

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
- ✓ Opportunity to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Access to *iQ* – the members-only website: members.questors.org.uk
- ✓ Access to exclusive news on *iQ* and email newsletter
- ✓ Receive the regular programme leaflet
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Special invitations, events and offers not available to the public
- ✓ Ticket reservation facility (conditions apply)
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

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

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 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 lighting 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

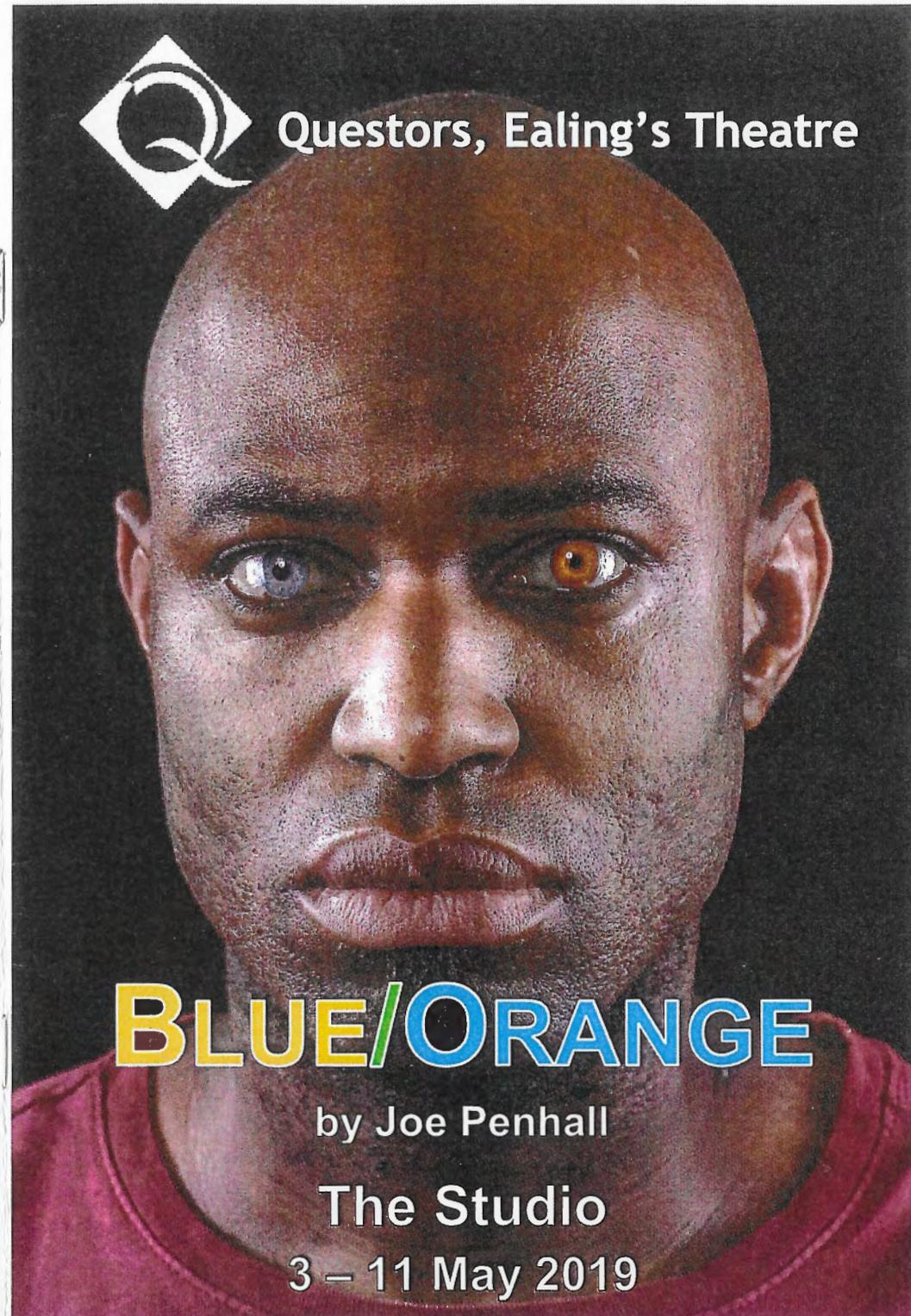
Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 18. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

The Questors Theatre
12 Mattock Lane, Ealing, W5 5BQ
Registered Charity No. 207516

Programme: Nigel Bamford
Theatre Office: 020 8567 0011
Box Office: 020 8567 5184
Email: enquiries@questors.org.uk



Questors, Ealing's Theatre



BLUE/ORANGE

by Joe Penhall

The Studio

3 – 11 May 2019

Fields at The Questors

Fields at The Questors serves Italian coffee, fine teas, hearty meals and handmade cakes, and is the perfect spot for a pre-theatre meal or intermission ice-cream.

Order interval drinks before the show to beat the crowds.

Regular opening hours:
Monday to Saturday,
9:00 am to 7:30 pm

Also open before and during the interval of all Judi Dench Playhouse evening and matinee performances.

Find **Fields** on **Facebook**.



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 2019 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are **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 – 10:30 pm (Sunday – Wednesday)

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm (Thursday – Saturday)

Sunday lunchtime: midday – 2:30 pm

See questors.org.uk/grapevine for more details.

Fields and the Grapevine accept payments by card.

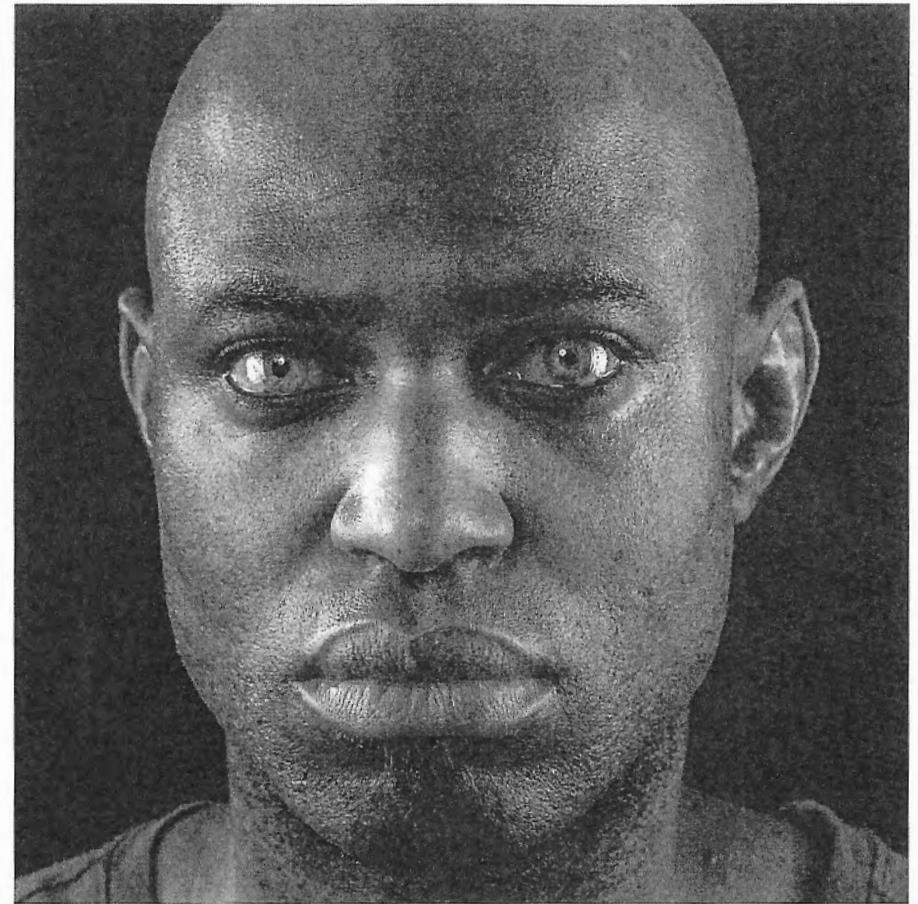


image: Robert Vass

BLUE/ORANGE

by Joe Penhall

The Studio

3 – 11 May 2019

BLUE/ORANGE

"There is more mental illness amongst the Afro-Caribbean population in London than any other ethnic grouping. Why? Is it the way we are diagnosing it? Is it us? Or is it them?" (Blue/Orange)

Blue/Orange turns on whether Christopher, a young black man, has schizophrenia. He is clearly having some disturbing experiences. The question posed is whether Christopher's experiences justify a diagnosis of schizophrenia, or the lesser diagnosis of borderline personality disorder (BPD).

Schizophrenia is typically diagnosed in young adulthood. Men are more likely to be diagnosed than women. Young men from black and minority ethnic (BAME) groups are more likely to be diagnosed than white men. They are also more likely to be admitted to hospital, more likely to experience a poor outcome from treatment and consequently more likely to disengage from treatment, leading to social exclusion and a deterioration in their mental health.

"Schizophrenia is the worst pariah. One of the last great taboos." (Blue/Orange)

A diagnosis of schizophrenia is made by recognising the presence of some or all of a number of symptoms. These symptoms can include paranoid delusions, auditory hallucinations, and disorganised thinking and speech. To complicate matters further, there are also different types of schizophrenia that may be diagnosed – schizoaffective disorder, catatonia, childhood onset, hebephrenia and, probably the best-known, paranoid schizophrenia.

"We spend our lives asking whether this or that person is to be judged as normal, a 'normal person' a 'human', and we blithely assume that we know what normal is." (Blue/Orange)

A diagnosis of schizophrenia requires judgment and it is therefore, necessarily, open to question. There is the possibility of disagreement and then real concerns about how unconscious

biases, institutional racism, ulterior motives, and considerations of power and authority might play a role in reaching that diagnosis come into play – quite literally, in our case.

"It's a matter of 'opinion'. And I'd be loath to re-section the boy on the basis of a difference of opinion. It's semantics. And right now my semantics are better than yours." (Blue/Orange)

Failing to diagnose schizophrenia when that diagnosis is appropriate is to not treat the condition as seriously as it should be treated. Diagnosing schizophrenia when an alternative and perhaps less serious diagnosis might also be appropriate exposes the patient to the social stigma of being labeled schizophrenic and the possible escalation of medical interventions in hospital and in social care, such as it is, during their treatment.

"People don't understand it. They don't want to understand it. It scares them. It is not treatable with glamorous and intriguing wonder drugs like Prozac or Viagra. It is not newsworthy ... Organised crime gets better press. They make movies about junkies and alcoholics and gangsters and men who drink too much ... but schizophrenia, my friend, is just not in the phone book." (Blue/Orange)

There is no 'cure' for schizophrenia. But, contrary to the widespread belief that it is a life sentence, recent evidence indicates the course of the disease to be very variable. About 25% of sufferers make a complete recovery; another 25% require long-term medical support; and the remaining largest group make a partial recovery but may continue to experience some difficulties.

Blue/Orange premiered at the National Theatre in London in April 2000, and subsequently transferred to the West End. It won an Evening Standard award, a London Critics' Circle Theatre Award, and a Lawrence Olivier Award for best new play. It was also made into a BBC film in 2005. Written at the turn of the new millennium, *Blue/Orange* is still, sadly in my view, all too relevant today set against the growing capacity crisis in the NHS, the effects on hospitals of budgetary cutbacks in real-terms, and on-going problems in housing and social care.

Roger Beaumont, Director

BLUE/ORANGE

by Joe Penhall

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 3 May 2019

CAST

Christopher	Chukwudi Onwere
Emily	Clare Purdy
Robert	Adam Kimmel

The action takes place in an NHS psychiatric hospital in London.

Act 1 Morning

Act 2 That night

Interval

Act 3 Next afternoon

The performance will last approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes, including a 15-minute interval.

PRODUCTION

Director & Set Designer	Roger Beaumont
Costume Designer	Jenny Richardson
Lighting Designer	John Green
Sound Designer	Russell Fleet
Stage Manager	Clare Watson
Deputy Stage Manager	Sarah Clopet
Assistant Stage Manager	James Peake
Lighting Assistants	Ellie Vidal, Andrew Whadcoat
Lighting/Sound Operator	Ellie Vidal
Set Realisation	The Company
Get-In Assistants	Toby Burbidge, Adam Smith
Photo/Videographer	Robert Vass
Thanks to	Sue Collins, Lizzie Turner, the Questors Office for loan of the water cooler

Please turn off all mobile phones and similar electronic devices. The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.

Biographies

Adam Kimmel – Robert

An Anglo-American, Adam studied at New York University before returning to England to work extensively on the London Fringe, including the title role in his own one-man show, *The Coming Forth (By Day) of Conrad Aiken* at the Etcetera Theatre in Camden, Mr Martin in *The Bald Prima Donna* at the Hen & Chickens in Highbury (directed by Lucy Pitman-Wallace) and Prospero in a small-scale tour of *The Tempest*. His last three fringe shows were at the White Bear in Kennington, playing Belforest in *The Atheist's Tragedy*, Helvetius in *The Second Maiden's Tragedy* and, finally, Gilbert Harding in John Antrobus' autobiographical play, *Of Good Report*. He subsequently hid out in the civil service for a few years before returning to acting with Theatre West 4, playing both Theseus and Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Mike in *The Memory of Water* and Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*. Since joining The Questors, he's played Peter in *The Last of the Haussmans* and Major Steve Arnold in *Taking Sides*. He's also written two plays: *Ground Zero* (shortlisted for the Verity Bargate prize and produced at Southwark Theatre) and *Awake* (Union Theatre).

Chukwudi Onwere – Christopher

Chukwudi was born and raised in Peckham and now lives in Forest Hill, both south-east London. He is a classically-trained actor, training at East 15 Acting School, National Youth Theatre (NYT) and WAC Arts. He is also a playwright. *Blue/Orange* marks Chukwudi's Questors debut, but other theatre includes *Blue/Orange* (Tower Theatre), *Blue/Orange* (South London Theatre), Othello in Shakespeare's *Othello* (Mary Wallace Theatre), Dylan in *Demolition* (Theatre Royal Stratford East – rehearsed reading), *Shedding* (Tristan Bates Theatre), *Street Girl* (Albany Theatre, Deptford), *The Rover* (New Diorama Theatre) and *Thebes City Blues* (Old Diorama Theatre – rehearsed reading). TV appearances include *TV Footballers* (episode 2, season 3) and film appearances include *The Rap Killer* (short).

Clare Purdy – Emily

Since joining The Questors in December 2017, Clare has appeared in *Absent Friends*. Before that, she was a regular performer in several touring and resident groups based in Devon. Shakespearean roles include Desdemona in *Othello*, Viola in *Twelfth Night* and Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with The Inn Theatre Company. Contemporary roles in original plays for regional touring companies have included Holly in *Dominion* (Theatre Hub) and Amy in *Me Time* (The Lesser Spotted Theatre Company).

Roger Beaumont – Director & Set Designer

Directing credits for The Questors include *Design for Living*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Closer*, *Duet for One*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Festen*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Humble Boy*, *All My Sons*, *The Ladykillers* and *Mojo*. Roger's next show will be The Questors' 90th Anniversary production of *George Orwell's 1984* in November 2019. Directing credits for the Tower Theatre include *Chapter Two*, *Aladdin*, *Neville's Island*, *Outside Edge*, *The Gay Detective*, *Speed-The-Plow*, *The Birthday Party*, *A Doll's House*, *Miss Julie*, *Blackbird*, *Endgame*, *The Winterling*, *The Last of the Haussmans*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Jeeves & Wooster in Perfect Nonsense* and *Nell Gwynn*. For SEDOS: *Three Sisters* and *Boeing-Boeing*.

Russell Fleet – Sound Designer

Russell trained as an actor in the 1990s and joined The Questors in 2006. Over 36 productions, he has also taken on the roles of Stage Manager, Sound Designer and Director. Recent credits include *Krapp's Last Tape & Rockaby* (Sound Designer), *Taking Sides* (Helmuth Rode), *The Bear & A Priest in the Family* (Stage Manager), *The Heiress* (Director), *For Services Rendered* (Sound Designer) and *Sleeping Beauty* (Carabosse).

John Green – Lighting Designer

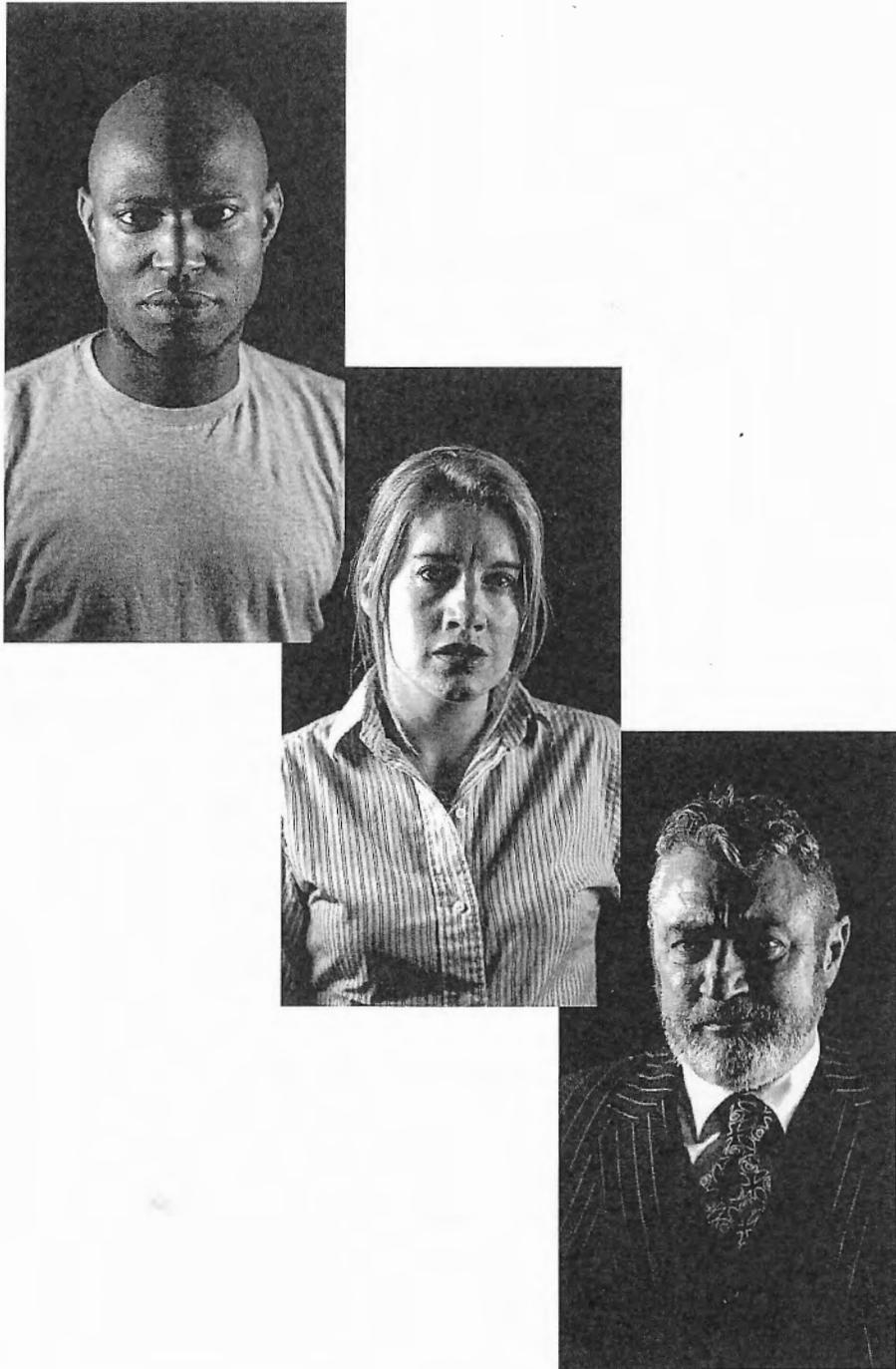
John has had a lifelong interest in the use of light to sculpt a space, set a mood and direct the eye, but only got involved in stage lighting comparatively recently. In his nine years as a member of The Questors he has been involved with the lighting of numerous shows. Previous shows as Lighting Designer include *Trelawny of the 'Wells'*, *Animal Farm*, *Daisy Pulls It Off*, *Bugsy Malone* and *Future Conditional*.

Jenny Richardson – Costume Designer

After many years working in stage management, props and set design, Jenny enjoyed a change of direction to costume design, recently for *The 39 Steps*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *Measure for Measure*, *Scarborough*, *Sweet Charity*, *Larkin with Women*, *Mojo* and *Daisy Pulls It Off*. Jenny can also be found working in Box Office, and is frequently in demand as an upholsterer.

Meet the Company – Wednesday 8 May

Come and meet the Director, Cast and Crew for an informal discussion in the Studio as soon as possible after the Wednesday performance.



The Questors – The Future

Help to make The Questors an even better place! Donations and bequests are continuing to contribute to the life of this unique theatre. For instance, a generous donation made possible a recent training programme for young ESOL students (English for Speakers of Other Languages), and ambitious work on the fabric of the site is ongoing. This is your theatre and the theatre of future generations of playgoers and participants. Donate now or in your will, anonymously if you prefer. Andrea Bath, our Executive Director (020 8567 0011), will answer any enquiries in confidence. Or go to questors.org.uk/giving to see ways in which you can support The Questors.

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Next at The Questors

NELL GWYNN

by Jessica Swale

31 May – 8 June 2019

The Judi Dench Playhouse

In 17th century London, Nell Gwynn is an orange-hawker. Prestigious actor Charles Hart takes her under his wing and Nell is soon causing mayhem as one of the first female actors. When Charles II sees Nell onstage, he becomes besotted and they begin an affair. Filled with bawdy jokes, comical characters, and songs and dances, Nell Gwynn is a true love story set against an often farcical theatrical world.

DI AND VIV AND ROSE

by Amelia Bullmore

14 – 22 June 2019

The Studio

One is promiscuous. One focuses on her studies. One is sporty and jovial. They couldn't be more different, but when Di, Viv and Rose meet at university, they join forces to discover that life together can be fun and intense. In this heartfelt story laced with humour and spanning a course of 27 years, the three women experience love, loss and change as they learn what true friendship means.