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The Genesian Times

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2 May 1893

SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE FINAL ADVENTURE

By Steven Dietz

Based on the original play by William Gillette and Arthur Conan Doyle.

We are sad to report the likely demise of the Great Detective, Mr. Sherlock Holmes, late of Baker Street. Mr. Holmes, known to many readers of the Genesian Times through the chronicles of his good friend, Dr. John Watson, is presumed dead and vanished, his body never found, following his exploits investigating his latest case.

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Director's Notes

Sherlock Holmes. The name is synonymous with the detective story. Originally published in 1887, Sherlock Holmes has featured in four novels and 56 short stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, as well as numerous adaptations over the last 127 years. The last few years in particular have seen several films and TV series developed, each with their own interpretation Holmes – edgy, condescending, updated into various modern settings. It would seem that the question of “Who is Sherlock Holmes?” is one which might give pause to the Great Detective himself.

Throughout rehearsal I have focussed on the Holmes I met through Doyle – highly intelligent, at times acerbic, and consumed by his work. These qualities can leave Holmes detached from society, a keen observer but reluctant participant, thrilled by analysis rather than experience. To this end we, and he, find invaluable the services of Dr. John Watson as foil and confidant. More than just a sidekick, Watson exposes Holmes to a side of humanity he endeavours to avoid – that of warmth and friendship. Watson is a link that brings Holmes from his own world back to ours.

This play has allowed me to explore the nature of that friendship, of Watson’s concern for Holmes’ wellbeing as he struggles against the mundane, and Holmes’ own search for that which yet eludes him: peace.

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Persons of Interest



John Willis-Richards – Sherlock Holmes

John is pleased to be part of another Genesian thriller, this time as the Bloodhound Of Baker Street. He was seen last year and - subsequently executed on stage - in Genesian's Hitchcock inspired "Richard III". In previous productions he miraculously avoided the bullet, playing the executioner in "Saint Joan", the Reluctant King in

"Crown Matrimonial" and Goring in Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband". John began his acting career in Canberra, and played Shakespeare in "Dead White Males" with ANU theatre society. He has studied theatre at UWS Nepean and abroad at San Francisco State University.

John Grinston – Dr. John Watson

John Grinston has acted previously at the Genesian Theatre in "St Joan" (2012) and in "Dangerous Corner" (2013). His most recent stage work was in the SITCO Shakespeare Festival at the Old Fitz Theatre, where his roles included 'The Duke' in "Measure For Measure" and 'Albany' in "King Lear". His most recent tv role was as



the solicitor in the Network 7 series "A Place To Call Home". In 2012 his performance in "Magnum Opus", directed by David Sprungli, won for 'Best Actor' at the Sydney Film School Awards.



Marty O'Neill – Professor Moriarty

Being dyspeptic from an early age, Mr O'Neill hopes his portrayal of Moriarty ('pretentiously mannered death') will be suitably nauseating - he has been waiting a long time to do something nasty at the Genesian Theatre!"

Mark Nagle – The King of Bohemia

After early Sydney theatre work Mark lived overseas appearing on the London and Edinburgh fringe - Our Country's Good, Habeas Corpus, Volpone, The Bacchae, The Philistines, Cloud Nine, Mad Forest and The Visit. Back in Sydney Mark has acted in three Genesian productions- Northanger Abbey (2011), Richard III (2013) and Frankenstein (2014).



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Persons of Interest



Tom Atkins – Godfrey Norton

Moving to Sydney from Perth to pursue a path in the Dramatic Arts, Thomas has performed both locally as well as overseas. Studying at NIDA and The Actor's Centre. First time back on stage after recovering from a broken leg...

Emma Medbury – Irene Adler

Born in Orange, she moved to Sydney to pursue a career in theatre. She studied a Diploma of Theatre Performance at Sydney Theatre School and featured in three productions including 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in which she played Helena. She then studied a Bachelor of Performance at the Australian Academy of Dramatic Art, during which she featured in six productions including 'The Rimers of Eldritch', directed by Jason Langley, in which she played Nelly Windrod, and 'The Great', directed by Iain Sinclair, in which she played Catherine The Great. Other credits include; 'Imaginary Creatures', directed by Malcolm Frawley, 'Lady Windermere's Fan', directed by Sofie Jacobs, 'Akio!' directed by Sascha Hall and 'Chekhov In Hell', directed by Jason Langley. 'Sherlock Holmes the Final Adventure' will be her first production since graduating.



Bec Piplica – Madge Larrabee

Bec has been performing since age 3. She is a dancer, singer and choreographer and has trained in LA and New York. Bec has performed in over 100 professional productions as a dancer and singer, but has developed a strong passion for acting. Bec has trained at NIDA and with Natela Dzuliashvili in the Chekhov method. This is

Bec's theatrical debut and she is thrilled to be performing at the Genesian. In her spare time, Bec is a Corporate Lawyer.

Marley Erueti – Sid Prince

Marley entered the theatre world in 2013 appearing in Archway1theatre productions of its '5 plays' showcase, then followed by 'Father Australia'. He then began 2014 by directing 'Stargazers' at the Sydney short n sweet theatre festival, performed in Archway1theatres 'Monologues' production and most recently appeared in the Genesian theatres 'Frankenstein'.



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Production Team

Michael Heming – Director

Michael has been performing onstage since 2005, most recently in Genesian Theatre's production of Frankenstein in March. Michael has previously directed St. George Theatre Company's Jack and the Beanstalk (2013), short plays in the Short + Sweet festival (2013, 2014) and completed a Directing workshop at NIDA (2014).

Debbie Smith – Assistant Director

Debbie's directing credits for the Genesian Theatre include Journey's End, Enchanted April, Coward at Christmas and Frankenstein. Other directorial credits include Educating Rita, Pygmalion and Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde; and choreographing By Jeeves, Dickens Down Under and Star Child. Her next project for the GTC is A Midsummer Night's Dream in 2015.

Michael Schell – Sound/Lighting Designer

Michael has been an active member of the Genesian Theatre for over 25 years. He is a professional sound and lighting designer and his recent credits for the Genesian Theatre include sound design for Pride and Prejudice, Crown Matrimonial and The Moustrap, lighting and sound for Frankenstein, Great Expectations, St. Joan, The 39 Steps and Terra Nova.

Martin Searles – Costume Designer

Martin has been delighted to participate in Sherlock Holmes in a 'behind the scenes' creative role, having spent the last several years focusing on acting. He has previously completed short design courses at the Australian National University ('ANU') & NIDA, and last designed costumes for a production of Moliere's The Forced Marriage at the ANU in 2007. Martin could not have completed the task of designing costumes for this production without the invaluable help, guidance and tailoring skills of Susan Carveth, Ylaria Rogers and Suzanne Rogers.

Macushla McGowan – Stage Manager

Macushla is a new member to the Genesian Theatre. She recently worked as Stage Manager on Frankenstein and Richard III and has assisted in the biobox operating sound and lighting on Daisy Pulls It Off and Murder on the Nile.

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Crew

Director	Michael Heming
Assisiant Director	Debbie Smith
Sound/Lighting Design	Michael Schell
Stage Manager	Macushla McGowan
Costume Design	Martin Searles
Costume Assistants	Susan Carveth, Ylaria Rogers, Susanne Rogers
Set Design	Debbie Smith
Production Manager	Debbie Smith
Props	Gary Woods
Biobox Technician	Wunndonna Hughes Emmanuel Said
Photography	Mark Banks
Transport	Mark Nagle
Programme	Ross Oblea
Ticketing	Shane Bates, Tom Massey
Special Thanks to:	Di Henderson, Paul Gilbert, Mehran Mortezaei, Michael Papalefteriou



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 group 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 or 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.

Originally constructed in 1868 as the Church of St. John the Evangelist served as both church and poor school until 1927. The school was operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph and was visited on many occasions by Mother Mary MacKillop now St. Mary of the Cross. In 1932 it was converted into the Kursaal Theatre and later, from 1938, was the first site of the Matthew Talbot Hostel. Since 1954 it has been the home of the Genesian Theatre 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...

Agatha Christie's

spider's WEB

30th August ~ 11th October

Subscriptions are available
www.genesiantheatre.com.au