

The Questors Theatre Archives
Questories
New Plays Festivals
14th Festival 1973

THE MIDDLESEX CHRONICLE
22 June 1973

WEIRD STORY

The second in the Questors' Festival of Three New Plays was "**Watch on the Works**," by Pierre Roudy, in an English adaptation by the author and Cyril Buhler.

Staged in the Stanislavsky Room, the set was nothing less than a marvellous imitation of a gasholder complete with ladders, pipes and paraphernalia we used to know in Brentford High Street.

The cast consisted of two men, Philip Remington as the old Watchman and Donald Starkey as Workman, a painter, in fact, sent in to paint the ironwork. Both parts were most brilliantly played.

The story? Frankly I found it a little difficult to follow as the Watchman spoke in a very countryfied brogue and the painter a very speedy cockney.

The Watchman, lonely and unvisited, loves the filthy old thing with its sulphurous smells and resents the insults the painter hurls at it.

But they hit it off until a fearful explosion occurs (in reality I imagine this would have destroyed half Brentford but, apart from wounding the painter in the leg, not a teacup in the hut gets damaged).

Weird? Unusual? A theatrical attraction. Only a dozen or so turned up on Thursday when I saw it.