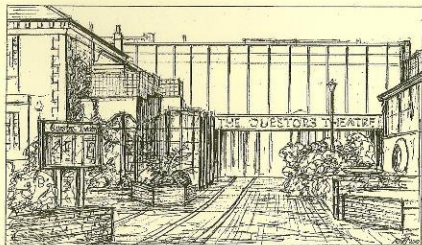




Questors, Ealing's Theatre



TOO FAST

by Douglas Maxwell

The Studio

10 – 12 February 2011

Qafé

Pop in for lunch or an afternoon snack – serving specialist teas and coffees, hot chocolate and soft drinks, with a selection of sandwiches cut to order.

Now open seven days a week.

Monday to Friday: 10:30 am – 7:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday: 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm

For Playhouse productions:

Hot meal menu up to 6:45 pm followed by drinks, ice creams and snacks through the first interval.

The Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to Members and Friends of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as 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 2011 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are 2010 CAMRA West Middlesex Club of the Year. A choice of at least three real ales is usually available, including Fuller's London Pride. 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 pm – 11:00 pm (10:30 pm close on Sundays)

Sunday lunchtime: midday – 2:30 pm

See questors.org.uk/grapevine for more details

Neither the Qafé nor the Grapevine
are able to accept credit or debit cards.

National Theatre connections



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Bank of America
Merrill Lynch

Connections is also supported by a number
of individuals, trusts and foundations

Dedicated to
Tom Clabburn
(1992-2007)
Remembered with great joy

Too Fast

I have been keen for QYT to be involved with National Theatre Connections for some years and I am delighted that we are finally a part of this exciting project. This offers the rare opportunity for youth theatre members to perform an original play written especially for young actors, both at their own venue and as part of a regional festival alongside nine other groups. The added excitement of being considered to perform at The National Theatre in the summer elevates this project to something very special. The Questors Theatre has a wonderful, thriving youth theatre that deserves increasing acknowledgement and acclaim in the theatrical world.

Once we were selected to take part, I read all ten of this year's new plays, which offered a very wide range of styles and subject matters. *Too Fast* really shone out as a wonderfully funny, unique, truthful and heartfelt play. I knew that our young people would engage with it and bring these characters to life. I also found the central philosophy of the play, which is hopeful, positive and transformative, to be wonderful and important.

One benefit of NT Connections is the Directors' Weekend bringing together all 200 participating companies from across the country. This offers the chance to workshop the play with National Theatre of Scotland's Artistic Director Vicky Featherstone and playwright Douglas Maxwell. This was a fun and enlightening process, presenting many different ways to explore the play in rehearsal.

One of the most important things about working with young people on a play is to ensure that they own it. Nothing is less empowering to a cast than imposed limitations in the form of too strict or prescriptive direction. They need to discover the play and characters for themselves. The result is then real, breathing characters, living out the play moment by moment. Our rehearsal process started as very exploratory, giving the actors time and space to make discoveries. We are also lucky to have the chance to continue to develop our production with feedback on our home performance from our Connections Director. The spirit of evolution in theatre is so important: we go to the theatre to be part of a unique and transitory experience that changes every night. Theatre at its best is live, living and changing. Let's change with it.

Dominique Gerrard
Director

TOO FAST

by Douglas Maxwell

This production is supported by John Lyon's Charity

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 10 February 2011

CAST

in order of appearance

Spoke's Brother	Charlie Sloboda-Bolton
Sean	Emre Kose
DD	Emilia Manzo-Slater
Nadia	Helen Charles
Marcy	Aimee Cullen
Amee	Aoife Tully
Young Jean Brown	Moya Marshall
Callum	Matthew Tyrrell
Laila	Ellen Gould
Frankie	Sam Hynes
Jake	Jamie Naylor
Ali	Poppy Neill

Across The Universe by John Lennon and Paul McCartney,
arrangement by Benjamin Cox

The performance lasts approximately 45 minutes

PRODUCTION

Director	Dominique Gerrard
Assistant Director	Rachel Knightley
Musical Director	Benjamin Cox
Set Designer	Phillip Lindley
Lighting Designer	Nigel Lewis
Sound Designer	Martin Choules
Stage Manager	Kate Townsend
Assistant Stage Manager	Jemma Auvache
Fight Choreographer	Paul Whiting
Lighting Operator	Sarah Clopet
Sound Operator	Richard Halberstadt
Sound Recorders	Benjamin Cox, Nigel Lewis
Video Maker	Chris Edwards
Lighting Rigger	James Collins
Set Constructors	Sarah Clopet, Barry Jones, Philip Lindley
Scenic Artists	Elaine Hagan, Alex Marker
School Crest Designer	Rachel Knightley
Photographer	Peter Gould
Thanks to:	Claire, Paul and Ellen; Jeremy Banks; Marianne Izen; Nigel Worsley; Arts Depot; The Questors Office Staff

Please turn off all mobile phones, pagers and watch alarms.
The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.

Biographies

Helen Charles – Nadia

Helen has been attending The Questors since Year 1. This is her first Questors production. She will begin studying GCSE Drama in September. She is also a strong swimmer and swims for Ealing Dolphins.

Aimee Cullen – Marcy

Aimee has been attending The Questors since October 2010. This is Aimee's first Questors production. Aimee has a keen interest in acting and wishes to pursue a professional acting career. Aimee has appeared in a KFC commercial and has been in many school productions, her favourite role being the Artful Dodger.

Ellen Gould – Laila

Ellen has been a member of QYT for ten years. She has appeared in *Arabian Nights* and the award-winning *Cognor au Plafond*, which she performed at an international festival in Vienna. In September, she directed and produced QYT's production of *Chatroom*. She is a member of the National Youth Theatre.

Sam Hynes – Frankie

Sam has been attending QYT for four years and has had roles in youth theatre productions such as *Brave New World* in which she played the part of Linda. She has always had a keen interest in acting and is currently attending various auditions to pursue a three-year BA course in acting which she hopes will give her the edge in her career.

Emre Kose – Sean

Emre has been acting since the age of five. He has participated in many school productions such as *Hamlet*, *Tom Sawyer* and *Pericles*. He has passed LAMDA Grade 7 and has been attending The Questors Youth Theatre since September 2010. This is his first QYT production.

Emilia Manzo-Slater – DD

Emilia has been a member of QYT since 2005. This is her third production since joining. She has also been in *More Adventures in Time and Space – A Labyrinth of Iron* and *The Pierglass*. She has also been in school productions and would like to continue performing at The Questors.

Moya Marshall – Young Jean Brown

Moya has been going to QYT classes for two years, though she has been part of other drama clubs. *Too Fast* is her first performance since joining The Questors and she hopes to appear in more productions in the future.

Jamie Naylor – Jake

Jamie attended The Arts Educational School where he studied performing arts for five years. He recently joined The Questors and is a member of the National Youth Theatre. He has been an Early Stages Teacher at Stagecoach since 2008 and is currently studying for a National Diploma in Performing Arts.

Poppy Neill – Ali

Poppy is a student member of The Questors Theatre and is currently studying in the Introductory Group. She has participated in the London School's Shakespeare Festival, performing in *The Tempest* and *Twelfth Night*. She was also involved in London Talent: a drama summer school, resulting in a performance at The Lyric Theatre.

Charlie Sloboda-Bolton – Spoke's Brother

Charlie has been coming to The Questors for four years, although this is his first QYT production. He is 14 and goes to St Benedict's Private School. He lives with his mum, dad, sister and two gerbils. He will be doing Drama GCSE next year.

Aoife Tully – Ameer

Aoife has been coming to The Questors for just over a year and is currently studying at Gumley House RC Convent School. She has previously taken part in school productions, however this is her first QYT production. As well as acting, Aoife also plays county rugby, bass guitar, violin and more.

Matthew Tyrrell – Callum

Matthew has been a member of QYT since Year 10, and has appeared in two youth productions. His first appearance was in the 2009 production *Brave New World* as Nero Smith; his second was as Old Mr. F. in the 2010 production *The Pierglass*. Matthew is currently studying a BTEC National Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts at Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College.

Dominique Gerrard – Director

Dominique is a professional actress (The Actors Company and The Impulse Company) and a director and facilitator. She has directed *Ladies' Day* and *The Railway Children* for The Questors and *The Pierglass*, *Cognor au Plafond*, *Goat Boy* and *Scenes from the Fair* for QYT. She is Senior Tutor for QYT and teaches regularly at The Old Vic Theatre, Pleasance Theatre and Arts Depot.

Rachel Knightley – Assistant Director

Rachel Knightley has written and directed for HENs Theatre Company, the National Trust and for Point303 which she reformed in 2008 to fundraise for Macmillan Cancer Support in memory of a fellow-ex-QYT member. Rachel teaches speech and drama in schools, privately and for QYT. She is Senior Teacher at Ealing Liberal Synagogue.

Benjamin Cox – Musical Director

Ben recently graduated from Cambridge University. He is a composer, conductor and musical director. His new opera *Sursum Corda* was performed under his direction earlier this year. His latest project is a musical based on *Dracula*, for which he is composing music to a new libretto. Ben is Music Director of London a cappella group The Ruby Dolls and was Musical Director for *Beauty and the Beast*, the recent Questors Christmas show.

Philip Lindley – Set Designer

Although trained as an architect, Philip began his theatre career as a set and lighting designer before joining the BBC TV Design Department. After 25 years at the BBC he moved to Lisbon designing for the theatre there. He has just returned to live in the UK despite the weather and this is his second design for The Questors, following *Ladies' Day*.

Nigel Lewis – Lighting Designer

Nigel is co-head of Lighting at The Questors. He has been lighting the stage for 25 years, owns his own theatre lighting company and is a member of The Association of Lighting Designers. Nigel's last performance at The Questors was lighting for *Beauty and the Beast* and he is thrilled to be lighting *Too Fast* under the direction of Dominique.

Kate Townsend – Stage Manager

Kate has been a member of The Questors for two years. She has worked as a DSM on several shows including *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Abigail's Party*. This is her second production as Stage Manager.

Next Questors Productions

DOCTOR FAUSTUS

by Christopher Marlowe

12 – 19 February 2011

The Playhouse

The dark tale of a man who sells his soul by making an infernal pact with the demon Mephistopheles.

THE WINTERLING

by Jez Butterworth

25 February – 5 March 2011

The Studio

A crackling comedy of menace from the author of the triumphantly successful *Jerusalem*.

There will be an additional performance of this production of

***Too Fast* at the Arts Depot on Wednesday 13 April 2011.**

www.artsdepot.co.uk

Join Us

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 friends to Questors productions*
- ✓ Children's FREE tickets†
- ✓ Opportunities to be actively involved in our productions
- ✓ Allowed to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ The full-colour *Questors Live* magazine three times a year
- ✓ The monthly *QNews* members' newsletter
- ✓ Monthly programme card
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Access to iQ – the members-only website <http://members.questors.org.uk>
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

*Reduced prices exclude certain events. †Under 18 only, maximum four per event. Must be collected at the performance and accompanied by an adult member.

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

Getting the most from your membership

We have a wide range of opportunities for you to become actively involved front-of-house or backstage. Volunteer help is always needed for selling programmes or stewarding, and training is provided if you'd like to work in Box Office with our computerized system. To meet members in a social setting, volunteer to help behind the Grapevine bar. Backstage staff including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, sound and light designers and operators, painters, wardrobe and costume and set designers are always welcomed; whatever your skills, we'll find a place for you. We also have courses for those wishing to direct.

The Questors has a high standard of acting and, to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – call the Theatre Office for details of forthcoming auditions.

Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 16. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

Cover Image: Elaine Hagan

Programme: Nigel Bamford & John MacCarrick

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