



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 £27.00 for Playgoer membership and £55.00 (£35.00 concessional) 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.

Stay in touch

Sign up for our weekly or monthly e-mails, full of the latest news, at www.questors.org.uk or send us your name and address and we'll post you our bi-monthly season card.

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

- ▶ What's on
- ▶ Book now online
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www.questors.org.uk

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Questors Ealing's Theatre

A SERVANT TO TWO MASTERS

by Carlo Goldoni

The Playhouse
1 – 8 March 2008

www.questors.org.uk





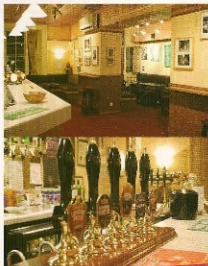
Questors Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to the members of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as serving a dance members on show nights. The club is open seven nights a week and Sunday lunchtimes and is managed and staffed entirely by volunteers. We are the proud holders of a Cask Marque award for the quality of our real ales, we appear in the 2006 edition of The Good Beer Guide, and we have been named as West Middlesex CAMRA Club of the Year 2007. Real ales recently on tap include Fuller's London Pride, Twickenham Sundancer and Fuller's Old Winter Ale. We also provide a range of draught lagers and ciders, as well as wines and spirits – all at very reasonable prices.

Opening hours:

7.00-11.00pm (10.30pm close on Sundays)

also Sunday lunchtime 12.00-2.30pm



A SERVANT TO TWO MASTERS

by Carlo Goldoni

The Playhouse
1 – 8 March 2008

A Servant to Two Masters

Carlo Goldoni was born in Venice in 1707 and, in common with many of the leading playwrights of the eighteenth century, he studied and practised law. However, his interest in and passion for the theatre drew him to write for the stage from 1734. He wrote hundreds of comedies, of which *A Servant to Two Masters* (1753) was one of the earliest successes. It was originally written as a scenario which Goldoni then scripted. The masked actors of the commedia dell'arte dominated Italian theatre at the time and Goldoni made it his mission to give artistic form to what had become a debased series of stock improvisations. Goldoni also wanted to bring to life the porters, waiters, gondoliers and maids – the common people of Venice. He took four stock commedia dell'arte figures, Pantalone, Dottore, Arlecchino and Brighella, and turned them into recognizable characters, setting them in a story about young lovers of Venetian society.

He later moved to Paris, where he wrote for the Théâtre Italien. He died in relative poverty despite his fame. His grave is unknown but there is a prominent statue of him in a main piazza in Venice.

Leo Hall studied English Literature at Cambridge. He has written extensively for radio, *Spoonface Steinberg* and *I Love You, Jimmy Spud*, as well as stage plays such as *Two's Company*. He adapted this play for the Royal Shakespeare Company. He is perhaps best known for his screen play *Billy Elliot*, and he wrote the book and lyrics for *Billy Elliot the Musical* which premiered in 2005.

The play begins in the Venetian house of Pantalone where they are celebrating the engagement of his daughter Clarice to Silvio, son of Doctor Lambardi. When a strange servant, Truffaldino, announces the arrival of Federigo Rasponi from Turin, he causes

consternation, because Federigo was supposed to have been killed in a duel with Florindo, his sister Beatrice's lover. The problem is that Clarice had been originally engaged to this Federigo. However, 'Federigo' is actually Beatrice in disguise. She has fled so as to follow her lover, Florindo, who is on the run for killing Federigo. She wants the dowry her brother was to get for Clarice, so she can find Florindo. Pantalone rats on his agreement to marry Clarice to Silvio, although they are in love, and accepts Beatrice as Clarice's prospective husband. The Innkeeper Brighella recognises Beatrice at once as he knew her in Turin, and agrees to help her. When Florindo arrives in Venice, Truffaldino agrees to be his servant as well as Beatrice's in order to get double the wages and twice the food.

Thereafter letters and money are delivered to the wrong master, and there are mistakes and mishaps in abundance. Beatrice and Florindo each become convinced that the other is dead and decide on suicide. However, fate intervenes and all is well. Truffaldino finds Pantalone's maid Smeraldina irresistible and eventually confesses to his double life, and the non-existent Pasquale, so he can wed her.

While most of the play is farcical, there are darker elements and some realism. Smeraldina stands up for women in a very modern rant and Truffaldino's take on service would strike a chord in a trade unionist (no pun intended). The whole play also hangs on the death in a duel of Beatrice's brother.

The play has been a joy to work on and we hope we do justice to Goldoni's brilliance.

Anne Neville

Carluccio's

Pre/post-theatre menu

Pasta con Funghi (or any pasta dish)
Tiramisu

A 175ml glass of Venetian wine
(Pinot Grigio or Valpolicella)

£15 per person

Carluccio's is delighted to invite theatre-goers to enjoy a delicious Italian meal before or after the play. To book please call us on 020 8566 4458 and quote 'Theatre Offer'.

Terms: Offer valid at Carluccio's Ealing upon presentation of same day theatre ticket upon arrival, one offer per person. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer.

Carluccio's 5-6 The Green, London, W5 5DA Tel: 020 8566 4458

A SERVANT TO TWO MASTERS

by Carlo Goldoni

A new adaptation by Lee Hall

First performance of this production: 1 March 2008

THE COMPANY

Pantalone Parsimoni	PHip Sheehan
Clarice (his daughter)	Ania Alexander
Smeraldina (their maid)	Lucy Ibbison
Dector Lombardi	Francis Lloyd
Silvio (his son)	James Ellis
Brighella (an innkeeper)	Jason Francis
Truffaldino	Anthony Curran
Beatrice Rasponi	Annabelle Williams
Fiorindo Arcetasi	Robert Searter
First Porter	Derek Chandler
Second Porter/First Waiter	Andrew McGuinness
Second Waiter	Will O'Connell
Third Waiter	John Fryer
Director	Anne Neville
Stage Manager and Designer	Pam Cullen
Lighting Designer	Andy Turble
Costume Designer	Raymond Childe
Commedia Consultant and choreography	Simon Thomas
Deputy Stage Manager	Camilla Cadier
Properties	Peter Salvietto
Construction	Paul Fitzsimmons and Gordon Miller
Scene Painting	Denia Draycup, Pam Cullen, Camilla Cadier, Paul Fitzsimmons, Jessica Bailey, Russell Fleet
Prompt	Gordon Miller and Bridget Strevens
Fight Arranger	John Fryer
Sound	Alan N Smith
Sound Operator	Peter Kendrick
Lighting Assistants	Nigel Lewis, Coria Ryan, Duncan Waldack

Wardrobe Assistants

Raymond Childe, Anne Gilmour, Jean Darby, Sue Peckitt, Pam Smith, Bridget Strevens, Susan Millhouse, Jennie Yates

Hair and Make-up

Georgina Cullis, Kate Rawson, Cathryn Seabrook

Assistant Stage Managers

Josieka Bailey, Russell Fleet, Jolyon Houghton, Panny Seyfert, Anna Sawyer, Dan Schmidt, Henry Broom, Colin Horne

Trunks

Get-in Crew

Tina Harris, Pam Cullen, Camilla Cadier, Gordon Miller, Paul Fitzsimmons, Josieka Bailey, Bernard Brock, Russell Fleet, Calro Watson, ScrowJ, Colin Horne, Jolyon Houghton

Photography

Ian Cole

Programme Editor

Penceloc Maclochlan

Programme Design and Print

Considerthisuk.com

Thanks to:

Jane Arnold Foster, Tina Harris, Alex Marker, Mike Hagari, Jerry Richardson, Bron Blake

The play is set in Venice:

In Pantalone's house

In Pantalone's courtyard

In the street outside Brighella's inn

Inside Brighella's inn

There will be an interval of 15 minutes

Please note this performance contains some mild swearing

Biographies

Phillip Sheehan – Pantaloon Parsimony

Phillip has been a member of The Questors since 1974 and has over the years been active as an actor, writer and director. He was closely involved with the early projects of *Playback* (Questors Reminiscence Group) mostly notably *Soupsud Island*. His last acting appearance was as Finbar in Anne Neville's production of *The Weir*.

Ania Alexander – Clarice

Ania is a professional actress and trained at The Questors and Arts Educational School of Acting. At The Questors she recently played Claudine (an ugly sister) in *Cinderella*. Other roles at The Questors include Rosa Trilway in *Triplicity of the Wells*, Maria in *The Government Inspector* and Anne Frank in *The Dreams of Anne Frank*.

Francis Lloyd – Dr Lombardi

Francis appeared as Lucio in *The Visitation Twins*. Other parts at The Questors include Henry Carr in *Travels*, John in *Dianna*, Wicksteed in *Heaven Canopy* and Mr Wopse in *Great Expectations*. He directed *After the Dance and French Paste* and is directing *Charley's Aunt* later this season, at The Questors and at the Mirack.

James Ellis – Silvio

James has been a member of The Questors for two years. His most recent role was in *Much Ado About Nothing* last year as a member of the Watch. He also appeared in the 2005 new acting members showcase. This is his first major role in a Questors production.

Jason Francis – Brighella

Jason is a graduate from The Questors 59th student group and an active company member. Last month he got his first professional work appearing in *The Heart*, a short film by Valentino Rossi. Previous theatre work includes *Richard III*, *Line*, *Dog in the Manger*, *Saturday Sunday Monday* and *Henry V*.

Lucy Ibbison – Smeraldina Lucy's debut with The Questors is, for her, a welcome return to her first love of performing. Lucy graduated from Webber Douglas many years ago and worked in Rep, TV and pantomime that included *Ayr Summer Theatre*, *The Bill*, *Hi-Do* and *Dick Whittington* in Hampstead. She's thoroughly pleased to be working with The Questors.

Anthony Curran – Truffaldino

Anthony Curran is a graduate of Student Group 47 and has been an acting member since 1994. Recently he was Estragon in *Waiting For Godot*. Among his favourite parts are Iago in *The Recruiting Officer* and Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer*. He had the honour of being in our previous Golconda extravaganza *The Venetian Twins*.

Annabelle Williams – Beatrice

Annabelle first started acting at senior school and went on to join the student group at The Questors. Past roles include Eliza in *Pygmalion*, Ophelia in *Hamlet*, Mrs Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, Auntie Peck in *The Snow Queen* and Melinda in *The Recruiting Officer*.

Robert Seatter – Florindo

Robert was as the effervescent Herbert Pocket in *Great Expectations* preceded by a particularly nasty villain in *The Pity She's a Whore*. Robert has done his fair share of swashing and bucking at The Questors, including leading roles in *The Recruiting Officer*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Translations* and *Much Ado about Nothing*.

Derek Chandler – Porter 1

Derek joined The Questors in the early sixties, first appearing in *Henry IV Part 1*, which was staged in the Old Tin Hut. He has since appeared in many plays, old and new, more recently in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and *Cinderella*.

Andrew McGuiness – First Waiter/ Porter 2

Andrew has previously appeared at The Questors in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Saturday*, *Sunday*, *Monday*, *Marriage by Gogol* (also Edinburgh Festival), and *The Happiest Days of your Life*. Professional credits include roles in *Eastenders*, *The Inspector Lynley Mysteries* (BBC), *Five Card Trick* (Solo Theatre), *Bandwagons* (National Theatre).

Willi O'Connell – Second Waiter

Willi joined The Questors in 2003. He completed The Questors' Student Course in 2006. In student productions he played various roles including the Bishop of Canterbury in *Henry V* and granddad in *Saturday Sunday Monday*. His latest appearance was in *Richard III*, playing Catesby and Tyrrel.

John Fryer – Fight Director/Third Waiter

Previous fights at The Questors have included *Henry V*, *Peter Pan* and *Richard III*. He has also written several plays, the most recent being *The Bloodsucker List* that was performed at The Barn Theatre in Heme Hempstead.

Camilla Cadier – Deputy Stage Manager

Camilla is a new member to The Questors this season. A *Servant of Two Masters* is her first production at the theatre and she is thrilled to be involved. She has previously worked backstage at the Duke of York's Theatre.



Art Exhibitions

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.

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

The Caucasian Chalk Circle

8 – 15 March 2008

In the Studio

Brecht uses storytelling to explore deep themes.

The Railway Children

21 – 29 March 2008

In the Playhouse

A well loved family classic with serious messages at its core.

Dinner

25 – 29 March 2008

In the Studio

Invitations are going out for the dinner party from hell.



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 offer 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 coloring 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.