

"Albert
make us
Laugh"



by Jimmie Chinn



THE QUESTORS THEATRE COMPANY SECOND YEAR STUDENT GROUP

PRESIDENT: JUDI DENCH OBE

VICE-PRESIDENTS: SIR BRIAN BATSFORD, ALFRED EMMET OBE, ROGER REES

First performance: 12th July 1986

As usual, the last Playhouse production of the 1985/86 season is an opportunity for the second year Student Group to present a full-length play, which represents the culmination of two years of hard work and commitment. What is different this year is that the nine-member Group will have the unique experience of helping the author to create a completely new play.

Jimmie Chinn, a Lancastrian who came south in 1959 and was an actor and a drama teacher prior to turning to full-time writing two years ago, is also an experienced director, having directed at the Teddington Theatre Club for 20 years. He has been closely associated with the Questors Student Group for a number of years; the group presented his short play, *Waltz*, in 1979. His plays *From Here to the Library* and *A Respectable Funeral* were presented at the Teddington Theatre Club in 1983, the former being subsequently heard on BBC Radio 4 the following year. His latest radio play, *Too Long an Autumn*, starring Brenda Bruce, was heard in March of this year, and he is currently writing for television.

"A perfect childlike simplicity puts us at once into intimate relationship with God, without any hindrance."

From Letters of Direction by the Abbé de Tourville.

ALBERT MAKE US LAUGH

A new play by
JIMMIE CHINN

THE CHARACTERS (Not in order of appearance)

THE CHILDREN

ALBERT NUTTALL **GABRIEL FARRELL,**
STEPHEN HEHIR
PRIMROSE MACAVENEY **JANE ALLIGHAN**
BERYL NOTEN **ADRIENNE O'BRIEN**
SHANE BUTTERWORTH **STEPHEN HEHIR**
CHARLIE SHORROCKS
BARBARA BATCH **KIA SIÂN**
LOBELIA BOTTOMLEY **ANNE KILBORN**

THE ADULTS

HEADMASTER TOPE **PAUL CHINN**
MISS MINT **KIA SIÂN**
MISS HEMSLEY **ANNE KILBORN**
MISS PARTINGTON **ADRIENNE O'BRIEN**
MR LEATHERBOTTLE **STEPHEN HEHIR**
ENID NUTTALL **DENYS GASKILL**
ERIC SMALLSHAW **GABRIEL FARRELL**

The action of the play takes place in and around
Belmont Fields Secondary Modern School and in the
home of Albert Nuttall.

Time: Ever so long ago.

There will be one interval of fifteen minutes

DIRECTED BY JIMMIE CHINN

SETS DESIGNED BY NORMAN BARWICK

COSTUMES DESIGNED BY BRIAN MOORHOUSE

Albert's composition by **Gabriel Farrell**

Albert's theme composed by **Robert Ward**

STAGE MANAGER	:	REBECCA MEHTA
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	: :	JUDY WARD MARTIN PRESTON COLIN BELL CATRINA BURKE ADRIENNE LAWLER FIONA JONES
WARDROBE assisted by	: :	BRIAN MOORHOUSE ANN ARCHER
PROPERTIES	:	LORRAINE MARLOW CAROL MCKESSOCK
CONSTRUCTION	:	SEAN GRAHAM
LIGHTING assisted by	: :	STEVE HAMES MILES RENDLE
SOUND	:	JOHN HOWARTH

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO **SUE BLAKE** FOR
ASSISTANCE IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

HOTPLATE

Delicious food is available in the Upper Foyer from 6.30pm during the run of theatre productions.

Interval refreshments will be served and you can buy tea or coffee tokens in advance.

Orders for Interval drinks can also be given at the bar prior to the performance.

Patrons are respectfully asked to refrain from taking refreshments into the auditorium.

THE STUDENT GROUP

The first Questors Student Training Course for Actors was started in 1947. A new Group has been formed every year since then, to run under the same direction. This is a 2-Year Course, aimed at giving preliminary training for amateur actors and preparing them for membership of the main acting group of The Questors Theatre. Between 20 and 24 students are generally enrolled for the First Year Course, selected by audition from some 60 applicants. At the end of the first year, there is a further process of selection to make up the Second Year Group, whose final production you are seeing this evening.

The Course makes great demands on the Students. In the first year there are 5½ hours of classes every week for 36 weeks, including Speech, Movement, Acting and Make-up. In the second year, the intensity of work steps up greatly, with 7½ hours of regular classes each week and many hours of additional rehearsals for the two productions given by the Group during the year, in February and July.

The Course therefore demands a very high standard of commitment and enthusiasm and a great sense of loyalty to the group. Without that, a student will not make the grade, but with it, will learn how to make a valuable and rewarding contribution to the life of the theatre. More than one third of the present acting members of The Questors had their initial training in our Student Group.

The Training Course is run under the auspices of the Ealing Education Committee. A new Second Year Course is now being formed from those who have just completed their first year and applications are being invited for the new First Year Course to start in September.

The minimum age for the Student Course is 18. The Questors also run an 'Introductory Group' for 17-year olds, likewise selected by audition. For this, the class time is only 3 hours per week, but the personal commitment to the Group is just as high.

For further information, or a copy of the Prospectus of the Course, apply to the Theatre Manager.

STUDENT GROUP STAFF 1985/86

Director of Studies

and Acting Tutor (1st Year)

DAVID EMMET

Acting Tutor (2nd Year)

JIMMIE CHINN

Movement Tutor

JOHN WILSON

Speech Tutor

PENNY DYER

Make-up Tutor

JULIA CRUTTENDEN

Tutor to Introductory Group

CORNELIA CARDEW

Forthcoming Attractions

STUDIO PERFORMANCES

19 — 26 JULY

THE HOLLOW CROWN

Devised by John Barton

2 — 7 AUGUST

COLD TIMES

Adapted and translated by Geoff Webb
from *The Age of the Fish*
by Ödon von Horvath

The Autumn Season opens with

13 — 20 SEPTEMBER

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

by Tennessee Williams

followed by

4 — 11 OCTOBER

DESTINY

by David Edgar

1 — 16 NOVEMBER

THE NORMAN CONQUESTS

by Alan Ayckbourn

GALA CONCERT

IN AID OF DEVELOPMENT FUND

with **JUDI DENCH**

and **MICHAEL WILLIAMS**

SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 1986

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE QUESTORS?

Application Forms are available in the Upper and Lower Foyers. The Membership Secretary will be pleased to give details if you call at the main office between 10am and 5pm Monday to Friday or telephone 567 0011.

New and Prospective Members evenings are held every WEDNESDAY, commencing at 7.45pm in the Grapevine bar. Included in the programme will be a comprehensive tour of the acting areas, workshops, wardrobe and rehearsal space.

The part of Charlie Shorrocks will be played by MARTIN PRESTON