

Hannie Rayson's

# Hotel Sorrento

18th January - 22nd February 2014



**the GENESIAN THEATRE**

**Act I - 55 mins**

*There will be an interval of 15 mins*

**Act II - 55 mins**

**The action of the play takes place in the Victorian seaside town of Sorrento on the Mornington Peninsula, and in the city of London.**

*By Arrangement with HLA Management*

## About the Production

Hannie Rayson states that the idea for *Hotel Sorrento* came to her after Peter Carey from Bacchus Marsh Victoria was nominated for and won the Booker Prize for his novel *Oscar and Lucinda*.

Carey, who had lived in London for two years and loved it, said 'One day I looked at the man in my local service station and suddenly realised that if I lived here ten years I wouldn't know that man any better. I decided to go home ... What I missed was that ability to recognise instantly what people are, what they are thinking and feeling which comes effortlessly with your own kind.'

From this concept, *Hotel Sorrento* developed into a vivid, moving, and funny play which explores the theme of loyalty both to family and to country.

I first saw *Hotel Sorrento* in the early 1990's and fell in love with the play. I have wanted to direct it for over 10 years and am very grateful to the Genesian Theatre for allowing me the opportunity to do so. I would like to thank the board of Directors along with the members of our group, a wonderful cast, a great production team led by my Assistant Sandra Bass, and my constant companion, my husband Garry, who is just so good at being able to solve all problems!

*Shane Bates*  
*Director*



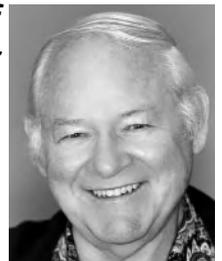
**SARAH PURDUE - Hilary** Back in Sydney after 5 years overseas and ready to make her mark on the Sydney theatre scene. Recently closed a sell out season of *The Women* at The Theatre on Chester. This is Sarah's first time with The Genesian's and loving it.

**MELANIE ROBINSON - Meg** Melanie's previous acting credits for the Genesian Theatre include *An Ideal Husband*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Noises Off*, *The Hollow*, *Cards on the Table*, and *Hay Fever*. She also recently appeared in *Calendar Girls* for Epicentre Theatre Company. Melanie majored in Theatre Studies at UNE, and completed The Core with ACTT.



**GEMMA MUNRO - Pippa** Genesian Theatre - *Money & Friends*. Lane Cove Theatre Company - *The Crucible*, *Up for Grabs*, *Move Over Mrs Markham*, *Secret Bridesmaids Business* (Director), *Blackrock* (dramaturg). Woodstock Players - *The Memory of Water*. Orange Theatre Company - *Dimboola*, *Follies*, *Oklahoma*, *42nd Street*, *Les Miserables*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Chess*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Annie*.

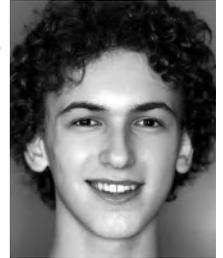
**BARRY MORAY - Wal** *Pygmalion*, *The Play of Daniel*, Independent Theatre Doris Fitton's *Our Town* and *Flint*, *The Happiest Days Of Your Life*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Hot Pants*, *Not Now Darling*, TV's *Country Practice*, TV's *Mediation Can Change The World*, *The Last Tango In Glenbrook*, Sir Wilfrid Robarts in Genesian's *Witness For The Prosecution*.





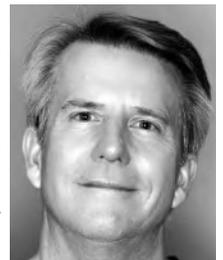
**MARTIN BELL - Edwin** Drawn initially to theatre by a love of Shakespeare Martin has played in over ten Shakespearean productions. To date his most enjoyed roles have included Bottom in *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Berowne in *Loves Labours Lost*, Alec in *Haywire*, Randle P McMurphy in *Cuckoo's Nest*, Charles Condomine in *Blithe Spirit*, and Ziggi Blasko in *Influence*.

**OLIVER BEARD - Troy** Oliver is 15 and a student at McDonald College. He is a composer and musician. This year has seen Oliver perform as a Lost Boy in *Peter Pan*, as Goody in *Fame Jr*, as Tommy in *The Music Man*, and as a sailor in the Australian Ballet's production of *Don Quixote*. This is Oliver's first appearance for the Genesian. Oliver composed the score of this production and one day aspires to be a professional contemporary classical composer.



**LYNN TURNBULL ROSE - Marge** Trained at the Drama Centre London and Sydney Uni. She recently played Judy in *Room* by Pete Malicki and Joan Dart in the TV series *Spirited*. Her work includes Paines Plough Touring Company and Sarah in *The Messiah of Ismir* at the Young Vic. She played Titania in the *Dream* at Holland Park Theatre and Goneril in *Lear* at Bondi Pavilion. Lynn appeared at the Genesian in *Morning Sacrifice* and *Charley's Aunt*.

**ROB WHITE - Dick** This is Rob's second appearance with Genesian after previously playing Peter in *Money and Friends*. Dick Bennett is a complex character, one Rob hopes audiences will find patriotic, passionate and ultimately compassionate. Rob's eternal love for his wife continues to be his inspiration.



## **Production**

Director

**Shane Bates**

Assistant Director

**Sandra Bass**

Set Design

**Aaron Harvey**

Costume Design

**Helen Kohlhagen**

Lighting Design

**Timothy M Carter**

Sound Design

**Tom Massey**

Composer

**Oliver Beard**

Set Construction

**Garry Bates,**

**Members of the Company**

Photography

**Mark Banks**

Graphic Design

**Matt Roden, Tom Massey**

## **Crew**

Stage Manager

**Glen Harman**

Lighting & Sound Operation

**Wendy Greenfield**

## **Cast**

Hilary

**Sarah Purdue**

Meg

**Melanie Robinson**

Pippa

**Gemma Munro**

Wal

**Barry Moray**

Edwin

**Martin Bell**

Troy

**Oliver Beard**

Marge

**Lynn Turnbull Rose**

Dick

**Rob White**

# **About the Genesian Theatre**

For nearly 60 years The Genesian Theatre Company has been 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 six main stage productions each year we run classes, workshops and many other activities.

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.

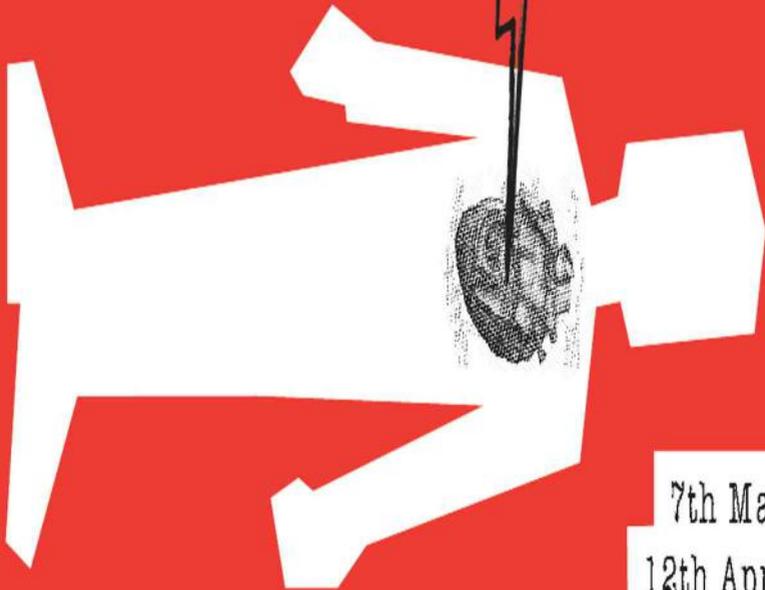
Coming next to the Genesian Theatre...

# Frankenstein

by Mary Shelley

adapted by

Victor Gialanella



7th March -

12th April 2014

Subscriptions are available

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