

Charles Dickens'
*A Christmas
Carols*

adapted by John Mortimer

Questors, Ealing's Theatre
The Playhouse
12 December 2009 – 2 January 2010

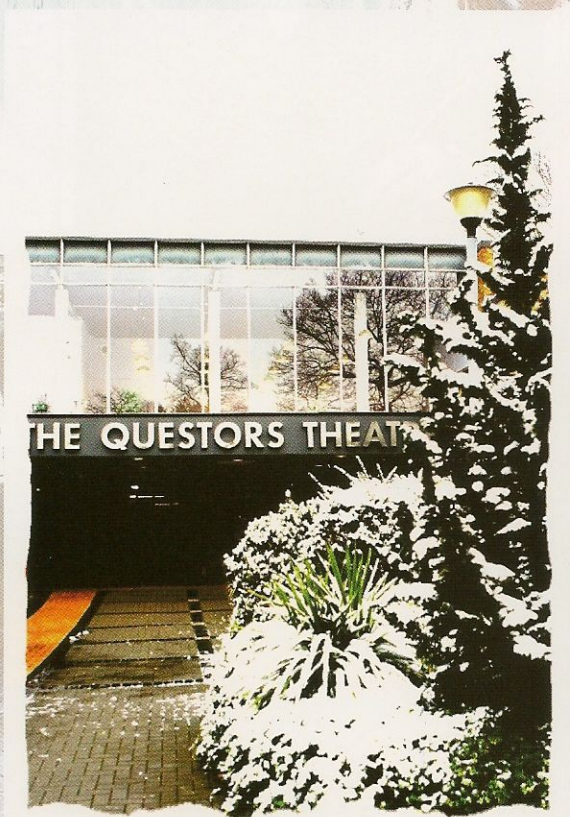
The Questors Theatre
welcomes you to
A Christmas Carol

We are delighted that you have come to The Questors Theatre at this special time of year to watch and, we hope, to join in our festive production of the great Charles Dickens favourite, A Christmas Carol.

You may not know, but nearly everyone that you meet at The Questors and almost everyone involved in bringing this very special production to our stage does so on a largely voluntary and unpaid basis. We do it because of our love of theatre, of being part of a warm, open and generous family of like-minded people and because we have a passionate belief in the arts to enrich all of our lives.

With over 70 young people in the cast, as well as the older actors, we also believe in the educative power of theatre to inspire and to challenge and to enhance young people's creativity, self-confidence and self-belief. Before you are the leaders of the future and if we at The Questors have in some small way helped make that path more fun, more interesting or we have opened a new door for them, then we are delighted. As a Charity, it is essential that our remit to educate is a key part of what we do and with over 400 young people coming through our doors every week we are certain that we more than meet that challenge.

Whilst you are here, why not find out about our alternative Christmas production in the Studio Theatre – Tom Stoppard's Rock 'n' Roll – and our future productions in Spring. We have a great website at questors.org.uk, where you can keep up to date with announcements about our productions. Also, if you are interested in finding out about what happens behind the scenes, then come along on a Wednesday at 8.00 pm for a tour and free drink in The Questors friendly Grapevine Bar.



Charles Dickens'
A Christmas Carol

Adapted by John Mortimer

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 12 December 2009

The Players

Ebenezer Scrooge
Bob Cratchit
Fred, Scrooge's Nephew
Two Portly Gentlemen
The Ghost of Jacob Marley

Richard Gallagher
Derek Stoddart
Charlie Wild
Robert Baker-Glenn, Alan Chambers
Robert Baker-Glenn

The Spirit of Christmas Past
Child Scrooge
Young Scrooge
Headmaster
Fan
Mr Fezziwig
Dick Wilkins
Mrs Fezziwig
The Misses Fezziwig

Paul Whiting
Michael Sacur, Balam Gomez-Baker, Billy Degge
Wesley Lloyd
Geoffrey Morgan
Grace England, Poppy Hipwell, Rachel Long

Three Young Followers

Richard Brown
Dan Martin
Sally Masson
Grace Austin, Isabella Fletcher, Kim Hemans,
Sophia Ikirmawi, Holly Newson, Jessie Sheridan
James Brennan, Aidan Dunlop,
Ben Greedy, Jamie King

Housemaid

Isabel Bouwman, Sasha Duszynska-Lewis,
Rebecca Graham

Baker

Alan Chambers

Cook

Efthymia Kalyvides

Milkman

Robert Baker-Glenn

Boy

Benjamin Bennet, Shaan Latif-Shaikh, Jack O'Donnell

Belle

Lydia Georgoula

Her Daughter

Hayley Fletcher

Her Husband

Paul Whiting

Belle's Grandchildren

Rebecca Bollard, Inika Claerhout, Harry Gilmour,
Lewis Keegan, Morwenna Oldfield, Seon Webb

The Spirit of Christmas Present

Richard Brown

Ignorance

Dinah Newall, Libby Newton, Katie Phillips

Want

Mia Budat, Shaan Latif-Shaikh, Ellen Newall

Mrs Cratchit

Sally Masson

Peter

Will Langley

Martha
Belinda
Tiny Tim

Hayley Fletcher
Isabella Fletcher
Adam Carrutheros, Daniel Harte,
Benjamin Marshall
Elizabeth Carrera, Rebecca Carrera,
Safiya Hachani, Opheiere Mayoux,
Laura Simpson, Talia Smolar
Lydia Georgoula
Efthymia Kalyvides
Dan Martin

Little Cratchits

Fred's Wife, Scrooge's Niece
Miss Rosie, the Plump Sister
Mr Topper

The Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come
Businessmen

Alan Chambers
Robert Baker-Glenn, Dan Martin,
Derek Stoddart, Paul Whiting
Dan Martin, Paul Whiting
Geoffrey Morgan
Sally Masson
Lydia Georgoula
Robert Baker-Glenn
Andrew Graham, Matthew Hurley, Louie Waldoock
Paul Whiting
Isabel Bouwman, Sasha Duszynska-Lewis,
Rebecca Graham
Erin Coleman, Charlotte Killick,
Krystal Kirton-Powis
Hannah Ajayi, Jade Arklie, Benjamin Bennet,
Emily Bouwman, Abigail Brown, Lucie Carotenuto,
Jacob Chancellor, Inika Claerhout,
Phoenix Davies-Joseph, Lara Dodd, Tara Fair,
Zoe Fair, Elliot Fletcher, Harry Gilmour,
Maeve Halpin, Ella Huegle, Martin Keegan,
Nathaniel Lecock, Emma Long, Jack O'Donnell,
Liam O'Neill, Jacob Softleigh-Moore,
Lucia Tremonti, Jonah Yudolph-Wood
Members of The Questors Choir

Important Men
Old Joe
Charwoman
Mrs Dilber
Undertaker's Man
Poulterer's Boy
Poulterer's Man
Fred's Maid

Beggar Child

Children's Ensemble

Carol Singers

The performance lasts about 2 hours and minutes including a 15 minute interval

Please turn off all mobile phones, piers and watch alarms. The use of cameras, video cameras and record equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thanku.

The Production Team



Director	Mark Fitzgerald
Set Designer	Alex Marker
Costume Designer	Sarah Andrews
Lighting Designer	Richard Mead
Sound Designer	Alan N Smith
Graphic Designer	Elaine Hagan
Production Manager	Sylvia Wall
Stage Manager	Liz Prior
Deputy Stage Manager	Matthew Wilson
Assistant Director	Lindsey Pearson
Assistant Designers	Gemma Batchelor, Samantha Anthony
Assistant Lighting Designer	Victoria Butler
Assistant Stage Managers	Alec Atchison, Juliette Bartelds, Henry Broom, Fortuna Burke, Kit Clayton, Grace Craddock, Callum Forber, Doug King, Amy Mancini, Jean Masters, Joel Schrire, Elizabeth Sexton, Tony Smith, Caz Thomson, Connor Ward, Tom Yelf
Wardrobe Helpers	Helen Budak, Mary Davies, Anne Gilmour, Jackie Graham, Jane Hemans, Laura Hurley, Helen Karasiewicz, Sue Peckitt, Alison Simmons, Pam Smith, Ros Storey, Bridgett Strevens, Elzbieta Studzinska, Josie Thomas
Properties	Bron Blake, Grace Craddock, Jim Craddock, Antony Doran, Georges Duane, Philippa Forster, Thomas Halward, Rebecca Haywood, Claudia Kees, Jean Masters, Jenny Richardson, Peter Salvietto, Tara Stoner
Set Construction	Mike Hagan, Matthew Addison, Lukas Claerhout, Kit Clayton, Sherice Griffiths, Danielle Hurley, Amy Mancini, Ramona Mason, Gordon Miller, Heather Noble, Donna Noel, Victoria Phillips, Thomas Stevenson, Caz Thompson, Connor Ward, Jack Watson, Charlotte Williams, Richard Williams, Paul Wilson
Scenic Painting	Hazel Atashroo, Elaine Hagan, Meagan Hughes, Emily Thomas
Children's Liaison Manager	Clare Watson
Prompters	Gordon Miller, Pam Smith
Choreographer	Robert Baker-Glenn
Musician	Ian Robertson
Flying	Kirby's Flying Ballets
Lighting Operators	Tim Edwards, Tim Haywood, Francois Langton, Chris Newall, Ben Sandford, Chris Tomlins
Sound Operator	Paul Robinson
Wigs and Make-up	Anna Sergent, Sara Tidey
Show Photographer	Peter Collins
Thanks to	Baz Goodall, Tom Hagan, Ellis McNorthey-Gibbs, Children's Chaperones, The House Services Team, The Kingston College Technical Students, The Office Staff, The Bus Pass Holders of The Questors Theatre

Biographies

Sarah Andrews – Costume Designer

Sarah has been involved in over 60 shows at The Questors, half of them as an actor and half as a costume designer and maker. There have been times when she was involved on both these fronts in the same show – a true test of commitment.

Robert Baker-Glenn – Actor

Robert has appeared at The Questors for several years, most recently in Simon Gray's *Otherwise Engaged*, and before that in Coward's *Hay Fever* and Ionesco's *The Chairs*.

Richard Brown – Actor

Richard's most recent appearance at The Questors was in *STIFF*. Before that he was seen in *As You Like It*, *This Happy Breed* and *Absent Friends*.

Alan Chambers – Actor

Appeared in or directed over 20 Christmas shows, recently specialising in animals: Albert the Horse in *Wind in the Willows*, Polar Bear in *The Snow Queen*, Mr Beaver in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* and Mother Goose. It's a relief to have a human part in this play!

Mark Fitzgerald – Director

Mark is Joint Artistic Director of The Questors Theatre. Directing credits include: *Far From the Madding Crowd*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*; *Richard III*; *Separate Tables*; *The Visit*; *Henry V*; *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*; *This Happy Breed* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Mark also works as an acting coach for television and radio. Films include the award-winning *Seven Sins of England* for Channel Four.

Richard Gallagher – Actor

Trained at the Manchester Polytechnic School of Theatre. At The Questors, favourites include: *Twelfth Night* (Sir Toby), *Privates On Parade* (Terri), *Travesties* (James Joyce), *Duet For One* (Feldman). He directed *Habeas Corpus* and co-directed his own play, *French Paste*. More recently, he played Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest* and directed *Misery*.

Lydia Georgoula – Actor

Lydia joined The Questors Acting for All course in 2006. She has just completed studying in The Questors Student Group 62 where she had the opportunity to appear in *Cinderella*, *Henry VI* (Earl of Northumberland, Lord of Oxford) and *Far From The Madding Crowd* (Maryann Money). She has also worked backstage as a Deputy Stage Manager on *Misery*.

Efthymia Kalyvides – Actor

Efthymia is currently a first year student on The Questors Foundation and Performance Course. This is her first production at The Questors and hopes to participate in many more.

Wesley Lloyd – Actor

This is Wesley's third production with director Mark Fitzgerald, having previously been directed by him as a member of Questors Student Group 62 in *Henry VI* (as King Henry VI) and *Far From The Madding Crowd* (as Joseph Poorgrass). Wesley most recently appeared as seven different characters in *The Marvellous Land Of Oz*.

Alex Marker – Set Designer

Alex joined The Questors Youth Theatre in 1988. On leaving, he returned as a group leader and director of QYT. He is also head of design at The Questors where he has designed over 25 productions. He trained in design at Wimbledon School of Art and since graduating has designed professionally for a wide variety of venues, including The Finborough Theatre where he is resident designer.

Dan Martin – Actor

Dan's Ghosts of Theatre Past include playing Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, Arviragus in *Cymbeline*, Ralph Clark in *Our Country's Good*, Billis in *South Pacific* and Valjean in *Les Miserables*. He's also directed. Dan's Ghost of Theatre Present displays his first role at Questors. He wishes for many more from his Ghost of Theatre Yet To Come.

Sally Masson – Actor

Having trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama many years ago, Sally has returned to the theatre to resume an interest almost long forgotten. The Questors offers a brilliant opportunity for all ages to work in and to enjoy the theatre and it's really great to be part of it!

Richard Mead – Lighting Designer

Recently Richard has done the lighting designs for *Far from the Madding Crowd* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* as well as projection design for *Broken Glass*. Previous lighting designs at The Questors include *King Lear*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *The Snow Queen*.

Geoffrey Morgan – Actor

Has been an acting member at The Questors since 2002, worked at various back stage roles, sings G&S with the Julian Light Opera and most recently appeared in The Studio in *Madam Bovary* as a singularly unattractive draper. Bit like Old Joe, really, only better dressed.

Lindsey Pearson – Assistant Director

Lindsey has been a member of The Questors for five years, appearing in *The Evolution of Esther* (2004), *The Trojan Women* (2007), as The Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella* (2007) and as Myra in *Hayfever* (2008).

Alan N Smith – Sound Designer

Designs both Sound and Lighting. Credits range from *Hans Kohlhaas* (1972), *The Accrington Pals* (1983), *Lark Rise* (1984), to more recent *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Travesties*, *Charade* and *Seascape*, *Great Expectations*, *The London Cuckolds*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Festen* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

Derek Stoddart – Actor

Derek has been an acting member of The Questors since 1982. His most recent role was as Delilah in *STIFF*. He has appeared in two previous Dickens productions, as Smike in *Nicholas Nickleby* and as Wemmick in *Great Expectations*, and is looking forward to this latest extravaganza.

Paul Whiting – Actor

Plays at The Questors include *Mountain Language*, *This Happy Breed* and *Richard III* (2007). Paul is one of the tutors on the Acting For All course. Professional work includes roles in theatre: *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Room*, *Gaveston*; in films: *Earlier*, *Playground Rules*, *Absolutely Hardcore*; and documentaries: *Seven Sins of England*, *The Enemy Within*.

Charlie Wild – Actor

Charlie's delighted to be performing at The Questors Theatre again after previously appearing in *Early Morning*, *Little Shop Of Horrors* and *Richard III*. Other stage credits include The Kings Head Theatre, Islington. Charlie trained at The Arts Educational School, London, receiving a LAMDA Gold Medal. He is a member of the National Youth Theatre.

The Questors Choir – Carol Singers

The choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 8.00 to 10.00 pm at St Martins Church Hall, Hale Gdns, W3. New members are always welcome. Their next concert will be on March 20th at St Peters Church, Mount Park Rd, W5, and will include *Eternal Light – A Requiem* by Howard Goodall, a composer known for his appearances on TV and Classic FM and his popular theme music to *Blackadder*, *Red Dwarf* and *The Vicar of Dibley*. This is a modern requiem with wide appeal, mixing sacred and secular music. For more information, go to www.questorschoir.org.uk or telephone 020 8560 1005.

Youth and Student Activities at The Questors Theatre

All the young people you will see on-stage today come from The Questors Youth Theatre (QYT). The Questors has run Youth Groups for over 50 years and, during term time, over 400 young people aged 6 – 16 come through our doors every week. No previous theatre or acting experience is necessary.

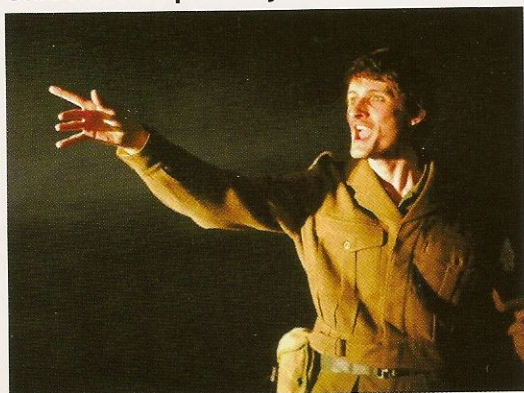
Aged between 6 and 10 – you can attend the one hour classes on a Saturday morning which emphasise imaginative play to develop confidence and sources of make-believe.

Aged between 11 and 16 – the one and a half hour classes during the weekday evening cover role-playing improvisations and acting exercises to help develop drama skills and lay the foundation for theatre skills.

QYT: *Brave New World*



Student Group: *Henry VI*



As a QYT member you will be part of a staged showcase at the end of each year in The Studio Theatre, when your family and friends will see what you have worked on during the year. Most excitingly, you will have the chance to audition for a role in the annual QYT production in The Playhouse. In 2009, the well-received QYT production was *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley; last Christmas, many QYT members were cast in *The Wizard of Oz*; and the international award-winning QYT production of *Cogner au Plafond (Bashing on the Ceiling)* was performed in Vienna at the 1st World Youth Theatre Festival this summer. There are opportunities to be cast in our Playhouse and Studio productions as well as to get involved backstage for 16 year olds.

Introductory Course – if you are 17 or over then you can apply for the Introductory Course. An introduction to the art of acting, it is ideal if you want to learn to act and are keen to make a serious commitment to theatre. Entry is by audition, but if you have been in QYT you are quite likely to be successful.

Foundation and Performance Course – if you are 18 or over, this two-year part-time course will prepare you to work among the very best at The Questors or go onto drama school. The course is Stanislavsky-based and will lay the foundation for your lifelong growth as an actor. You will develop your imaginative and creative abilities and be encouraged to strive for the highest artistic standards. In the second year you will build on the principles that you have learnt in your first year and bring a script to life. You will perform in two productions at The Questors, one in March in The Studio and one in July in The Playhouse. The group that has graduated this year performed *Henry VI* and *Far From the Madding Crowd* to considerable acclaim.

Student Group: *Far From the Madding Crowd*



So, if you are interested in QYT, pick up an orange form from the office, or a yellow form for the Introductory or Foundation and Performance Courses. Or you can phone the theatre (see back page of this programme) during office hours.

Productions for Early 2010

The Homecoming

by **Harold Pinter**

Classic twentieth century British drama by the Nobel Laureate.
Opens 23 January in The Playhouse

Abigail's Party

by **Mike Leigh**

Iconic comedy of suburban lives and manners.
Opens 30 January in The Studio

The Comedy of Errors

by **William Shakespeare**

One of Shakespeare's most light-hearted comedies.
Opens 13 February in The Playhouse

Kvetch

by **Steven Berkoff**

Darkly comic drama about suburban anxieties.
Opens 26 February in The Studio

The Rover

by **Aphra Behn**

Restoration comedy of revenge and romantic surprises.
Opens 17 April in The Playhouse
and 6 September at The Minack Theatre,
Cornwall

Sweeney Todd

music & lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**,
book by **Hugh Wheeler**, based on a
version of Sweeney Todd by
Christopher Bond

Award-winning musical thriller of passion,
love and revenge.
Opens 1 May in The Studio

Join Us as a Member

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and benefit from membership:

- ✓ Half-price personal tickets for Questors productions*
- ✓ Discounted guest tickets when you bring your friends to Questors productions*
- ✓ Children's FREE tickets**
- ✓ Ticket reservation facility (conditions apply)
- ✓ Opportunities to be actively involved in our productions
- ✓ Allowed to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Receive the full-colour *Questors Live* magazine three times a year
- ✓ Receive the monthly *QNews* club newsletter
- ✓ Receive the monthly Programme Card
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Special invitations, events and offers not available to the public
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

* Reduced prices exclude certain events.

** Under 18; excludes certain events; maximum 4 per event; must be collected at the performance and accompanied by the member.

Introductory Offer – as a welcome for first-time members, you can either try us out for six months at half-price, or get your first 15 months' membership for the price of 12 months'.

Questors E-News direct to your inbox

Get all the latest news and offers for our shows by joining our e-mail lists. It's easy to sign up at

questors.org.uk

Alternative Christmas Entertainment
at The Questors

Tom Stoppard's Rock 'n' Roll

Love, politics and rock music collide in an extraordinary epic.

In The Questors Theatre Studio from
19 December 2009 to 2 January 2010

Come back next Christmas for
The Questors Theatre production of

Disney's Beauty and The Beast

Music by
Alan
Menken

Lyrics by
Howard Ashman
Tim Rice

Book by
Linda
Woolverton