

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

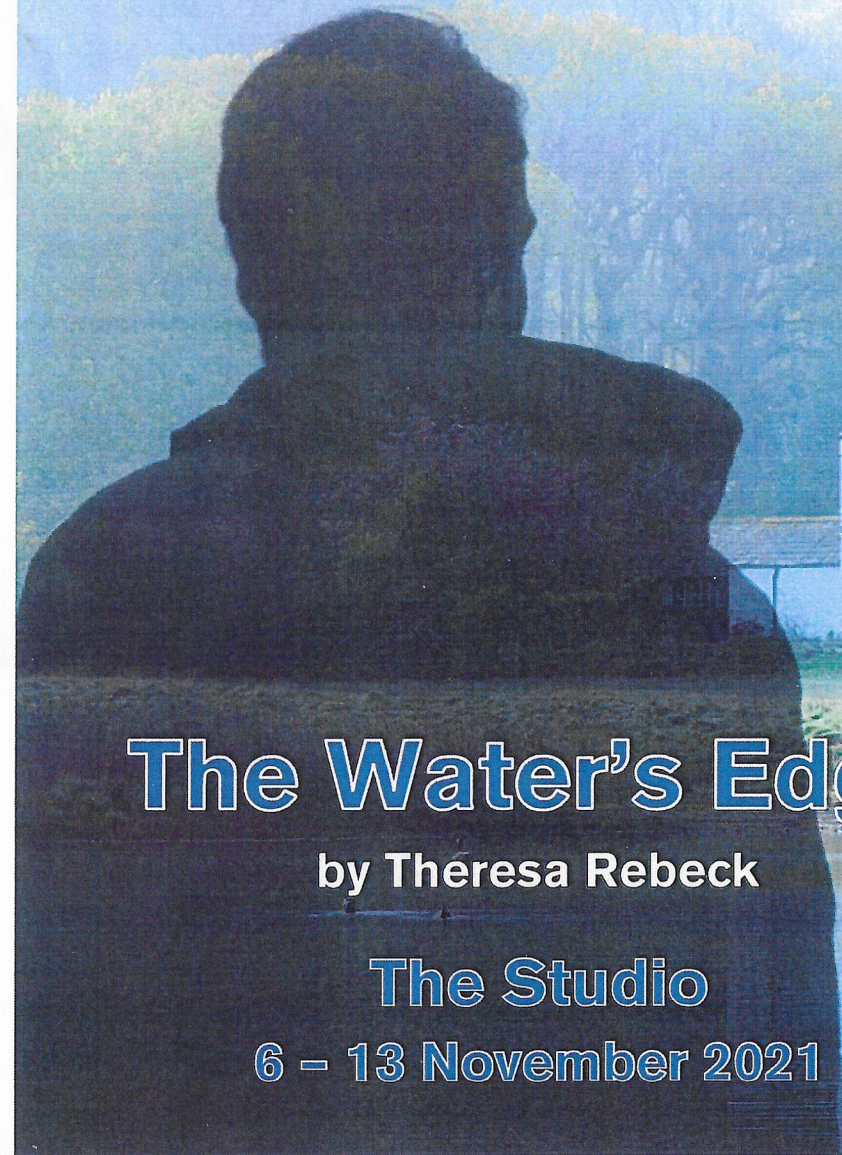
Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 18. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

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



The Questors
THEATRE



The Water's Edge

by Theresa Rebeck

The Studio

6 - 13 November 2021

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 six 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 2021 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:

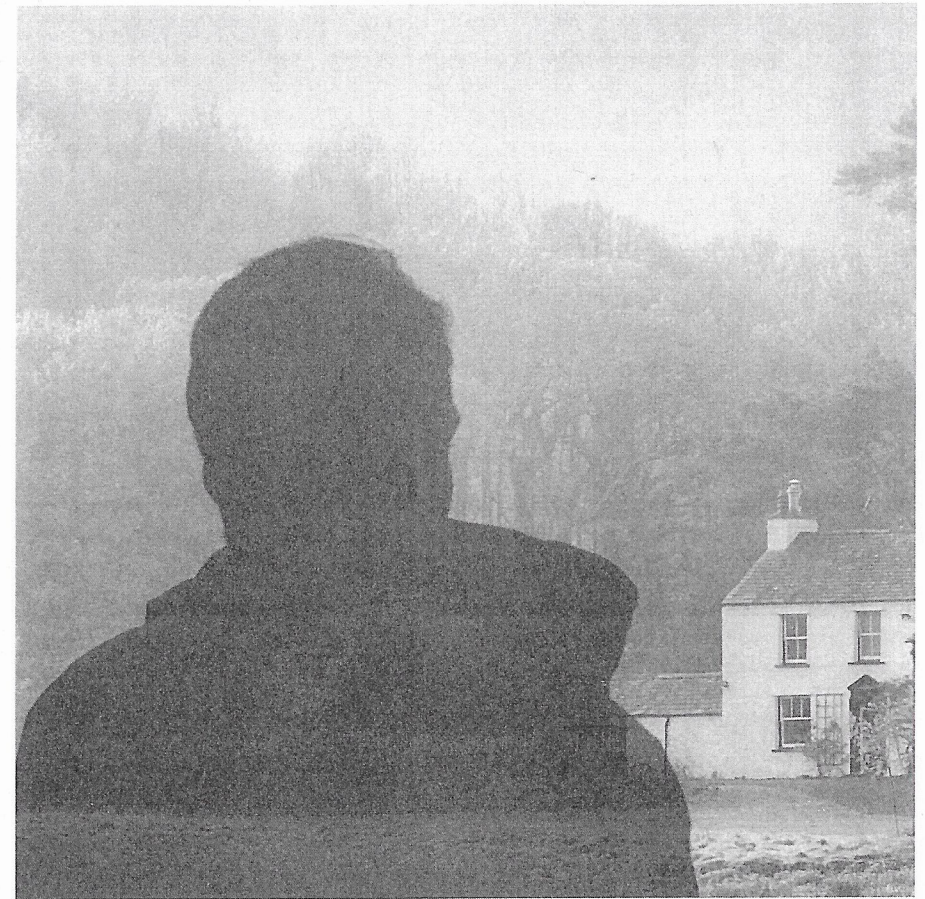
7:00 pm – 10:30 pm (Monday – Wednesday)

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

Sunday lunchtime: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

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

Fields and the Grapevine accept payments by card.



The Water's Edge

by Theresa Rebeck

The Studio

6 – 13 November 2021

THE WATER'S EDGE

I have to confess, six months ago I'd not heard of Theresa Rebeck. This prolific and award-winning American writer's plays have mainly been performed in the US and often on Broadway, and she is the most Broadway-produced contemporary female playwright at this time.

She also writes for film and TV, has penned novels and directs. Major film and television projects include *Trouble*, starring Anjelica Huston, Bill Pullman and David Morse (writer and director), *NYPD Blue*, the NBC series *Smash* (creator), and the upcoming female spy thriller *355* (for Jessica Chastain's production company). As a novelist, Rebeck's books include *Three Girls and Their Brother* and *I'm Glad About You*.

Rebeck is the recipient of the William Inge New Voices Playwriting Award, the PEN/Laura Pels Foundation Award, a Lilly Award and more.

The only record I can find of a UK production of *The Water's Edge* was at the Arcola in 2009, with Robert Cavanah and Madeleine Porter in the parent roles. The Arcola marketing said, "*The Water's Edge* marks the arrival of New York phenomenon, Theresa Rebeck, onto the UK stage".

Looking at her catalogue of plays, I was attracted to *The Water's Edge*, a complex and tightly written family drama, inspired by *The Oresteia* and specifically *Agamemnon*. I bought a copy and read it without putting it down; I was immediately engaged by the characters and dialogue and the unfolding family relationships, which are fractured, to say the least. How they all initially respond to the father after he returns to the family after a 17-year absence is real, complex and believable; what happens in the following two days builds on this. We come to understand the emotions of his now grown-up children, loyal to their mother and yet wanting a father. The estranged wife feeling betrayed and ambushed, harbouring long-held resentments.

Staying Safe when you attend The Questors

We are delighted to see you at The Questors this evening.

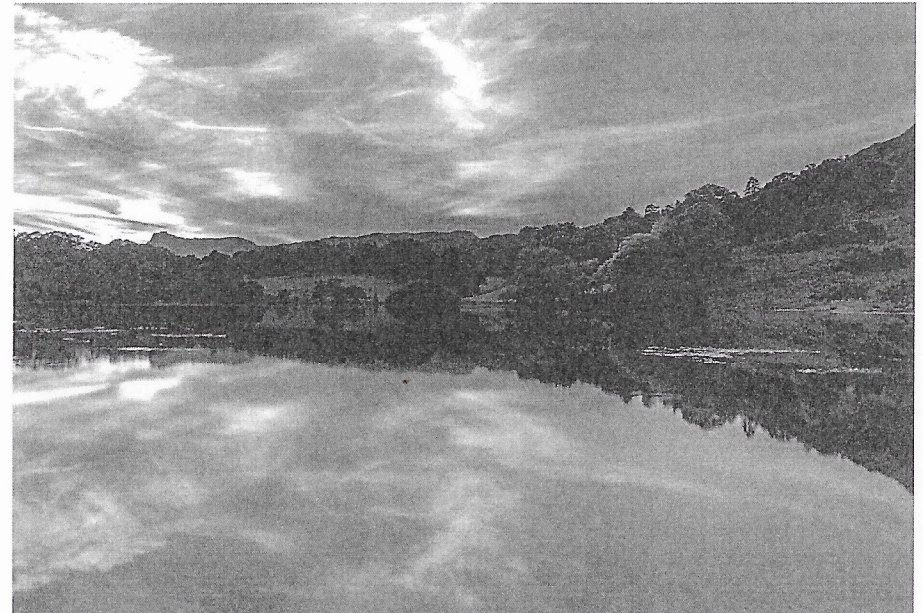
In-line with government advice to 'remain cautious', and for your health and safety, we have NOT sold the Studio to capacity. In addition, we ask you to:

- use the hand sanitizer stations about the building;
- wear a mask when you are in communal areas;
- wear a mask when you are seated watching the show.

If Covid is diagnosed following a visit to The Questors please notify us via c19notifications@questors.org.uk stating when and where you were at the theatre.

This seems to be Rebeck's forte – family is high on the list of subjects she tackles: *Downstairs* – a brother moves back home with his sister and lives in the basement; *Dead Accounts* – a sibling's unexpected return throws his family into chaos; *The Novelist* – a family of artists are both cruelly destructive and fiercely protective of one another... Not to mention the interaction of friends and work colleagues in other comedies and dramas.

As with all Rebeck's plays *The Water's Edge* is set in the US – in this case, Massachusetts woodland near a lake. I felt a random selection of US accents would be distracting and, let's face it, dysfunctional families are not exclusive to the USA, so the setting is immaterial. So this production is set in the UK, in an area known for lakes and woodlands: Cumbria. I spent many happy years exploring a specific area of Cumbria, where I went annually to work on an archaeological project, and I have located it around there. No accents necessary, just people experiencing events and reacting to them. We may all find parallels in the situations here. This is the talent of Rebeck, she seems to capture a powerful variety of human dilemmas.



Lucy Aley-Parker, Director

THE WATER'S EDGE

by Theresa Rebeck

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 6 November 2021

CAST

in order of appearance

Richard	Paul James
Lucy	Clare Purdy
Erica	Nicola Ditter
Nate	Sam Ebner-Landy
Helen	Lisa Day

- Act 1** Scene 1: The back porch of a charming but tired country home in woodland near a lake, late afternoon.
Scene 2: The same, early next morning.
Scene 3: The same, later that day.
- Act 2** Scene 1: The same, later that evening.
Scene 2: The same, the following morning.

The performance will last approximately two hours including a 15-minute interval.

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

PRODUCTION

Director	Lucy Aley-Parker
Set Designer	Philip Lindley
Costume Designer	Sarah Andrews
Lighting Designers	Evelina Plonyté, Andrew Whadcoat
Sound Designer / DSM	CJ
Assistant Stage Manager	Hannah Langan, Rob Wixey
Properties	Monica Gilardi
Lighting/Sound Operator	Evelina Plonyté
Set Realisation	Toby Burbidge, Philip Lindley
Additional Get-In Crew	Ian Briggs, Alex Marker, Becky Hartnup & family
Photographer	Evelina Plonyté
Videographer	Gavin Jones
Thanks to	Black Box Theatre, Tea Darling and The Questors Office Team

Music: *Hope* by Philip Glass and Paul Leonard-Morgan
from *Tales from the Loop* (original soundtrack)

Biographies

Lisa Day – Helen

Lisa joined The Questors in 1986 since when she has performed in over 30 productions. Highlight roles in the Playhouse include Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Dora Strang in *Equus*, and, in the Studio, Susan in *Abigail's Party*, Katya in *Bird on the Wire* and Aase in *Peer Gynt*. Lisa is also a founder member of Playgc Theatre Company with whom she has recently played the Prime Minister in *The Letter of Last Resort* (Jermyn Street Theatre and on tour, and also at The Questors in June).

Nicola Ditter – Erica

Nicola moved to London from Germany nine years ago. She did a one-year foundation course at Drama Centre and went on to study acting at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston, where she graduated in 2018, having played the role of Hermione in the final production of *The Winter's Tale*. She has since worked on various short films, voice-over and panto projects. She joined The Questors at the end of 2019 and is now very excited to make her Questors debut.

Sam Ebner-Landy – Nate

Sam graduated from Guildford School of Acting in 2019, and then embarked on a six-month Shakespeare tour across Europe. He recently wrote and starred in *The Palbready Arms* (2021), a mockumentary short film about 'Eat Out to Help Out'. He plays guitar, dabbles in football and loves working with comedy characters. Other credits include: *Pretty Shrewd* (2019-20), *My Friend Daniel* (2019), *Nell Gwynn* (2019), *Trevor* (2019), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2018), *Hommo* (2017), *The Switch* (2016) and *Tape* (2015), a feature film produced by the Jerusalem Film and Television Fund. This is his first show at The Questors.

Paul James – Richard

Paul, originally from Gateshead, is an Ealing resident whose previous Questors appearances were in the musical *A Little Night Music* and Ibsen's *Rosmersholm*. Paul is a musical theatre lyricist, bookwriter and songwriter. He studied as a Masterclass pupil for six months with Stephen Sondheim as part of his Visiting Professorship at Oxford, and has had several award-winning shows performed across the UK and off-Broadway, including *New Things To Feel Bad About*, *Police Story* and *The Demon Headmaster*. Most recently, Alan Ayckbourn directed his musical *The Boy Who Fell Into a Book* in Scarborough. For more information, visit jamesandmasonsongs.co.uk.

Clare Purdy – Lucy

Clare is an actor and voice artist. Since completing her training in screen acting at the MetFilm School in 2020, she has performed in several short films and the TV drama *These Four Walls*, due for release on Amazon Prime. This year she also voiced a sustainable fashion campaign for Hugo Boss. This is Clare's fourth appearance at The Questors; she most recently played the roles of Julia in *George Orwell's 1984* and Emily (Bruce) in *Blue/Orange*.

Lucy Aley-Parker – Director

Lucy originally graduated from Webber Douglas and worked as an actor for over 15 years. She returned to professional acting a few years ago, adding directing and writing to the mix. Directing credits include fringe venues like Stockwell Playhouse, Phoenix Arts and Barons Court Theatres. She has written and directed in New Writing events at The Park Theatre, Museum of Comedy, Etcetera Theatre, Theatre 503 and the Tristan Bates Theatre. At The Questors, she has directed *Grimm Tales* and *Animal Farm* with QYT, various short pieces, new writing, audio dramas and the exciting Overnight Plays challenge. In the main season she last directed Roy Williams' *Days of Significance* in the Studio in 2019, adding 'film directing' to the production and her CV!

Sarah Andrews – Costume Designer

Sarah joined The Questors in 1977 as a member of Student Group 32 and since graduating has appeared in many plays. In addition to acting she has designed and dressed a countless number of productions, most recently *The Country Wife*, *Sleepers in the Field*, *Krapp's Last Tape & Rockaby*, *King Charles III*, *Charley's Aunt*, *India Gate* and *How to Spot an Alien*.

CJ – Sound Designer / DSM

Since joining The Questors in 2015, CJ has worked on the backstage and creative teams for several productions (*The Wonderful World of Dissocia*, *Arms and the Man*, *The Village Bike*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Country Wife*, *Scarborough*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *How to Spot an Alien*) and has also been seen on stage occasionally (*Dick Whittington & His Cat*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*).

Philip Lindley – Set Designer

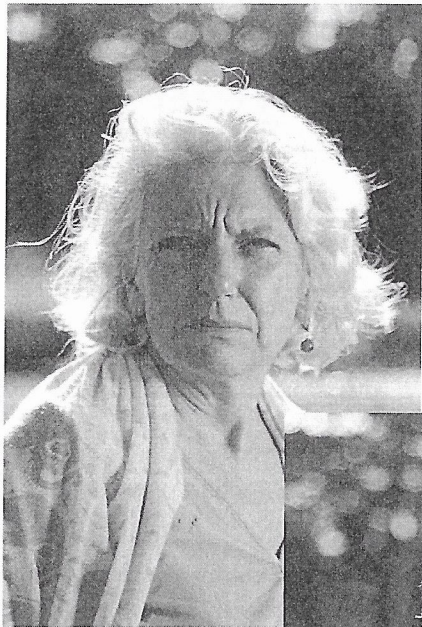
Since joining The Questors, Philip has worked on a range of productions including *Ladies' Day*, *Annie*, *Blue Remembered Hills*, *ENRON*, *Greek*, *House & Garden*, *Present Laughter*, *The Duchess of Malfi*, *Night of the Soul*, *Titus Andronicus* and *The Winterling*.

Evelina Plonytė – Lighting Designer

Having taken a leap of faith and moved to London in 2013 with just a rucksack, Evelina has been trying to find her way in the London theatre scene ever since. She joined The Questors as a member of Student Group 70 and has appeared as Katharine in *Love's Labour's Lost*, Imogen Parrott in *Trelawny of the Wells*, Emmi Straube in *Taking Sides* and Mary Rutherford in *Rutherford & Son*. She is now extending her interests to lighting and photography.

Andrew Whadcoat – Lighting Designer

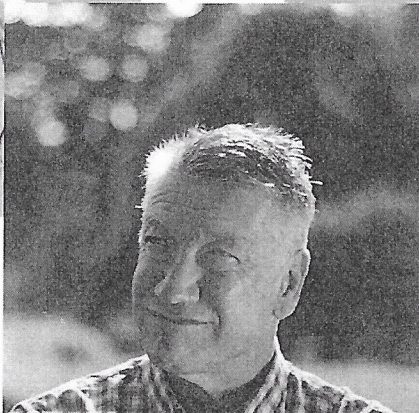
Andrew has worked in lighting since 2013. Recent lighting designs for The Questors include *Not About Heroes*, *Ariadne & the Monsters*, *The Dog & the Scarf*, *The Letter of Last Resort*, *India Gate* and *Bull & Contractions*. He has also designed for AppEaling Theatre, Idle Discourse, Orange Moon and Playgc Theatre both at The Questors and other venues.



Lisa Day

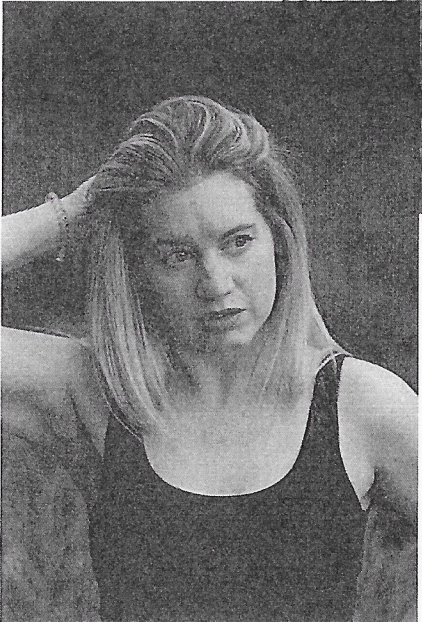


Nicola Ditter

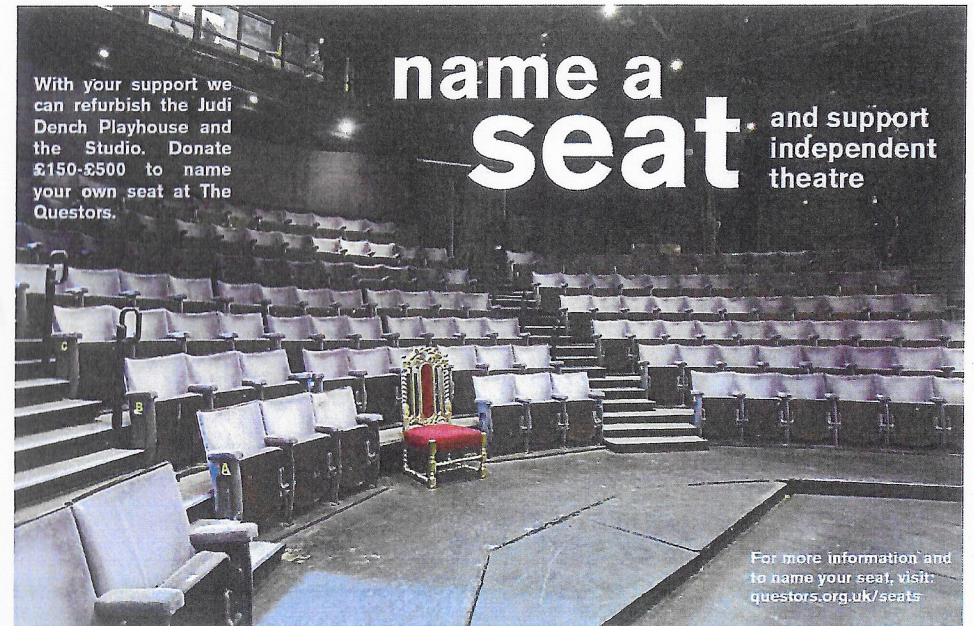
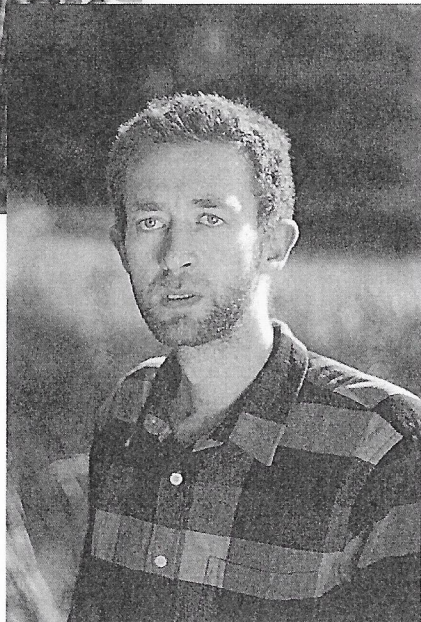


Sam Ebner-Landy

Clare Purdy



Paul James



With your support we can refurbish the Judi Dench Playhouse and the Studio. Donate £150-£500 to name your own seat at The Questors.

name a seat and support independent theatre

For more information and to name your seat, visit: questors.org.uk/seats

Next at The Questors

THE GHOST TRAIN

by Arnold Ridley

12 - 20 November 2021

The Judi Dench Playhouse

When a young chap loses his hat out of a train window, a group of passengers miss their connection and find themselves stranded overnight in a 'haunted' station in the middle of the Cornish countryside. However, what was once construed as an old wives' tale soon mounts to a latent threat, as the stories of the ominous 'ghost train' begin to ring true. Climb aboard for this darkly comic, captivating thriller.

SNOW WHITE

by Ben Crocker

16 - 31 December 2021

The Judi Dench Playhouse

When Snow White's angelic beauty is granted the fairest in the land, her menacing stepmother, the Evil Queen, is overcome with jealousy. On escaping the claws of death, Snow is offered shelter in the woods by some friendly faces. But will the machinations of her Evil Stepmother stop there? Oh no they won't...

Come along for a good boo, hiss and a cheer at Ealing's Annual Pantomime, back at The Questors for the first time in two years!