

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

In the Studio

IPHIGENIA

by Euripides

(Adapted by John Barton and Kenneth Cavander)

Euripedes' two plays make a powerful evocation of the sacrifice of youth to war.

25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 May and 1 June at 7.45pm

In the Studio — A late-night Show

A PLUS

by Kevin Madley

Another new play from the author of *D Minus*. This time a warm, one-woman, revenge comedy.

Two performances only: **Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May at 10.30pm.**

Tickets: Members and Guests — £1.50

In the Playhouse

1905

by Angus Macfadyen

The winner of the 1990 Student Playwriting Competition. A new play about politics, sex and power amongst the privileged classes of Tsarist Russia.

1, 4, 5, 7, 8 June at 7.45pm

Sunday Matinée at 3pm 2 June

Sponsored by Marks and Spencer

In the Playhouse

ALFRED EMMET A CELEBRATION EVENING

*An entertainment in celebration of our founder's life and work in the theatre.
An informal reception at 5.30pm. Performance at 6.30pm. Tickets on application with a possible ballot for seats.*

Sunday 2nd June

Printed and published by THE QUESTORS LIMITED



THE
QUESTORS
THEATRE

THE

BRIVALS
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BY RICHARD B SHERIDAN

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Sponsored by





Fuller Smith & Turner Plc

are pleased to sponsor
The Questors production of:-

THE RIVALS

*Please come and enjoy a Taste of Tradition
in The Grapevine Club after the performance
. . . . Our act is your "Pride".*

Fuller Smith & Turner Plc
The Griffin Brewery
Chiswick
London W4 2QB

Independent Family Brewers since 1845

THE AUTHOR AND THE BACKGROUND TO THE PLAY

RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN was born in Dublin in 1751 and educated at Harrow. He was a young man of only twenty-three when he wrote *The Rivals*. The play was written in a hurry because he needed money urgently at the time. As a result of both his youthful inexperience and his hasty composition the original version of *The Rivals* was not entirely successful. Sheridan revised the play, however, and it became, and has remained to this day, one of the most popular comedies in the English theatre.

Sheridan was able to write his first play quickly because he had the advantage of having grown up in a literary and theatrical family. His mother Frances Sheridan was a playwright and novelist and he probably borrowed some ideas for *The Rivals* from her play, *A Journey to Bath*. His father Thomas Sheridan was an actor and theatre-manager who later became a teacher of elocution and the writer of an English dictionary. Sheridan was an intelligent, witty and fun-loving young man whose real ambition was to become a politician. After his success with *The Rivals* he wrote several more plays, including a comic masterpiece, *The School for Scandal* (1777) and a very funny burlesque of contemporary theatrical practices, *The Critic; or, a Tragedy Rehearsed* (1779). He also became manager of one of the two great London theatres of the time, the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, where he followed in the footsteps of David Garrick (1717-79), the greatest and most famous English actor in the eighteenth century. In 1780 Sheridan achieved his ambition and became a member of Parliament and thereafter concentrated his talents on writing political speeches instead of plays. Towards the end of his life he became a gambler and heavy drinker. In 1809 the Drury Lane Theatre, for which he was still responsible, was destroyed by fire; as a result of this disaster Sheridan was in severe financial difficulty for the rest of his life. He lost his seat in Parliament in 1812. His last few years were miserable as he suffered from both poverty and bad health and he died in 1816 a sadly disillusioned man. He was given a splendid public funeral and is buried in Westminster Abbey.

Bath: city of pleasure

The Rivals is entirely set in the city of Bath. Sheridan knew Bath well, having lived there, and probably many of those in the first audience of *The Rivals* would have been there too, as visitors, for, in Sheridan's lifetime, Bath was one of the most fashionable and popular resorts in the country. The city, however, provided more than a mere geographical and physical setting for the play. Bath had a strong hold on the imagination of the time as a place of pleasure and romance. Young people longed to go there because of the many opportunities Bath offered for meeting members of the opposite sex, for dancing, flirting and perhaps falling in love. By setting his play in Bath, Sheridan creates a world very familiar to his eighteenth-century audiences as a world of both reality and illusion.

THE RIVALS

by Richard Brinsley Sheridan

First performance Saturday 11th May 1991

Cast in order of appearance

Fag	PETER JAMES
Coachman	RICHARD SHELTON
Lucy	SARAH MORRISON
Lydia Languish	ANNA MACREADY
Julia	CAROLINE BLEAKLEY
Mrs. Malaprop	JANET EGAN
Sir Anthony Absolute	NORMAN WILKINSON
Captain Absolute	DAVID HOVATTER
Faulkland	NICK HARDING
Acres	KEITH PARRY
Sir Lucius O'Trigger	JOHN TURNER
David	RICHARD SHELTON
Servants	BRAD ASKEW RAQUEL FARRINGTON HELEN HEAP PAUL MAITLAND

The entire action takes place in the City of Bath within the space of one afternoon.

PART 1

- Scene 1.* A street in Bath.
2. A dressing-room at Mrs. Malaprop's lodgings.
3. Captain Absolute's lodgings.
4. The North Parade.
5. Julia's dressing-room.
6. Mrs. Malaprop's lodgings.
7. Acres' lodgings.

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

PART 2

- Scene 1.* Acres' lodgings.
2. Mrs. Malaprop's lodgings.
3. The North Parade.
4. Julia's dressing-room.
5. The South Parade.
6. Kingsmead Fields.

The play (including the interval) lasts approximately 2½ hours.

Production

Director	PETER FIELD
Set Designer	TESSA CURTIS
Lighting and Sound Designer	ALAN N. SMITH
Costume Designer	ANNE GILMOUR

Stage Managers

JENNY RICHARDSON
CHRIS SYDENHAM

Deputy Stage Manager

CORINNE TITE

Assistant Stage Managers

PAUL ASHBY
TRISH KNIGHT

Prompter

BRIDGETT STREVENS

Construction

PETER TERRY
assisted by..... TINA HARRIS, TERESA JACKSON,
BRIN PARSONAGE, PHIL PINKHAM, JON WEBSTER

Properties

KRIS COLLIER

Wardrobe Staff

JANE ALLEN,
MARY ANDERSON, MARY ANGUS, ANDREA FRANKHAM,
ANNE GILMOUR, JOAN GRIFFIN, JEAN MASTERS,
VAL MORAN, ELIZABETH PRITCHETT, ANNE TOWNLEY,
SYLVIA WALL, LAURA WARD

Lighting Operator

LES SMITH

Lighting Assistant

COLIN ABDEY

Sound Operator

ANNE RICE

Hair and Make-Up

PAIGE BELLE
of GREASEPAINT

Thanks to: MARK MORAN and JO PERSE

*This production will be staged at The Minack Cliffside Theatre, Porthcurno, Cornwall
between the 12 - 17 August.*

The taking of food and drink into the auditorium is NOT permitted, neither is the use of cameras, video-cameras or tape equipment during the performance.

ART EXHIBITION IN THE UPPER FOYER

11 — 17 May 1991

THE FRIDAY GROUP are a group of artists who meet weekly to paint together. Dorothy Bryant, Molly Dale, Kay Davies, Ethel Lyford and Doris Parker have been painting in Ealing for many years, both indoors and out, and have been shown in many exhibitions with considerable success.

Most are members of the Ealing Art Group and have sold pictures all over this country and in many countries overseas. Amongst other successes of this group, Dorothy Bryant has shown at the Royal Academy. Many people will have seen the exhibitions on Saturdays in Ealing Broadway's Christ Church gardens and may recognise the work of these artists.

Le Phénicien

A new fully licensed French Restaurant

Charmingly located overlooking Haven Green, with parking facilities nearby. It stands directly opposite Ealing Broadway Tube Station. Le Phénicien offers authentic French cuisine prepared by one of London's top French Chefs. The wine cellar is well stocked with the vintages imported from the best regions of France. Soft piano music played three evenings a week adds to the Restaurant's charming and relaxed atmosphere. An ideal venue for parties or quite simply for those who enjoy good food and fine wines. On your first visit all members of The Questors are entitled to a free bottle of wine from our selected wine list on presentation of this programme.

Opening times: Lunch 12.00 - 14.30 (Last orders)
Dinner 18.30 - 23.00 (Last orders)

Telephone: 081-567 1111 or 567 6297

Le Phénicien, 9/10 Central Buildings, Haven Green, W5

OLD ORLEANS

A TASTE OF THE DEEP SOUTH

26/42, Bond Street, Ealing.

Telephone: 081 579 7413

The Restaurant/Cocktail Bar with a style of its own.

Opening May 11th, 1991.

INFORMATION

THE GRAPEVINE CLUB

The Questors has a fully licensed Bar which is now open to all members. The Bar is open every evening plus lunchtimes on Sundays. Questors members are requested to sign in their guests when entering the bar.

THE HOTPLATE

Delicious hot and cold food is available in the upper Foyer between 6.30pm and 8.00pm during the run of Playhouse productions, and coffee, tea, and cakes are served during the interval. No hot food will be provided at the Sunday matinées.

NOTE

The Hotplate is not open for Studio productions, but when Studio performances coincide with those in the Playhouse, it will endeavour to serve those audiences whenever this is possible.

NEW MEMBERS EVENINGS

Why not attend one of our new, or prospective members evenings, and have a conducted tour of the Theatre complex. Tours start and finish at the Grapevine Bar, 8.00pm every Wednesday.

THE STUDENT GROUP

The Questors runs a two year part time student course in Acting; details can be obtained from the office.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS

There are a number of groups for younger members. These cater for all age groups, from 5-17. The classes are intended to create awareness of the theatre and provide a stimulating channel for imagination.

For The Questors Theatre

Artistic Director
Studio Directors
Director of Studies
Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Secretary
Finance Director
Administrative Director
Stage Director
Theatre Manager
Productions Administrator
Membership Secretary
Programme Editor
Questopics Editor
Press Officer
Sponsorship
Box Office Manager
Programme Sales Organiser
Marketing Manager
Hotplate
Floral displays
Haberdashery
Wardrobe Equip.
Wardrobe Care

David Emmet
Paddy O'Connor, John Horwood
David Emmet
Martin Bowley
Roger Kelly
Fiona Nicholson
Ken Kettle
Jim Craddock
Steve Anderson
Elaine Orchard
Jill Gee
Alice Pennicott
Ken Ratcliffe
Barbara Neville
Sam Jennings
Geoffrey Sellman
Ken Parker
Val Blaxland
Robert Gordon Clark
Dorothy Dent
Barralets of Ealing
Tootal Craft
Wilkinson Sword Scissors . . Fiskars Ltd
Persil and Comfort
courtesy of Lever Brothers.
Dry-cleaning By C.D.S.

ADMINISTRATION

The Questors office is open from 9.30am until 5.00pm every weekday. If you wish to make contact for details of membership, or hiring the Theatre and rehearsal rooms, telephone the office on 081-567 0011.

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to become a member please fill in the application form (copies in the Foyers); just send it to the Theatre with the appropriate subscription.

BOX OFFICE

For personal callers the box office is open evenings only from 6.45pm to 8.30pm on days of performance and five days prior to each Playhouse production.