

Feb 84

THE QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP PRESENTS

FUMED OAK

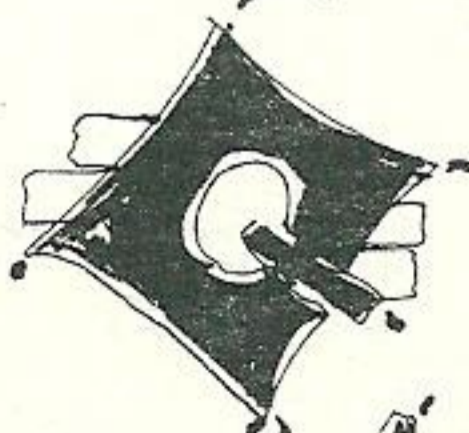
BY NOËL COWARD

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

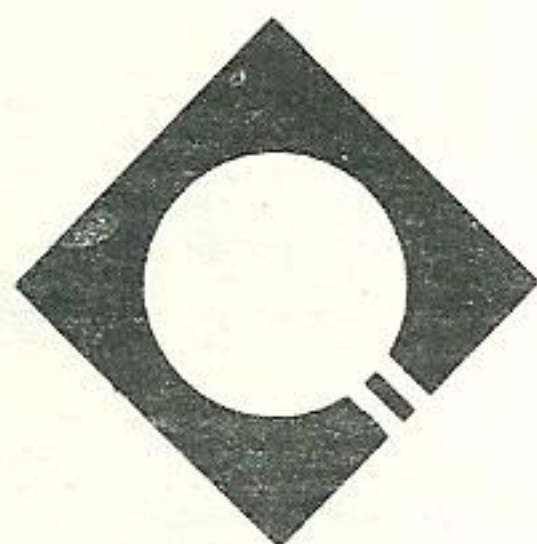
BY TOM STOPPARD

A NIGHT OUT

BY HAROLD PINTER



FEB 1984



THE QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP

First performance 21st February 1984

A NIGHT OUT

FUMED OAK

by Noël Coward

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

by Tom Stoppard

A NIGHT OUT

by Harold Pinter

Directed by Elayne Gomersall

Designed by Phil Pinkham

FUMED OAK

Henry Gow	Ian Robinson
Doris Gow	Kate Roberts
Mrs Rocket	Susan Carroll
Elsie	Mari King

Scene: 'Somewhere in London Suburbia' 1936

Noël Coward began his career as a child actor in 1911. When he appeared as a dramatist with comedies like *The Young Idea* and *Fallen Angels* he was hailed at once as the spokesman of the younger generation of the early 1920s and his plays were often roundly condemned as immoral. But it was after *Hayfever* in 1925 that Coward produced his best work with elegant high comedies in the tradition of Congreve and Wilde. *Fumed Oak* is an unusual departure for Coward in that it attempts to portray the lives of a lower middle class family. When it was first produced in 1936, Noël Coward and Gertrude Lawrence played Henry and Doris Gow.

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

Moon.....	Charles Thomas
Birdboot.....	Mark Ivory
Mrs Drudge.....	Julie Vanessa Woods
Simon.....	Tony Cox
Felicity.....	Peta McRedmond
Cynthia.....	Lynn Caroline Kitch
Magnus.....	Anthony Charles Willis
Inspector Hound.....	Ian Chitty

Scene: The Theatre. Present.

Scene in the Theatre: The Drawing Room of Muldoon Manor one morning in the early spring of 1924.

The Real Inspector Hound was first staged in 1968 at the National Theatre and was hailed as the ultimate parody of the stage and literary convention of the country house mystery. Interestingly the critics of this play are more often seen to be in competition with those within it. *The Observer* said of it "It's an object of pure virtuoso craft and display as luxuriously self-sufficient as a netsuke or Fabergé Easter Egg. But it's nearly perfect in its kind as a P.G. Wodehouse plot; tiny, ludicrous and beautiful as an ivory Mickey Mouse . . . It's time we stopped dismissing comedy as an inferior genre".

————— INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES —————

A NIGHT OUT

Mrs Stokes.....	Mari King
Albert.....	Ian Chitty
Seely.....	Anthony Charles Willis
Kedge.....	Tony Cox
Tea Stall Lady.....	Lynn Caroline Kitch
Old Man.....	Ian Robinson
Mr King.....	Charles Thomas
Gidney.....	Mark Ivory
Joyce.....	Peta McRedmond
Eileen.....	Julie Vanessa Woods
Betty.....	Kate Roberts
Girl.....	Susan Carroll
Mr Ryan.....	Stephen Quinn
Horne.....	Ian Robinson
Barrow.....	John Carey

Scene 1 Mrs Stokes's kitchen
Scene 2 The Teastall
Scene 3 Mr King's living room
Scene 4 Mrs Stokes's kitchen
Scene 5 The Girls' Flat
Scene 6 Mrs Stokes's kitchen

Time: 1963

Like many of Pinter's plays *A Night Out* was originally written for television.

The play marks the beginning of Pinter's move away from "Comedy of Menace" where characters are humorously menaced by outside influences, towards psychological exploration in a more "realistic framework".

Stage Managers	—	Glyn Backshall Chris Roberts
Deputy Stage Managers	—	Marjorie Edwins Helen Feather
Assistant Stage Managers	—	Martin Bishop Sue David Stan Glebocki Alison Palmer Tina Simonite Sunder Tahl Nichola Smith Chris Simmonds Anne Harries Steven Byrne
Wardrobe	—	Anne Gilmour
	assisted by	— Lesley Harris Lucy Lacaille Edith Ricket
Properties	—	Bob Ricket
	assisted by	— Krysia Smith Sian Spry Bridget McCall
Construction	—	Phil Pinkham
	assisted by	— The Crew
Lighting	—	Allan B. Smith
	assisted by	— Steve Hames Maury Horwich Paul Anderson
Sound	—	Stuart Dollin
	assisted by	— Yvette Bach Pamela Swan
Make-up	—	By Greasepaint
Prompt	—	Patricia Adams
Show Printing	—	The Printing Department

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lighting Hire by White Light

"Mr Higgs" in *The Real Inspector Hound* by J. Saunders Ltd.

Radio Mikes kindly loaned by "Cog Sys"

Sound equipment kindly loaned by Pioneer (UK) Ltd.

THE QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP provides a two year part-time training course for actors, which is intended to prepare them for membership of the theatre's main acting group. The Course, which is run under the auspices of the Ealing Education Committee is now in its 37th year. A large proportion of The Questors' acting strength started in the Student Group (and some of the Student Group started in our Young People's Groups, one or two of them from the age of about 6 or 7). It is an intensive course, calling for a high degree of commitment. Selection for the First Year Group is by audition, with usually some 60 applications for 20 to 24 places. At the end of the first year a further selection is made for the Second Year Group of 10 to 12 students. Their intensity of work is very high, averaging up to 10 to 15 hours a week for the 40 weeks of the Course. Tonight you are seeing the current Second Year Group's first production as a group. They will then continue to train and to work for their final production next July in the main theatre.

STUDENT GROUP STAFF

Director of Studies and Acting Tutor Alfred Emmet
Deputy Director of Studies and Acting Tutor David Emmet
Acting Tutor to Second Year Group Elayne Gomersall
Movement Tutor Johanna Godliman
Speech Tutor Sheila Moriarty
Make-up Tutor Julie Cruttenden

Forthcoming Attractions

IN THE THEATRE

10 – 17 March

RING ROUND THE MOON

by Jean Anouilh

Translated by Christopher Fry

The delightful and witty 'charade with music' now part of theatre history.

LATER THIS SEASON . . .

PHOENIX

by David Storey

LOAVES AND FISHES

by Somerset Maugham

LONG WAY AWAY

devised by Geoff Webb

DANCING NAKED

by David Pearson

LARK RISE

by Keith Dewhurst, based on the book by Flora Thompson

ROMEO AND JULIET

by William Shakespeare

Full details of these productions will be given in *Questopics*, the Members' Monthly magazine.

If you are not already a member and would like to know more about us why not attend one of the new or prospective members evenings? These are held every Wednesday, commencing at 7.45 pm in the Grapevine Bar. This is not only an opportunity to ask questions but includes a comprehensive tour of the Theatre, wardrobe, workshop and rehearsal areas.