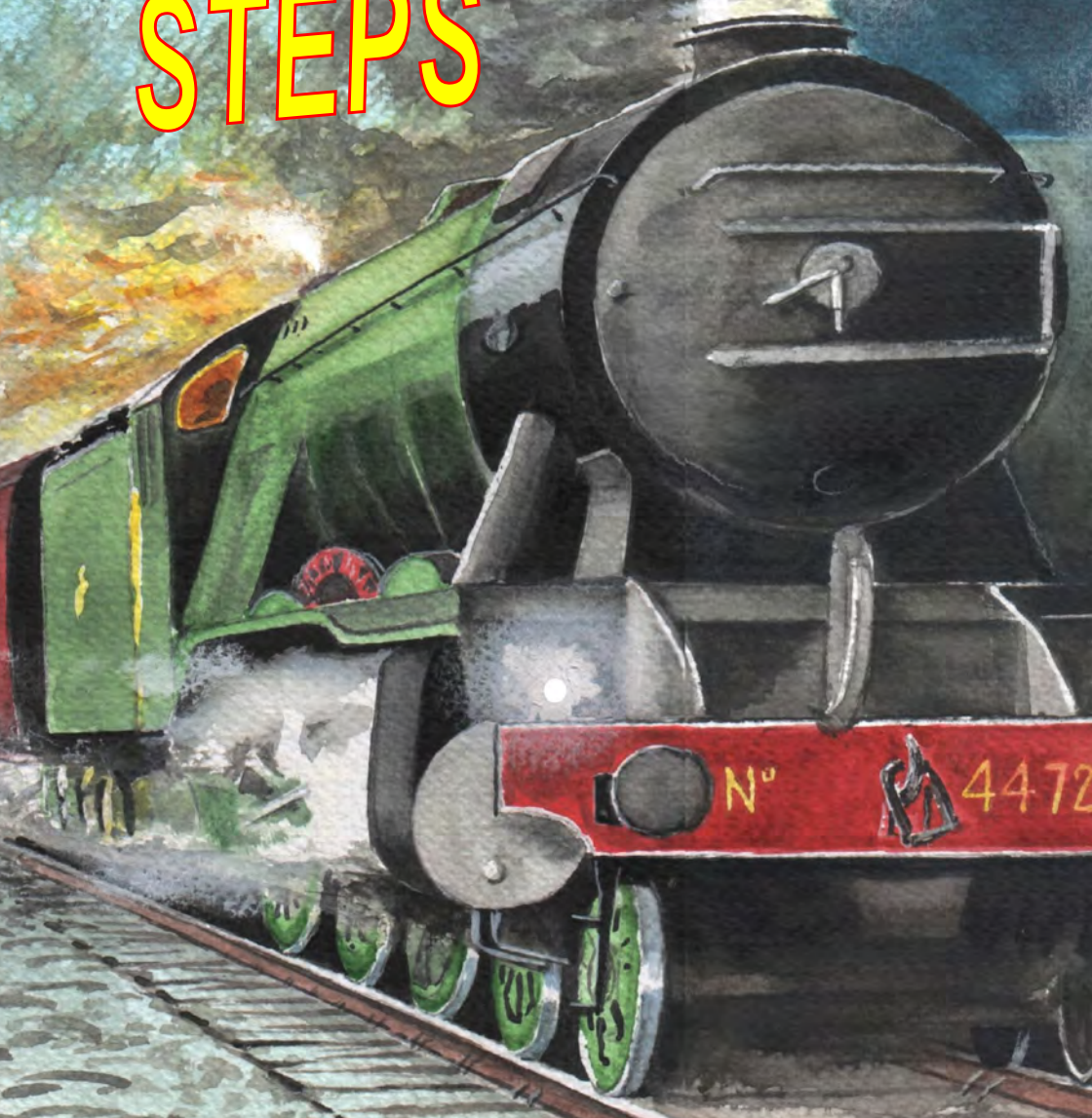


# THE 39 STEPS



THE 39 STEPS  
adapted by Patrick Barlow  
From the novel by John Buchan  
From the movie of Alfred Hitchcock,  
licensed by ITV Global Entertainment Limited  
and an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon

Act I - 45 mins

*There will be an interval of 15 mins*

Act II - 45 mins

## About the Production

It was billed as *John Buchan's The 39 Steps* for its London premiere, but by the time the play had crossed the Atlantic it had become *Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps*. There is a good reason for this: this play is very much a Pythonesque attempt to perform the Hitchcock movie almost word for word on stage at great speed with four actors taking all the roles.

The movie is a thriller, the play is a farce. At face perhaps an apparent contradiction, but of course there is really always a very fine line between the two. Crank up the tension of a thriller a notch or two and it immediately becomes a comedy. That is largely what makes this play work – Hannay is a little bit more dashing, rugged and handsome, the women he meets are a little bit more beautiful and enticing, the villains even more evil and dastardly. Everything larger than life and theatrical, as after all befits a movie that is placed on stage.

This is also very much a play that knows it is a play. It's a stripping back to the bare bones of theatre, four actors dumped on an empty stage with a random assortment of furniture and props and forced to make the best of it all.

It has been a privilege to work with such a talented group of actors and highly experienced production team in bringing this brilliant script to the Genesian stage.

*Tom Massey*



**MAX PHILIPSON - Richard Hannay** Maximilian Philipson moved to Sydney from the Gold Coast six months ago. He has been involved in drama his whole life and trained at many studios. He was involved with theatre in the Gold Coast for about 3 years, having done shows at Gold Coast Little Theatre and Spotlight Theatre, including *Jury Room*, *Erogenous Zones*, *Zig Zag Street*, and *Curtains*. His last show was *Sweet Charity* at Javeenbah Theatre, where he played Italian Movie Star Vittorio Vidal. This is Max's first

performance at the Genesian, and he is glad to be working with such professionals.

**LIB CAMPBELL - Anabella / Pamela / Margaret** Lib is a kids television presenter for the Disney Channel and the Nine Network; as a result she now prefers one side of her face to the other. Lib trained at the Australian Academy of Dramatic Arts. Her first appearance at the Genesian was as Poppy in the 2009 production of *Noises Off*. Recently Lib produced, and starred in a rather riotous version of David Ives *All in the Timing* at Newtown Theatre. She appeared as the lead to critical acclaim in the 2010 production of *Crooked* at the New Theatre. Lib plans to be the first woman to toss a wedding baguette, opposed to the traditional bouquet.





**MARK LANGHAM - Clown** This is Mark's second appearance at this theatre. He was in *Pygmalion* in 2010 but was, nevertheless, asked to come back. Mark has just finished playing the title role in *Julius Caesar* at the New Theatre. He previously appeared in *Burnt by the Sun* at the same theatre in late 2010. In the last year Mark has also appeared in several short films including *Maria*, which was about a woman called Maria and *Soup*, which was not. Mark's play *Nothing* is a finalist at this years Noosa

One Act Play festival. He trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, for all the good it did either party.

**STEPHEN HOLLAND - Clown** Stephen moved to Australia from the UK in 1986 to work on his sun tan. He trained at the Sydney Acting School and Darlinghurst Theatre. Stage credits include *Under Milk Wood*, *The Killing Game*, and *Free Sex and Beer* at Darlinghurst Theatre. In 2002 he performed in *The Luger* at *Short and Sweet*. Stephen has worked in community radio, and used to read the news and narrate books on 2RPH. A comedy writer (credits include *Comedy Inc* for Crackerjack Productions), Stephen has also performed stand-up comedy in Sydney. This is his first production for the Genesis Theatre.



## **PRODUCTION**

Director	<b>Tom Massey</b>
Assistant Director	<b>Nanette Frew</b>
Set Design	<b>Tom Massey</b>
Costume Design	<b>Susan Carveth, Nicola Griggs</b>
Lighting & Sound Design	<b>Michael Schell</b>
Production Manager	<b>Roger Gimblett</b>
Set Construction	<b>Members of the Company</b>
Photography	<b>Craig O'Regan, Mark Banks</b>
Graphic Design	<b>Tom Massey</b>
Accent Coach	<b>Del Dines</b>
Transport	<b>Debbie Smith</b>
Acknowledgements	<b>Corinne Younan, Frances Milat, Joyce Birch</b>

## **CREW**

Stage Manager	<b>Adam Campbell</b>
Lighting & Sound Operation	<b>Mark Banks</b>

## **CAST**

Richard Hannay	<b>Max Philipson</b>
Annabella / Pamela / Margaret	<b>Lib Campbell</b>
Clown	<b>Mark Langham</b>
Clown	<b>Stephen Holland</b>

# About the Genesian Theatre

The Genesian Theatre Company is a non-professional group operating from an historic church in Kent Street, in the heart of the Sydney CBD. We boast among our alumni numerous household names in Australian theatre and film such as Bryan Brown, Baz Luhrmann, Judi Farr, and John Bell. We are, however, just as proud of the hundreds of talented amateur actors, directors, designers, lighting and sound specialists who have contributed to Sydney's unique little theatre over the years.

Over the years the company has developed into a theatre providing a training ground for young actors and a place where those who love the theatre can meet, share and extend their knowledge of the performing arts. The Genesian Theatre is one of Sydney's most active theatre companies. In addition to seven main stage productions each year we run classes, workshops and many other activities.

Membership of the company is open to all people over the age of eighteen.

The building which houses The Genesian Theatre Company was originally St John's Church, and dates from 1868. It has served as both a church and a poor school until 1932 when it became the Kursaal Theatre, housing the Sydney Repertory Company. In 1938 it became the first Matthew Talbot Hostel. Since 1954 it has been the home of The Genesian Theatre Company which was formed in 1944.

## Membership

If your interest is in acting, directing, stage management, sound, lights, publicity, admin, etc, or if you just want to experience being a member of the group, we would welcome you as a member. You don't need to be experienced, we can provide training and can cater to different levels of involvement. Please see our web site for further information.

Coming next to the Genesian Theatre

# Northanger Abbey

[www.genesiantheatre.com.au](http://www.genesiantheatre.com.au)