

Join Us

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

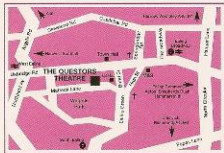
If you enjoy a regular night out at the theatre with friends, why not become a member of The Questors? As a Playgoer Member, you'll receive a 20 per cent discount on your ticket to most Questors productions, free tickets for your children to most Questors productions, regular information about our productions, and membership of the Grapevine Bar, so you can 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 this for just £30 for Playgoer membership and £60 (£45 concessions) for Company membership, until 31 August 2009, with discounts for payment by Direct Debit. You can find membership application forms by Box Office, or download one from our web site.

Stay in touch

Sign up for our weekly or monthly emails and get the latest news of our productions. Find out at questors.org.uk.



Full details on our web site

You'll find full details of our current and forthcoming productions – along with lots more information – on our web site.

- ◆ What's on
- ◆ Online booking
- ◆ Getting involved
- ◆ Courses
- ◆ Hire facilities
- ◆ Grapevine Bar
- ◆ Art exhibitions
- ◆ QYT youth theatre
- ◆ Weekly Open Evenings
- ◆ Receive our email news

THE QUESTORS THEATRE
12 Mattock Lane, Ealing W5 5BQ

Box Office:
020 8567 5184

Theatre Office:
020 8567 0011

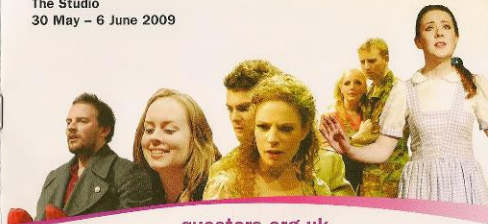
Email:
enquiries@questors.org.uk

Questors Ealing's Theatre

STIFF

By April Phillips

The Studio
30 May – 6 June 2009





Café

Enjoy a coffee during the interval at our Café in the Upper Foyer. It's open before the performance and during the Interval for most performances in the Playhouse. (Studio audiences can enjoy a coffee in the Grapevine Bar instead.)



Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to members of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as serving audience 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 2009 edition of The Good Beer Guide, and we have been named as West Middlesex CAMRA Club of the Year 2008. Real ales recently on tap include Fuller's London Pride, Adnams The Bitter and Sambrook's Wandle 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



STIFF

By April Phillips

The Studio
30 May – 6 June 2009

STIFF

This is not the first comedy to be set in a funeral parlour, but it must be one of the most entertaining, maintains director Gareth Bevan. He suggested that the label 'comedy' does not begin to do it justice and describes STIFF as an outrageously suggestive, old fashioned farce. Think of *Carry On* films and saucy seaside postcards and you will be on the right track he noted.

Angel Delight is the illegitimate daughter of a funeral director and inherits the undertaker's premises when he dies. But there's a catch in his will. Before she can sell the business and the land (which is much more valuable) she is required to keep the funeral parlour open for a further five years. She knows absolutely nothing about the funeral business... but rather a lot about prostitution.

So Angel and her team of 'girls' (including the obsessive-compulsive transvestite Delliiah) decide to use the undertaker's premises as a front for a massage parlour. But they have to keep their personal services hidden from the prying eyes of a disgruntled former employee who feels he should have inherited the funeral business. Add suspenders, death by misadventure and some unorthodox embalming techniques and you have all the ingredients for a riotous evening.

The play is the work of New Zealand actor, singer and comedian April Phillips. STIFF has been a huge hit in New Zealand and has been staged by a string of theatres and is now making a similar impact in Australia. This production is the Northern hemisphere premiere.

The director Gareth Bevan has been in regular email communication with April. He discussed some small textual changes to make the play more accessible (even more hilarious) to a British audience - would you know what a Silver Beet was. April says she is very happy to see how any director interprets what she has written. You can judge for yourself tonight.

Cast Biographies

Sarah Beebe – Angel Delight

Bedroom Farce, Much Ado About Nothing, The Dog in the Manger, Enemy of The People, As You Like it (The Questors); The Odd Couple (SEDOS); All's Well That Ends Well, Electra (KDC).

Katharine Williams – Roxanne Paine

Bedroom Farce, Kate; Cinderella, Claudette; Arsenic & Old Lace, Elaine (The Questors). As the Gimp is to the torture chamber, so Katharine is to The Questors – a regular. She would like to dedicate her performance to her recently deceased grandmother Helena Williams. In loving memory.

Derek Stoddart – Delliiah

Great Expectations, Much Ado About Nothing, Nicholas Nickleby (The Questors); Robin Hood, Thark, Dick Whittington (St Mary's).

Christine Marie DeCoria – Sherry

This is Christine's second production at The Questors and one that she would like to dedicate to her grandparents who are not here in body, but are with her in spirit; rest in peace.

Richard Brown – Robert Swipe

As You Like It, This Happy Breed, Absent Friends (The Questors).

Alex McDevitt – Mrs Beaton

The Wizard of Oz, Wicked Witch; Nightwatch, Rosie Palm; Separate Tables, Mrs Railton-Bell; The Visit, Clara Zachanssian (The Questors). A member of Student Group 60.

Geoffrey Morgan – Lawyer

Madame Bovary – Breakfast with Emma, The Alchemist, Hamlet Unseen (The Questors); various roles (Julian Light Opera and Gilbert & Sullivan).

STIFF

By April Phillips

First performance of this production: Saturday 30 May 2009



Angel Delight

*This madam can
fill a Professional
Gentleman's "soul"
in any and EVERY
way...*



Roxanne Paine

*Worship me
- or elset*



Sherry

*Naughty or nice,
sugar or spice
Your fantasy
is my reality.*



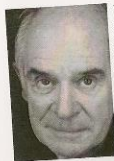
Delilah

*Perfection in every
way; clean, sparkling
and buffed. I pay
attention to every
little detail.*



Mrs Beaton's Home Comforts

*Bed, Breakfast &
Extras (but no toast)
No Cheques or Credit
Cards All Tastes
Catered For.*



LAWYER,
COMMISSIONER OF
OATHS, FACILITATOR,
& LATE-NIGHT
SOLICITOR BANK
CHAMBERS, QUEER ST.
BRIDLINGTON

*"So long as it's legal,
I'm your man"*



Robert Swipe

**Funeral Director,
Qualified Embalmer
and Facilitator
of Reberential
Burial Ceremonies**

"Definitely not a body bonker"



The Director

*Perveyor of Smut,
Innuendo and the Finest
Entendres (both Single
and Double) Loudness
Advisor Extraordinaire
by Royal Appointment*

Please turn off all mobile phones, pagers and
bleepy things – as you will find out, naked lights
can cause explosions.....

And under no circumstances does dominatrix
Roxanne permit photography of any kind – try it and
you may find out what she keeps in her dungeon
of pain. Or is that her wall of pleasure.....?

Crew Biographies

Director – Gareth Bevan

Earlier this season, I was in *Further than the Further Thing*, prior to which I directed *Time and Time Again*. Immediately following *STIFF*, I will be musical director for GLOCC's production of *The All-Night Strut*.

Designer – Alex Marker

Head of design. Most recent productions have been *Brave New World* and *Bedroom Farce* (*The Questors*).

Lighting Designer – Nigel Lewis

The importance of *Being Earnest* and *Brave New World* are my most recent productions (*The Questors*). I am a member of the Association of Lighting Designers and Director of Ealing Lighting Design Limited. I also light opera and a range of events, throughout the UK.

Sound Designer – Andrea Little

Worked on lighting and sound: *3 Polish Shorts*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Alchemist*, *Madame Bovary* – *Breakfast with Emma* (*The Questors*).

Stage Manager – Martin Choules

Brave New World, *The Alchemist*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Chairs/The Lesson*, *After Magritte/Black Comedy*, *The Railway Children*, *Time and Time Again* (*The Questors*).

Deputy Stage Manager – Tina Carnally

Further Than the Furthest Thing, *The Troy Tender Show* (*The Questors*); *Beauty and The Beast* (*The Buckfastleigh Pantomime Group*).

Wardrobe – Anne Gilmour, Cate Carroll, Sue Peckitt

Makeup and Wigs – Gina Page, Amy Todd

Properties – Jo Matthews

Photography – Michael Smith

Technical Advisor – Russell Fleet

Fight Co-ordinators – Duncan Aldridge, Dan Burt, Stuart Campbell, Rebecca Haywood, Joe Marter, Emma Woodman

ASM's – Keith Collyer, George Duane, Ivan Hartley, Ellis McNorthey-Gibbs

Constructor – Andrew Martindale

Thanks to:

Nigel Worsley, Stage Hands in the Studio (SHITS); Marks & Spencer; W H Sherry & Sons.

Special thanks to:

Beryl Bevan for the curtains, drapes and twiddly bits.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses

6 – 13 June 2009-05-13

In the Playhouse

Lust, seduction, passions and betrayal in 18th century France.

Far from the Madding Crowd

11 – 18 July

In the Playhouse

Smouldering drama of a headstrong young woman pursued by three lovers.



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 questors.org.uk
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 – where you can volunteer for just one night or several. Backstage staff – including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, painters, wardrobe staff, and costume and set designers – 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 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 – our 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 have 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 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.

QYT Youth Theatre

Our youth theatre – QYT – runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 16 years old. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages meet on weekday evenings. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! You can find details online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

