

The action of the play takes place in Soames's house in Knightsbridge; The Botanical Gardens; Bosinney's rooms; June's art gallery in Cork Street; Holly's house in the country and Jo and Irene's house at Robyn Hill, Richmond.

Time — between the years of 1886 and 1920.

### *Special Thanks*

This production is the culmination of the work of many people who helped to bring *The Forsyte Saga* to life. Special thanks are due to:

Rudy Alagich • Eric Bicknell • Grant Fraser • Wendy Gimblett • Glen Harman  
• Stephen Marriott • Andrew Weston • The Publicity Committee  
The amazing Wardrobe Team and *The Forsyte Saga* cast and crew

*Next Production*

# The School for Scandal

By *Richard Brinsley Sheridan*

**1780/1980**

**how things have changed  
...or have they?**

Directed by **Karen O'Brien-Hall**

Saturday 05/03/2005 – Saturday 23/04/2005

The Genesian Theatre Company presents

in association with Dominie Pty Ltd

# The Forsyte Saga



Based on John Galsworthy's novels  
Adapted by Pat & Derek Hoddinott  
Directed by Loretta Tolnai

## Director's Note

*The Forsyte Saga* is based on a three-volume novel written by John Galsworthy over a thirty-year period. It is an important piece of English literature and it has been bought to the screen on several occasions - most recently in a Granada Television series. With this in mind, when I embarked on directing the two-act stage adaptation, I was concerned about staging such an epic story on our humble stage. My first task was to source an experienced team of experts that could make this show possible. The crew are the invisible backbone of this production.

I have also been fortunate to have worked with a talented cast, which is important because Galsworthy's characters are multi-dimensional characters. Most complex of all is Soames. Although he is regarded as one of literature's great villains, he is never simply the bad guy of the story. Certainly, he is arrogant and excessively materialistic, but he is also vulnerable and sensitive. Soames is a tragic figure because he feels things deeply, yet cannot express his emotions. It is out of desperation and his sense of ownership over his wife, Irene, that Soames commits a terrible act early in his married life, the consequences of which he and Irene never escape. As the plot unfolds, their children ultimately pay the price for Soames and Irene's unresolved conflict.

At its very core, *The Forsyte Saga* is a story of human weakness and strength set against the rapidly changing society of England in the late-Victorian era and early-twentieth century. Although this epic story is inevitably condensed when presented as a play, it does not compromise the powerful themes of Galsworthy's novels: love, loss, passion, obsession and possession.

**Loretta Tolnai**

*The play is in two acts with one 15-minute interval*

## CAST (in alphabetical order)

Sandra Bass .....	Aunt Hester
Nicole Brennan .....	Annette
Susan Carveth .....	Maid & art gallery visitor
Roger Gimblett .....	Soames
Daryl Hoffman .....	James
Rebekah Jennings .....	June
Chantal Kershaw .....	Irene
Patrick Magee .....	Jon
Elizabeth O'Connor .....	Aunt Ann
Emmanuel Said .....	Servant & ASM
Richard Sherwood .....	Jolyon (Jo)
Zara Symes .....	Fleur
Greg Walsh .....	Bosinney
Robyn Williams .....	Aunt Juley
George James Wright .....	Michael Mont

## CREW

Loretta Tolnai .....	Director
Joyce Birch .....	Associate
Owen Gimblett .....	Set Design
Lissa Knight & Susan Carveth .....	Costume Design & Construction
Jo Beaton, Bejay Hope, Maggie Lattin, David Olde, Clare Singline, Zara Symes, Susan Wareham, Christine Webber ..	Wardrobe Team
Michael Schell .....	Light/Sound Design
George James Wright .....	Stage Manager
Lloyd Williams .....	Sound Operator
Barbara Silveira .....	Lighting Operator
Fabien Thoumazeau .....	French Accent Coach
Kit Messham-Muir .....	Program Design

*Season runs from January 8 to February 19, 2005*