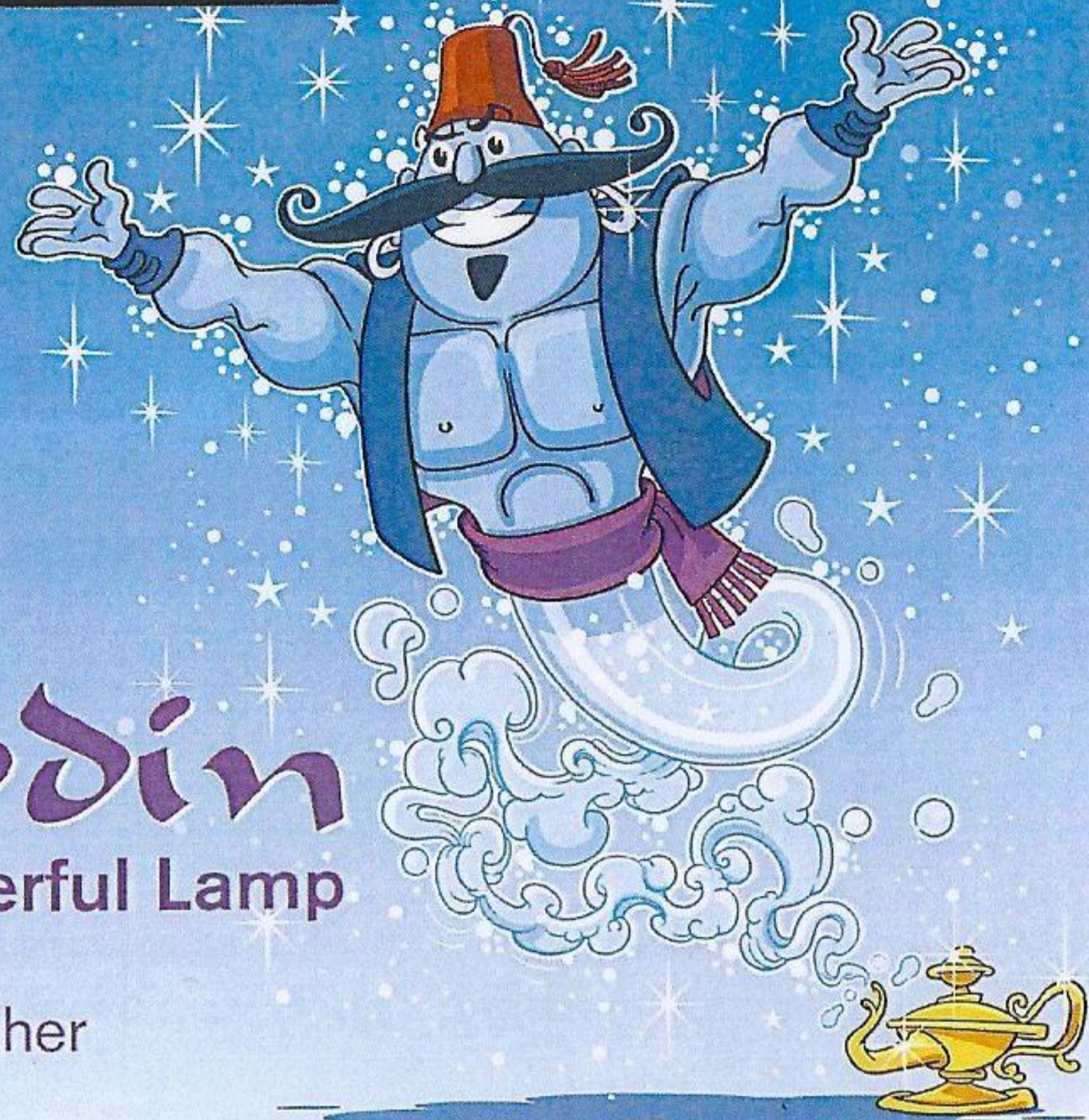


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Patricia Conti
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 **Questors, Ealing's Theatre**

House & Garden

By Alan Ayckbourn

30th October - 9th November 2013

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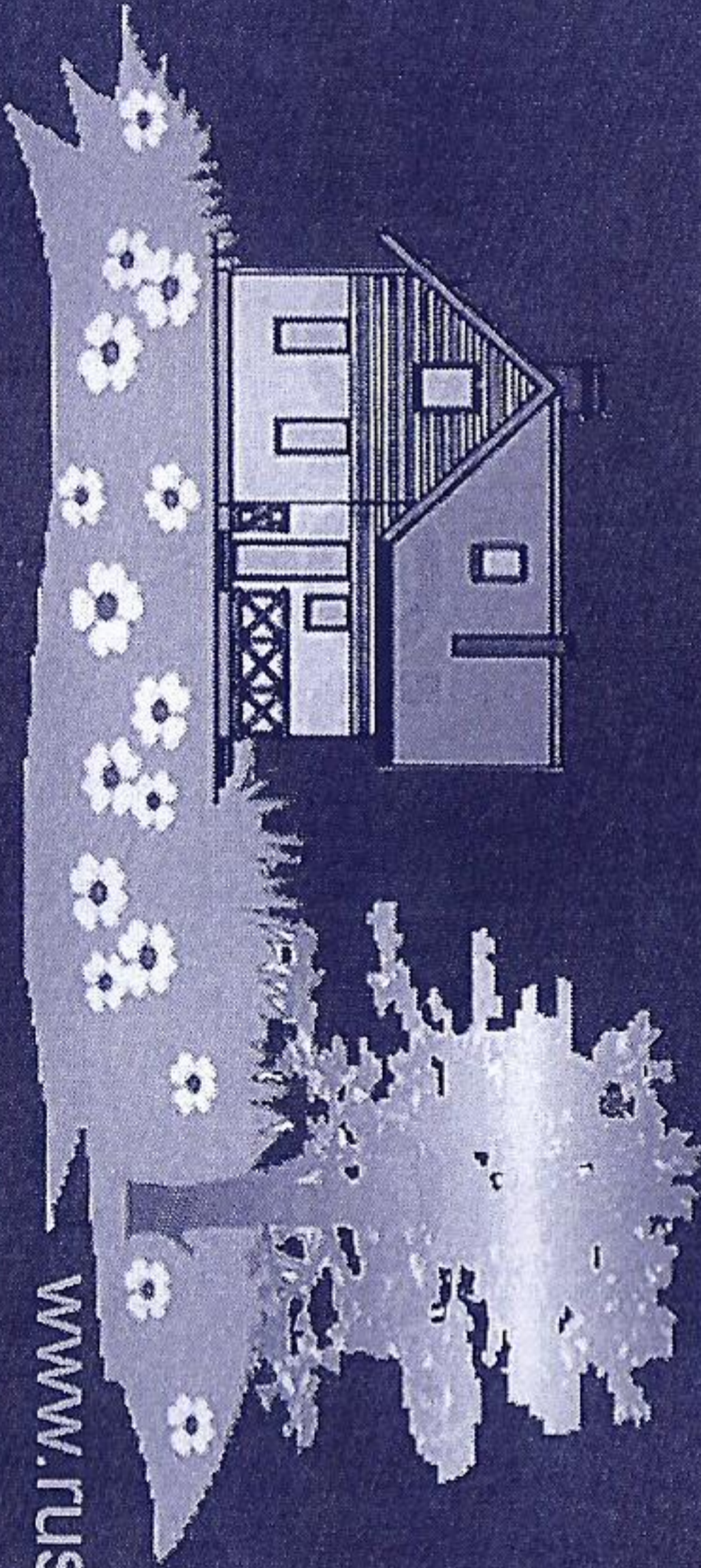
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HOUSE & GARDEN – DIRECTORS' NOTES

Pam Redrup:

I remember hearing about H&G a few years ago when a Questors members was talking about it and how The Questors was made for this play – I think that's when the seed was planted. I remember thinking how exciting would it be to put on two plays, in two spaces with just one cast.

I never gave it another thought until our new artistic director Gary Reid had compiled the season's list of shows that he would like to see at The Questors Theatre, for directors to consider. On that list was

House & Garden and I stupidly asked if he planned on doing both! Emails went back and forth and before I knew it I was being offered this project!

The first thing I did was to time the walk between the stage of the Playhouse and the Studio, and thought, 'Yes, we can do it'.

I knew I had to get the best Questors people on board in every department, if wanted to pull it off - and that's just what I've got! But even before I could begin to think

about how this was going to be staged I had to get someone to help me, someone who would have the same vision as myself, who I could trust and that person could only be Lucy. I met Lucy at The Questors five years ago and I feel we have

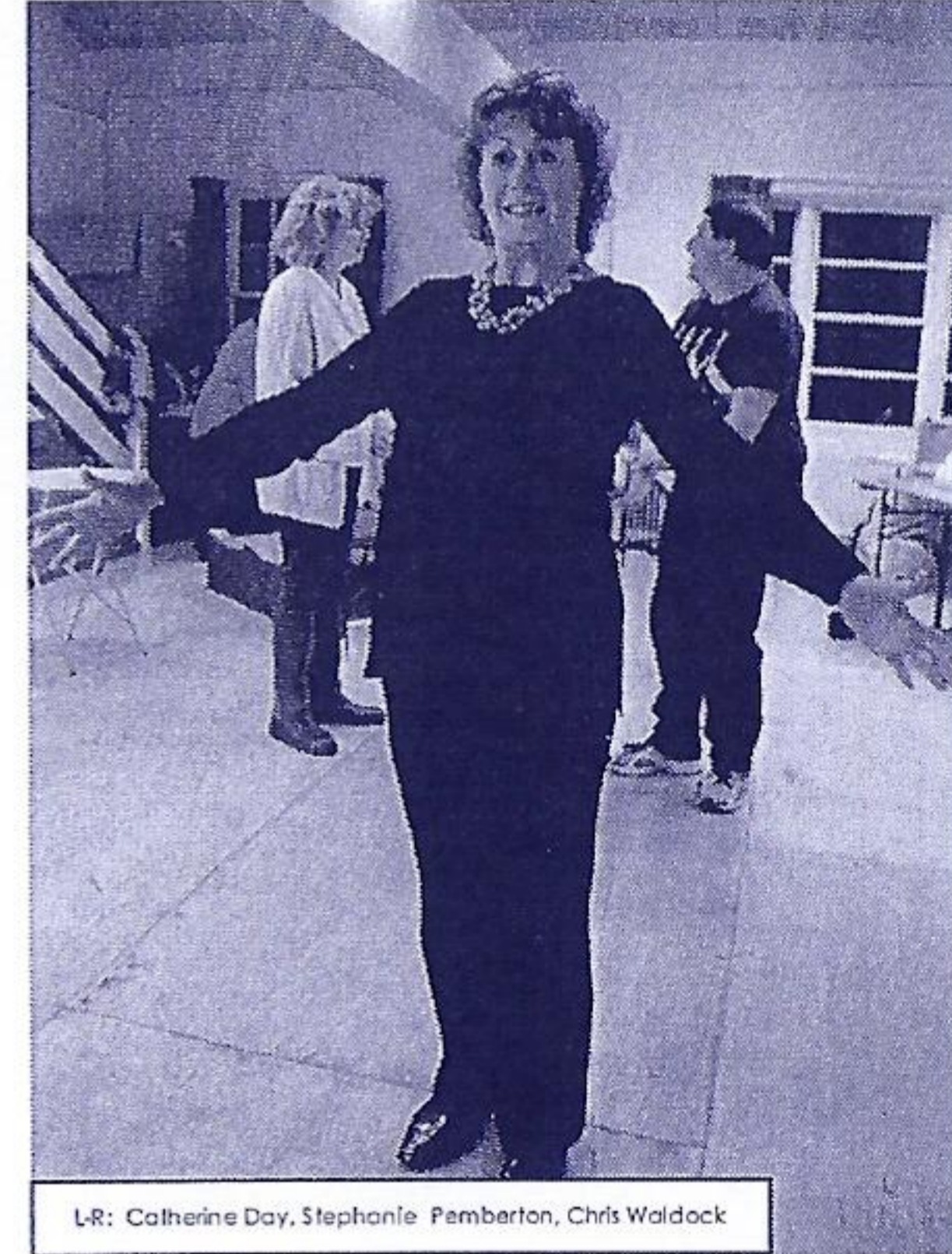
complemented each other on this show – thank you Lucy!

When Lucy and I started talking about *H&G* we knew we had to have a very capable SM and thanks to Michelle Weaver who is head of the SM department and gave us Toby Burbidge. He and the great team have been through every wonderful moment with us and put us at ease with this complex show.

I was first introduced to Alan Ayckbourn when my husband was acting

in *Time and Time Again*. Alan Ayckbourn writes plays I love to watch, an observer of life, the subtle moments of reality that when viewed by others are full of comedy. The title is a tongue-in-cheek reference to the magazine *House & Garden* that portrays country houses and gardens as idyllic, beautiful and peaceful places.

When I first started my research I read Alan Ayckbourn had said to his cast when he first directed *House & Garden* at the Stephen Joseph Theatre, "Listen, this will never be done again because



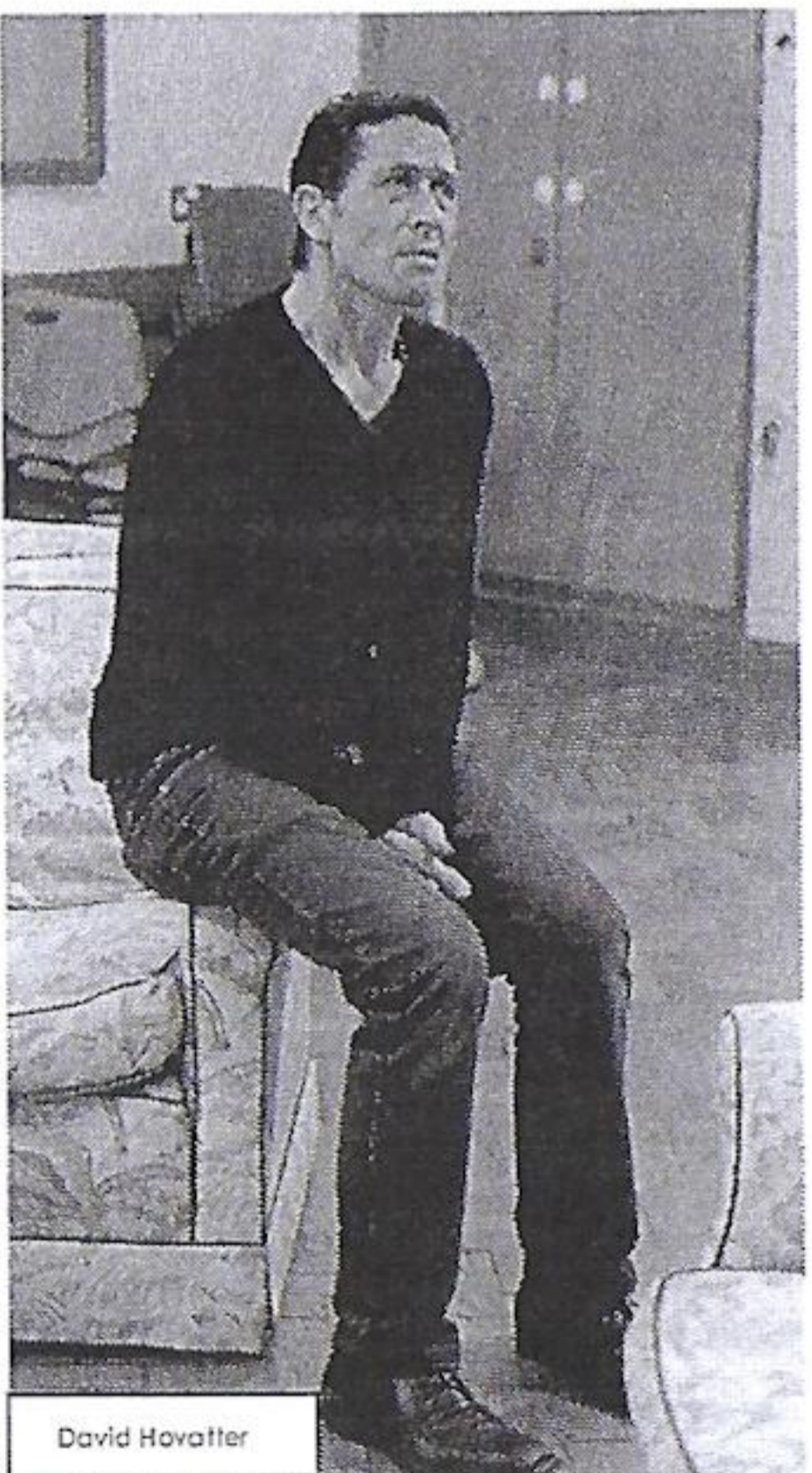
L-R: Catherine Day, Stephanie Pemberton, Chris Waldock

creating multifaceted characters and realising how they interact with others when not being seen by the audience. We had enjoyable discussions that often started with things like, "but when (s)he confronts Bla (character) in Garden...." So it made directing even more interesting! I've learnt so much - thanks Pam, for asking and enabling me to have a lovely directing experience.

The characters in these plays portray the bittersweet relationships between more or less discontented, middle class people that are so typical of Ayckbourn plays. Their dilemmas are familiar and comic, particularly when viewed from the outside. I laughed out loud reading the scripts - I trust you will too!

H&G Facts:

- Ayckbourn's 54th and 55th plays
- World premieres: 17 June 1999: Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough
- London premieres: National Theatre: 9 August 2000



David Hovatter

this is special theatre with two auditoria. Nobody else will be mad enough to do it, and besides, it's crazy." And I thought that's The Questors, special, mad enough and crazy!

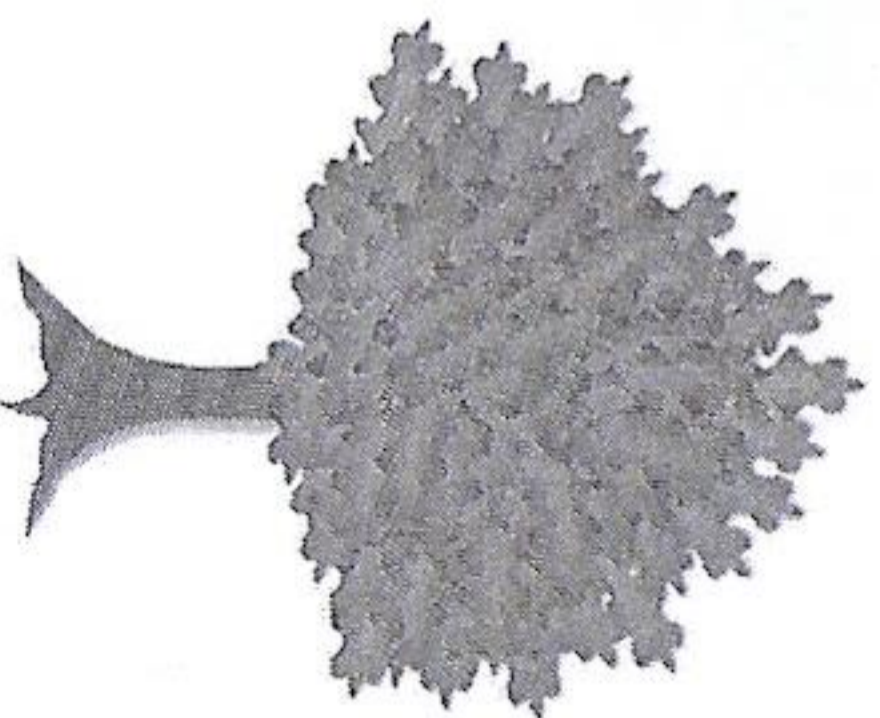
I really do hope you enjoy these shows and the whole experience; it has been a fantastic production to be part of. Thank you to every single member of this company that has brought these two wonderful plays together. I do hope we have showed you how special, mad and crazy we really are.

Lucy Aley-Parker:

When Pam asked me to help her with directing I was excited by the challenge - a teeny bit scared, but excited! As the project developed I started to realise the complexity of the task from the actor's viewpoint. As an actor myself, I was able to see that Alan Ayckbourn has yet again given characters more 'offstage' life than the average script. This is a great help



Wanda Duszynska



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House & Garden

By Alan Ayckbourn

First performances of this production at The Questors Theatre 30 October 2013

CAST

Teddy Platt	James Goodden
Trish Platt	Wanda Duszynska
Sally Platt	Lisa Varty
Giles Mace	David Hovatter
Joanna Mace	Adele Mason
Jake Mace	Paul Mackley
Gavin Ryng-Mayne	Derek Stoddart
Barry Love	Chris Waldock
Lindy Love	Stephanie Pemberton
Lucille Cadeau	Celine Boulhaya
Fran Briggs	Catherine Day
Warn Coucher	Alan Waldock
Izzie Trace	Sarah Morrison
Pearl Trace	Claire McCarthy

Bandsmen/Maypole dancers/Fancy dress parade:

Group A (Oct 30, Nov 1, 3 mat, 5, 7, 9)

Laurie Barth; Jordan Cerniavska; Baxter Inyundo;

Noah Moran; Eleanor McKeown; Sophie Morland; Ava

Owens; Kate Shadbolt-Harkness; Angelina Will; Harry Young

Group B (Oct 31, Nov 2, 3, 6, 8, 9 mat):

Lydia Bayalona; Ethan Dahanayake; Connie Deehan; Jack Gillan; Lucas

Holmes; Romy Huegle; Lilyella Ioannides; Arthur Lesle; Freya Sandys; Bella

Whelan

The action of *House* takes place in the summer sitting room of the house of Teddy and Trish Platt. The action of *Garden* takes place in the lower part of the garden attached to their house. Both plays take place during the same Saturday in late Summer 1999.

ACT 1 Scene 1 : 8:00 am

Scene 2: 11:00 am

ACT 2 Scene 1: 2:00 pm

Scene 2: 5:00 pm



L-R: Wanda Duszynska & James Goodden

CREATIVE TEAM

Director	Pam Redrup
Associate Director	Lucy Aley-Parker
Set Design	Philip Lindley
Costume Design	Nichola Thomas
Costume Assistance	Mike Langridge
Lighting Design	Nigel Lewis
Sound Design	Joel Schrire, Daniel Beilby
Properties	Peter Salvietto
Fight & Movement Director	Nicholas Jonne Wilson
Chaperones	Jessy Moat & parents
Tent maker	Jenny Richardson
Portrait painter	Elaine Hagan
Fancy dress	Claudia Kees
Stage Managers	Toby Burbidge, Michelle Weaver
Deputy Stage Manager	Arthur England
Assistant Stage Managers	Ian Black, Mike Langridge, Caroline Bleakley, Mel Pereira, Gabriella Pond, Monsay Whitney
Lighting Operators	Sam Wood, Tom Clifford
Sound Operators	Joel Schrire, Daniel Beilby, Chris Smith
Prompters	Lyn Sallows, Pam Smith
Construction	Toby Burbidge, Philip Lindley
Get-in crew	Esme Ash, Ian Black, Toby Burbidge, James Gadsdon, Philip Lindley, Mike Langridge, Caroline Bleakley Gabriella Pond, Paul Wilson
Production photography	Robert Vass
Programme	Lucy Aley-Parker

Many thanks to: Maggie Turner for fête organisation, Bron Blake, Nigel Lewis, Jeremy Aston-Phillips, Alex Marker, Shaan Latif-Shaikh, Ian Black, Fulham Brass Band, Kingston and UWL students, Andrea Bath and The Questors office staff.

Special thanks to Broomfield House School, Kew, for Maypole & Fête items

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- ✓ Voting rights in the company

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like to work in Box Office with our computerised 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.

The Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 18. 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.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Lucy Aley-Parker (Associate Director)

Lucy graduated from drama school some years ago and worked in Rep, TV and pantomime. Her 1st appearance at Questors was Smeraldina in *Servant to Two Masters* five years ago. Since completing the directors' course she has been sidetracked by acting opportunities. But after a few directing experiences, including the premiere of new play at Barons Court Theatre, she was thrilled to accept the challenge of this extraordinary script.

Daniel Beilby (Sound Design)

Daniel is a freelance composer and has provided music for a range of projects from short films to performance poetry. At The Questors he has worked as sound operator on *It's A Wonderful Life*, and sound designer on *The Miser* and *Antigone* (for which he also composed the score).

Celine Boulhaya (Lucille Cadeau)

Celine joined the Questors in 2002, and completed the 2-year student course as part of Group 58 in 2005. Since then she has appeared in a number of



L-R: Wanda Duszynska, David Hovatter

productions including, *Coda4Makbet* (2006), *Richard III* (2007), and more recently *Parlour Song* (2012). She is also one of the founding members of the Questors' resident comedy sketch group, the Errors of Comedy.

Catherine Day (Fran Briggs)

For Questors Catherine has been an ASM on *Road* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* in 2004, completed Acting for All in 2005, was in *Far Away*, 2006, *Bloody Poetry* and *Great Expectations* in 2007 and *It's a Wonderful Life* at Christmas 2012. Catherine is delighted to be cast in *House & Garden*.

Wanda Duszynska (Trish Platt)



Wanda completed the Questors Student group in 1999. Since then she has appeared in several productions in addition to designing stage sets and sourcing costumes for numerous shows. She has also written and directed plays for the Questors Youth Theatre, one of which was performed by the QYT to an international audience in a disused swimming pool in Vienna. This year she played Bev/Kathy in *Clybourne Park*, designed the set for *The Miser* and organised wardrobe for *Trojan Barbie*.



L-R: Stephanie Pemberton, Chris Waldock, Catherine Day

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

BIOGRAPHIES Cont.

James Goodden (Teddy Platt)

James joined The Questors in 1987 and has now appeared in over 25 productions. This is James's third foray into Ayckbourn following *Woman in Mind* (2000) and *Absent Friends* (2002). James was last seen in *Jeffrey Bernard is Unwell* in 2010. He is very pleased to be home again after a three-year absence.

David Hovatter (Giles Mace)

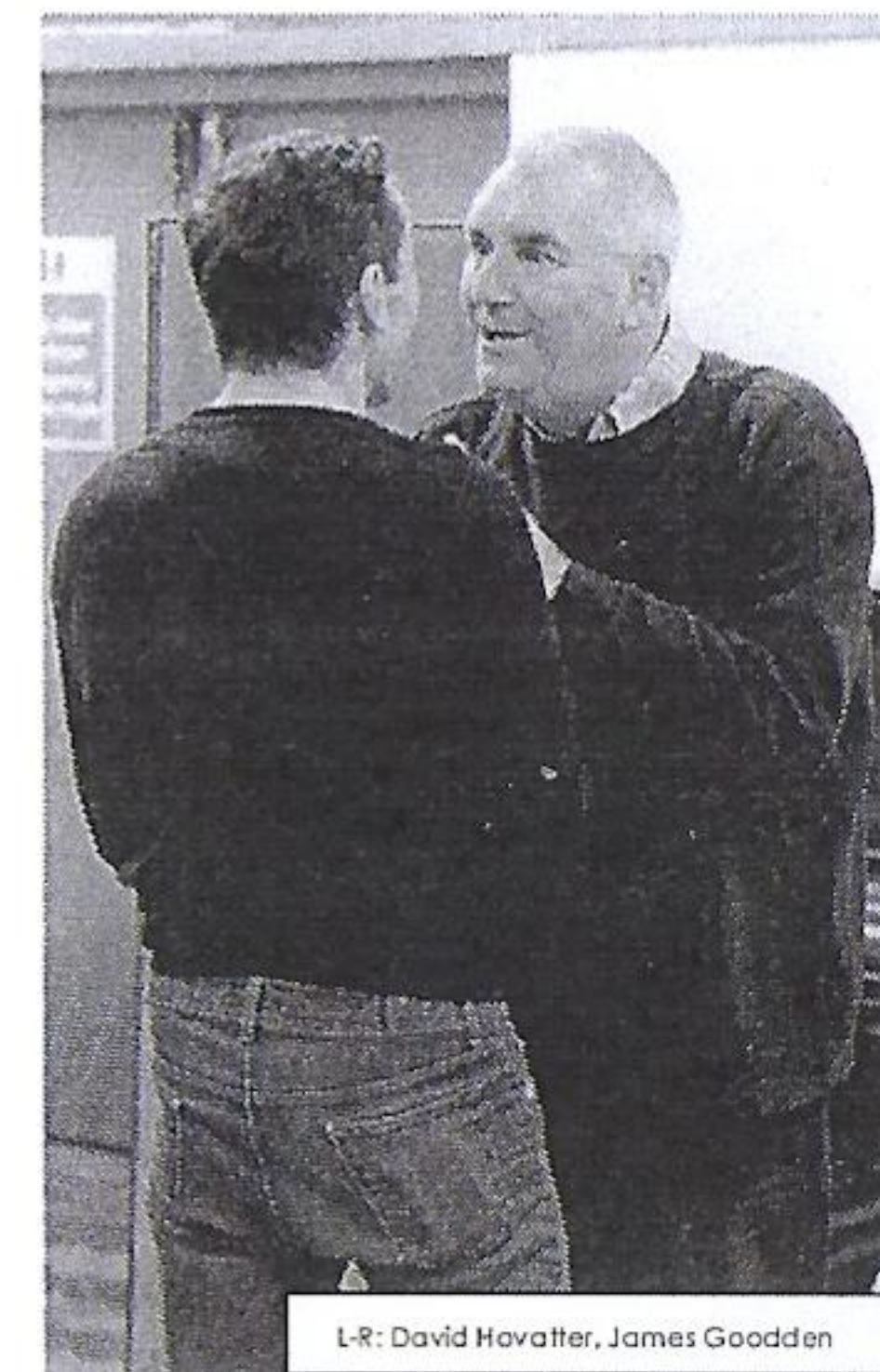
David joined Questors way back in the early 1980s but this is his first chance to act in an Ayckbourn play. In the meantime he has appeared nude in *Frankenstein*, as a giant phallus in *The Devils*; and swung on a tightrope for most of Strindberg's *Dreamplay*. Most recently he played an elephant.

Nigel Lewis (Lighting Design)

Nigel is a professional lighting designer outside of The Questors. Head of Lighting at The Questors Theatre, he has lit many plays in both spaces including *Ladies Day*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Antigone*. Nigel is very excited to be lighting such a unique production.

Philip Lindley (Set Design)

During his 25 years with BBC TV Design Department Philip worked on



L-R: David Hovatter, James Goodden

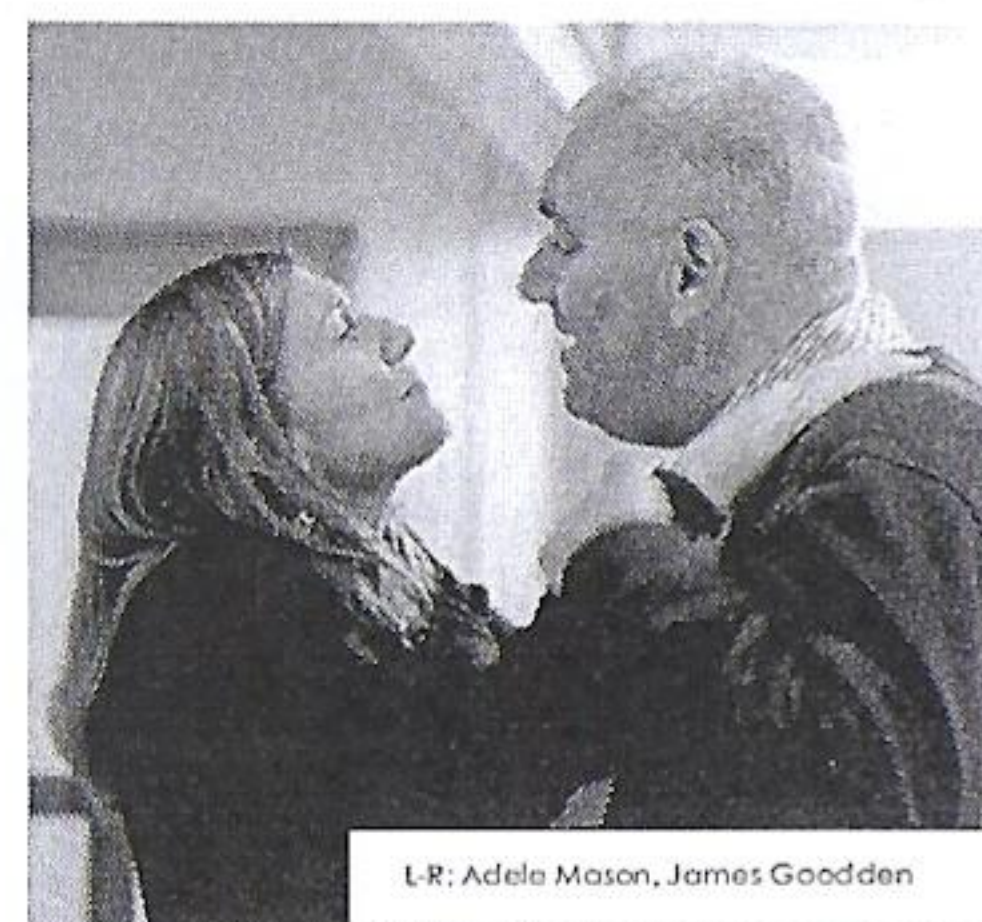
every type of production. He then became a freelance theatre consultant in London and Lisbon, and is currently Associate Designer at The Finborough Theatre where he has designed many shows. For The Questors he has designed *The Winterling*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Ladies Day*, *Annie*, *Greek*, *Present Laughter*, *Night of Soul*, *Blue Remembered Hills*, *Mary Stuart*, *Enron* and *Hound of the Baskervilles*.

Paul Mackley (Jake Mace)

Paul trained with the National Youth Theatre, where he went on to work as an assistant course director. After becoming an acting member at The Questors last year, he has performed in *Mary Stuart* and *Antigone*. He is also a professional dance music producer and DJ.

Adele Mason (Joanna Mace)

Adele completed her acting training at Birmingham School of Speech and Drama in the early 90s. After several years of working as a professional actress, mainly performing with



L-R: Adele Mason, James Goodden

BIOGRAPHIES cont.



L-R: Alan Waldock, Sarah Morrison

touring productions and on the London fringe, she retrained and now works in the health sector. She recently returned to the stage with The Questors as Monica Reed in Noel Coward's *Present Laughter*.

Claire McCarthy (Pearl Trace)

Claire is a new member and this is her first production for The Questors. Having trained at Guildford School of Acting she now works behind the camera as a producer. Roles have included *NewsRevue* (Canal Cafe Theatre); *Dead Ringers* (BBC); *Viola* (Twelfth Night); and *Beverly* (Abigail's Party). Claire has also directed.

Sarah Morrison (Izzie Trace)

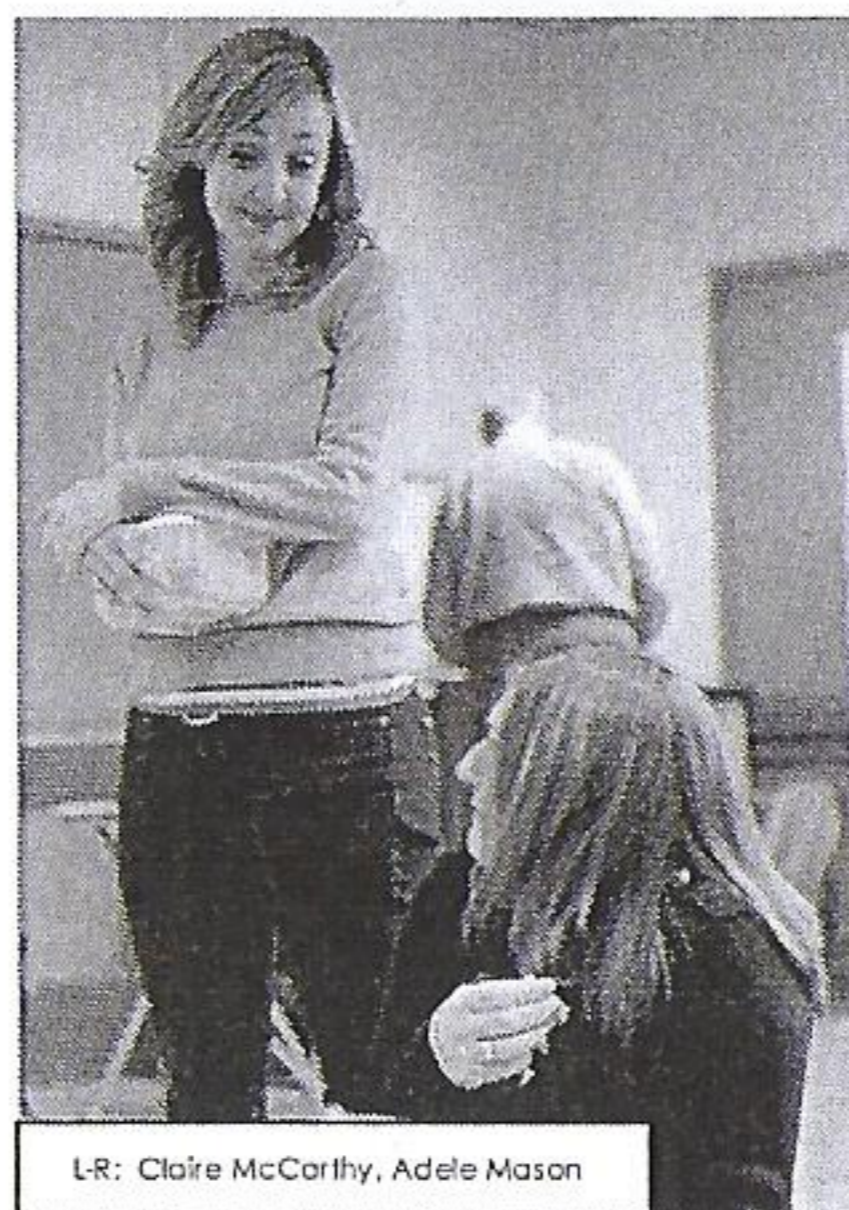
An active acting member since 1980, Sarah has appeared in over 60 productions, most recently as Baptista *The Taming of the Shrew* (2009), Pearl in *Ladies Day* (2010) and *Ladies Down Under* (2011) and Marigold Ivens in *After October* (Nov 2012). As Sarah Stoddart she directed the premiere of *The Railway Siding* (Sept 2012) and will be directing *Be My Baby* (by Amanda Whittington) in the Studio next Spring. Sarah serves on the Theatre Auditioning panel and is a member of the Artistic Directorate Team.

Stephanie Pemberton (Lindy Love)

Although new to The Questors Stephanie has been acting for over thirty years. Roles have included; Sonya (*Uncle Vanya*), Hester Collyer (*The Deep Blue Sea*), Agnes (*Dancing at Lughnasa*) and Dorothy (*Stepping Out*). She has also had roles in musicals: Fiona (*Brigadoon*), Maggie (*42nd Street*), Golde (*Fiddler on the Roof*). Directing credits include; *Sweeney Todd*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Cabaret*, *Carousel* and *Calendar Girls*. Stephanie has also choreographed, designed sets and made or sourced many props!

Pam Redrup (Director)

Joining The Questors in 2006, Pam's first role was DSM-ing *Lady in the Van* but half way through rehearsals she became the Stage Manager and has since stage managed many shows, including *Arsenic and Old Lace* where she met her husband, Mark and *Servant to Two Masters* which toured to Venice in 2009. Her directorial debut was Noel Coward's *Present Laughter*, followed by Dennis Potter's *Blue Remembered Hills*. This production of Alan Ayckbourn's *House & Garden* is by far the biggest and most challenging one to date.



L-R: Claire McCarthy, Adele Mason

BIOGRAPHIES cont.

Joel Schrire (Sound Design)

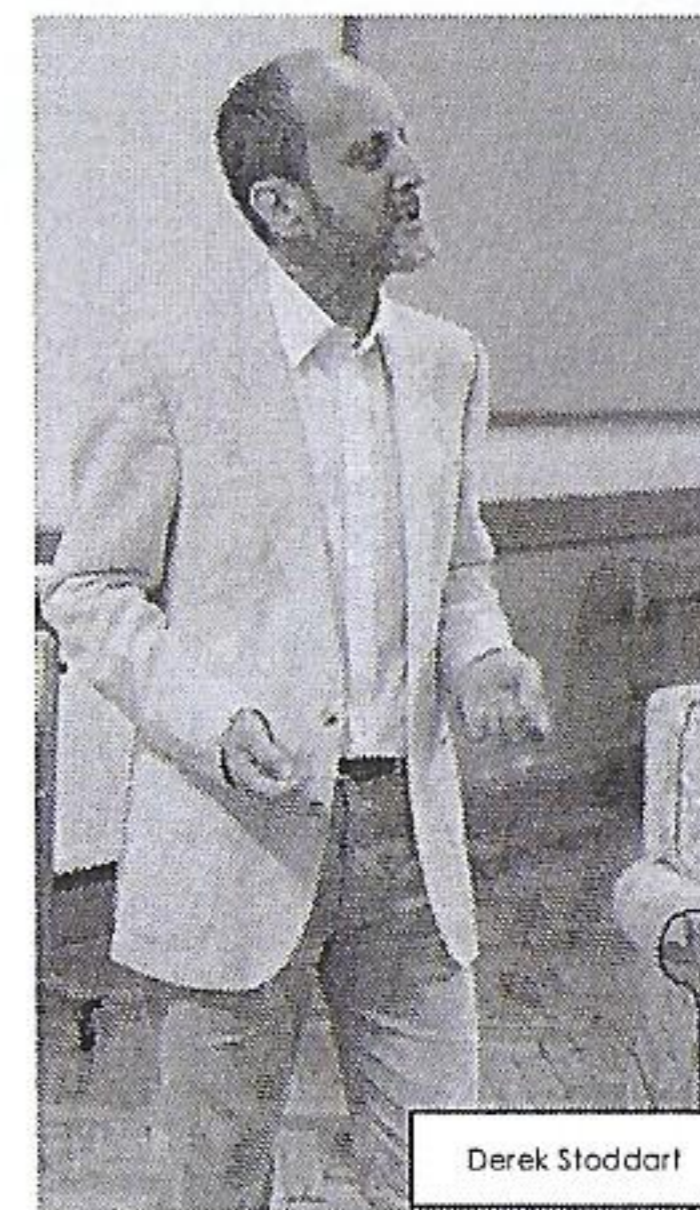
Joel was formerly Head of Sound at the Questors and remains an active member. He has worked as Lighting Designer, Sound Designer and/or Operator on many productions and on occasions as the resident mug flying props or people. He is much happier behind the lights than in front.

Derek Stoddart (Gavin Ryng-Mayne)

Derek has acted in a range of productions over the last 30 years with The Questors Theatre. He was last seen as Sir Amias Paulet in *Mary Stuart* in the studio. In 2012 he appeared in *The School of Night* and was a member of the company presenting *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* at Questors as part of the RSC Shakespeare Festival. Other notable productions prior to that include *Sweeney Todd*, *Great Expectations* and *Nicholas Nickleby*.



Celine Boulhaya



Derek Stoddart

Nichola Thomas (Costume Design)

Nichola has worked on numerous shows at The Questors over the past 11 years, including *This Happy Breed*, *Dance of Death*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Separate Tables*, *Two*, *The Seagull*, *Hay Fever*, *Broken Glass*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Humble Boy*, *Dr Faustus*, *Present Laughter*, *The Railway Siding*, *Mrs Warren's Profession* and *Betrayal*.

Lisa Varty (Sally Platt)

Lisa joined The Questors in 2011 to train in their Student Group 66, playing Lotte in *Trojan Barbie* and Frau Fischer in *On the Razzle*. Prior to this she was an active member of the renowned STaG (Student Theatre at Glasgow), performing in many of their productions, including at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2010.

Alan Waldock (Warn Coucher)

Alan's most recent Questors outing was in *Engaged* (Symperson). He has also been seen in *After October* (Brian Guest), *The Winslow Boy* (Arthur Winslow), *A Flea In Her Ear* (Dr Finache), *The Seagull* (Shamraev), *Charley's Aunt* (Stephen Spettigue), *Black Comedy* (Colonel Melkett), and *Great Expectations* (Mr Jagers). Also often appearing in the Grapevine.

Chris Waldock (Barry Love)

Chris became an acting member in 1985, having graduated from the Student Group. After several frantic and production packed years he took a break from The Questors.

He is thrilled to have been cast in *House & Garden* shortly after returning to the fold and is enjoying it immensely.



L-R: Lisa Varty, Paul Mackley



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 - In the Playhouse 15-16th November

Have I None by Edward Bond **Box and Cox** by John Maddison Morton
 - In the Studio Opens 20 November

Educating Rita by Willy Russell
 - In the Studio Opens 13 December

Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp by Richard Gallagher
 - In the Playhouse Opens 14 December

Shadowlands by William Nicholson
 - In the Studio Opens 24 January

The Duchess of Malfi by John Webster
 - In the Playhouse Opens 8 February

Be My Baby by Amanda Whittington
 - In the Studio Opens 28 February

The Rise and Fall of Little Voice by Jim Cartwright
 - In the Playhouse Opens 19 April

The Pride by Alexi Kaye Campbell
 - In the Studio Opens 2 May

West 5 Story by Richard Harris
 - In the Playhouse Opens 10 May

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