

COMING EVENTS

October 27th, at 7.30 p.m. **Club Night.**

It is hoped to arrange for a talk on some aspects of Radio Drama by Mr. E. J. King-Bull, the B.B.C. producer, who will be responsible for the broadcast version of Michael Kelly's play about Galileo.

November 6th—16th. The Questors will present:—

"THE TUSCAN ARTIST," an original play by Michael Kelly.

The presentation of this further play by our own playwright will be an outstanding event in the current season. It is based on a most careful study of the story of Galileo, but the manner is that combination of penetrating observation and illuminating wit that is characteristically Michael Kelly's.

November 29th, at 7.30 p.m. **Club Night.**

A new departure is planned. A film evening is to be arranged—the titles of the films to be shown will be announced.

January 8th. Opening Night of

"THE QUESTORS' REVUE."

It is not too late for members of the Club to submit material for the script of the Revue. Wilfrid Sharp will be glad to have your contributions. Have you sent yours in yet?

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THE QUESTORS THEATRE MATTOCK LANE, EALING

SEASON 1948—49

FIRST PRODUCTION



present

"The Pastoral Symphony"

by

MILLICENT GEORGE

based on the story by

ANDRÉ GIDE

— SEPTEMBER 1948 —

PROGRAMME

SIXPENCE

SEAT PRICES.

There was a discussion at the Annual General Meeting on the question of seat prices in our theatre. Since then, the Committee have carefully reviewed the whole problem with special regard to the views expressed on that occasion and to the present and prospective financial position of the Club.

With the increasing commitments facing the Club—especially the prospect that in the foreseeable future negotiations for the purchase of the theatre premises may be opened—there is a clear need to strengthen the basic financial position of the Club, quite apart from any special effort such as is represented by the Building Fund Appeal. The raising of the annual subscription would be one way to increase revenue, but, in the Committee's view, such a step would only throw further out of balance the relation between the subscription at 15s. and the average seat price of 3s. Accordingly, well knowing that there will be some adverse criticism, but believing it to be their duty to the Club, the Committee have decided that, starting with "The Tuscan Artist," a revised system of seat prices shall be introduced; the opportunity will be taken to locate the highest priced seats in the central raised portion of the theatre. The new scheme will be:—

Rows H—M	Rows A—G	Rows N—P
(5 rows) 4/6;	(7 rows) 3/6;	(2½ rows) 2/-.

The Committee feel it to be right to keep a small number of seats at the lowest price of 2/-, but for the rest this will represent an increase of 6d.

As an encouragement to those members who bring many of their friends to Questors' productions it is also the intention in future to offer a reduction of 6d. per seat to any member making a block booking of ten or more seats for any one performance. It is hoped that members will avail themselves of this facility to the maximum extent and will set themselves to make up parties of their friends.

The Committee took their decision with regret, but they hope that members will appreciate the force of the arguments which have led to it. One of the results should be to encourage more of the friends of members who are frequent casual visitors to join the Club themselves and gain all the privileges of membership, the chief of which may in future be stated as a right to a 4s. 6d. seat for each of seven productions in a year (value 31s. 6d.) in return for a subscription of 15s. But whether as new members or friends they can be equally sure that they will be welcome at The Questors.

FORMATION OF PLAY-READING CIRCLE.

The reading of "Lady Precious Stream" at the opening Club Night of the Season was commonly adjudged a success. At all events it appeared in the course of the evening that there was a sufficient number of our members who would be interested in regular play-readings to justify the formation of a play-reading circle. We were fortunate, too, during the evening to find a volunteer who would act as Secretary of the circle; she is Mrs. L. D. Locke, 217, Boston Manor Road, Brentford (EALing 3889).

We shall hope, therefore, to be able to announce quite shortly the details of the plans for this new Questors activity. In the meantime we would invite anyone who would like to participate to give their name to Mrs. Locke or to the General Manager, so that they can be told when the first meeting of the Circle is to be held.

We regard this development as one of importance. It is always one of our endeavours to get as many as possible of our members contributing actively to the life of the Club. The Play-reading Circle will, we hope, give an outlet to many who have not the time or inclination to help with the regular productions. The Circle will cater especially for the non-acting members and it will be by their support that it will stand or fall.

LITTLE THEATRE GUILD — OCTOBER MEETING.

There is to be a Meeting of the Little Theatre Guild in Leamington on 23rd and 24th October next, and if there is any member who would be interested to make the trip as one of The Questors' party, they are invited to let the Hon Director know.

Subjects for discussion during the meeting are "The Training of Producers" and "The Theory of Acting." The Loft Theatre, Leamington, who are hosts on this occasion, will be presenting Masefield's "The Witch" on the Saturday evening.

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“ THE PASTORAL SYMPHONY ”

by

MILLICENT GEORGE after the story by ANDRÉ GIDE

Characters (in order of appearance):

EMILY	...	...	...	...	BETTY OGDEN
JOHN, her son	...	...	...	...	TREVOR ELDRID
CHARLOTTE, her daughter	...	...	...	...	PEGGY HEDGES
ETIENNE	...	...	...	...	ALFRED EMMET
CLAIRE	...	...	...	...	DIANA BENN
DR. MARTIN	...	...	...	...	FRANCIS W. SMITH
SISTER OF THE POOR	...	...	...	...	JEANNETTE SMITH

The action of the play takes place in the living room of a Swiss Chalet.

PROLOGUE: A Winter night.

ACT I. A Spring evening two-and-a-half years later.

ACT II. SCENE 1. Morning a month later.

SCENE 2. Evening the same day.

SCENE 3. Late afternoon a week later.

SCENE 4. Night of the same day.

ACT III. SCENE 1. Afternoon two months later.

SCENE 2. Night of the same day.

STAGE MANAGEMENT:

Stage Manager: GEORGE JONES
assisted by

OLIVE COLTMAN and GERRY AYLES

Lighting: GERRY ISENTHAL

Properties: ELIZABETH ODDIE

Sound: ALBERT GIBBS

Wardrobe: THE WARDROBE STAFF

The Play produced by:—

ABRAHAM ASSEO

Associate Producer: MARY DEAN

The setting designed by: BERYL ANTHONY

and constructed by

DENIS ROBINSON, PETER ELLIS and the STAGE STAFF

There will be an interval of 15 minutes after Act II during which refreshments will be served.

There will be a shorter interval after Act I.

In the interests of both players and audience, you are requested to restrict smoking in the theatre while the play is in progress.

DISCUSSION

There will be a discussion on this production in the theatre on Wednesday, September 29th, at 7.30 p.m. All members of the audience are invited to be present and to express their views. Written criticisms, which must be signed, will be welcomed. Refreshments will be served—price 6d.

THE QUESTORS' BUILDING FUND APPEAL.

The launching of the Building Fund at the Annual General Meeting was an event of great consequence for the Club. The ambition to own and not merely to hire the premises in which the Club lives has long been there; it is only latterly that we have felt that there were genuine possibilities of its realisation. It will demand an effort without parallel in the Club's history, but relatively no greater than has been required to build up our organisation in days gone by. In that effort every member can play a part—no effort too big for what is at stake and none too small to be worthwhile.

The Building Fund Committee will provide the main direction of the Club's efforts in the task of raising the £2,500 which we have set as our target for this year. But there is no reason why members should wait for things to be organised for them or until they are asked. The spontaneous action of individual members will be of great worth; each can devise his own method of helping to swell the total. The Hon. Treasurer of the Building Fund (Mr. H. Marcus, 36a, Hastings Road, W.13) will gladly receive and acknowledge any contribution, however small.

This very production of "The Pastoral Symphony" provides a chance for all members to do their bit. The full proceeds of the last performance on September 28th (when no free members' tickets will be issued) will go towards the Building Fund. There can be no member who could not with some slight effort find two more friends to take seats for the 28th.

REMEMBER—

we want £2,500 before the end of July, 1949—by a sustained effort throughout the Season we can attain it.

THEATRE PARTIES.

It has been justly observed that followers of the amateur theatre are among those who go least to the professional theatre. The Questors intend that this reproach shall not be made against them; it is hoped in future to arrange for small parties to make theatre visits at frequent intervals.

It is plainly impossible to circularise all our members about each party as it is arranged, and any member who would be interested to join in and who would like to be informed of arrangements as they are made should send their name and address (with telephone number, if any) to Miss Pamela Richards, 25, Buxton Gardens, W.3. (ACORn 0685), who is in charge of the scheme. The Old Vic production of "Twelfth Night," at the New Theatre, on October 1st will be the first visit and others will follow.

WELCOME TO ADVERTISERS.

This is the first occasion on which The Questors have included commercial advertisements in our programme. It was agreed at the A.G.M. that it would be unwise to neglect the revenue possibilities of such a departure. We now welcome to these pages the three local businesses who have taken space in our programme, and we hope our members will try to patronise the firms who, in bringing their products to the notice of our members, are also lending support to the Club.

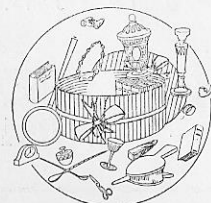
JUNIOR PLAYGOERS.

The latest Questors development is the formation of a Junior Playgoers Group. This is under the charge of Mrs. Ann Hess, 1, Daleham Mews, Hampstead, N.W.3. (HAMpstead 4066), from whom anyone who is interested can get full particulars.

Briefly the idea is to form a group of about 50 young people of fourteen and over and to help them to appreciate and enjoy theatrical productions, especially Questors' productions, by giving them a chance before each show to learn a bit about the play to be presented before they see it. In addition to a talk on the play itself it is planned to include talks and practical demonstrations on such things as Lighting, Make-up, Music, Costume, etc., at a meeting of the group which will be held in the theatre shortly before each production.

Membership of the Junior Playgoers will cost 1s. It does not confer the privileges of membership of The Questors, but it is intended to offer to such young people the concession rate for block bookings which is available to Youth Groups, etc.

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