage-managed *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and assistant-stage-managed *Coarse Acting*, *The Witches* and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Geoffrey Morgan – Prompt

Geoffrey joined Questors in 2002 and has acted (*As You Like It*, *Conversations After a Burial*, *Travesties* and *The Recruiting Officer*), sung (most recently in *The Sorcerer* with Julian Light Opera) and worked in sound and multiple

backstage roles. This is his first attempt at prompting, knowing full well the problems of learning lines.

Mark Redrup – Graham

Mark has been acting at Questors since 1990. His two most recent parts were Sammy Samuels in *Comedians* and Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Mark has been in two other Alan Ayckbourn comedies at Questors, playing Stafford in *Sisterly Feelings* and John in *Absent Friends*.

Iain Stirling – Leonard

Iain joined Questors in 2002. Previous roles include Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice*, Trofimov in *The Cherry Orchard*, Peter in *After The Dance*, Loveday in *The London Cuckolds*, Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Peter in *Company*.

Martin Stoner – Lighting Designer

Martin has been a Questors member for about 30 years and has designed lighting for productions including *Arsenic and Old Lace* (twice), *Tom's Midnight*

Garden, *The Devils*, *Heartbreak House* and *Kind Hearts and Comedies*. As Stage Manager, productions include Ayckbourn's *Absent Friends*. He has sometimes even been allowed to appear on stage.

Juliet Vaughan Turner – Anna

Juliet has been a member of Questors for 28 years. She graduated from Student Group 54 before going on to train at Peter Brooks Drama School, Cygnet. Her last role was Peggy in *The London Cuckolds*, which went to Minack, and she has just finished filming an episode of *Midsomer Murders*.

Bernard – Himself

This is Bernard's first Questors production though he has much experience, previously appearing as Godot, Yorick, and Bunbury. He also triumphed in the Bernard role in Gareth's 1978 production and has been word-perfect since the first rehearsal. When not fishing, he likes to put down his rod and play air-guitar.

Arabian Nights

19 – 23 February 2008

In the Playhouse

The Questors Youth Theatre presents a fantastically theatrical production full of tall tales and adventure.

The Country & Knives in Hens

8 – 23 February 2008

In the Studio

Two outstanding modern plays presented in repertoire over two weeks.



Questors E-News direct to your Inbox

Get all the latest news and offers for our shows by joining our e-mail lists.

- You can choose to receive short snippets of information every week or so, or longer round-ups every month – or both if you wish!
- We'll keep the e-mails as short and simple as possible – because we know you'd prefer it that way.
- And we'll have an unsubscribe facility (which actually works) at the bottom of every message!

It's easy to sign up – just a few clicks is all it takes.

Visit www.questors.org.uk/e-news.html and you'll start getting our E-News in your Inbox.



Getting the most from your membership

Many members join just to see shows, but there is so much more on offer to Company Members. So why not get involved?

Front-of-House is a great place to start. No previous experience is needed for selling programmes, stewarding or serving in the Café; and training is provided 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 – and you can volunteer for just one night or several.

Backstage staff – including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, 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 space to be a designer. But even without experience, you can help out on shows, and you're sure to get some hands-on experience. The same goes for lighting and sound – the Playhouse and Studio are both well-equipped and excellent places to learn.

You can direct if you have some experience or training, but if not then we offer various learning opportunities. The Questors have a high standard of acting, and to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – so if you have some training or experience of acting, call the Theatre Office for details of the forthcoming auditions.

There are many other activities you can join in to help out. If you're free during daytimes, you can help with our monthly mailing or delivering leaflets, and if you're handy with maintenance then there are always little jobs to be done.

Only Company members can take part in our activities, so please contact the Theatre Office if you would like to get involved or receive further information about Company membership.

Because of the program's early copy date due to the holidays, all the help we received at the get-in and after could not be included. They should not go unrecognised:

Sound Operator – Deirdra Reilly

Photos – Ian Briggs

Thanks to - Abbie Buckingham, Pam Cullen, Jolyon Houghton, Alice & John Pennicott,
Dominic Sowa, Pawel Sowa, Jon Van Dytor, Jon Webster

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