

Agatha Christie's

AND

THEN

THERE

WERE

NONE



GENESIAN THEATRE

21st Aug - 2nd Oct 2010

The story takes place in the living room of the mansion on Soldier Island, off the coast of Devon



Ten little soldier boys went out to dine;
One choked his little self and then there were nine
Nine little soldier boys sat up very late;
One overslept himself and then there were eight.
Eight little soldier boys travelling in Devon;
One said he'd stay there and then there were seven.
Seven little soldier boys chopping up sticks;
One chopped himself in half and then there were six.
Six little soldier boys playing with a hive;
A bumblebee stung one and then there were five.
Five little soldier boys going in for law;
One got in Chancery and then there were four.
Four little soldier boys going out to sea;
A red herring swallowed one and then there were three.
Three little soldier boys walking in the zoo;
A big bear hugged one and then there were two.
Two little soldier boys sitting in the sun;
One got frizzled up and then there was one.
One little soldier boy left all alone;
He went out and hanged himself
and then there were none.

**Act 1: An evening in August and the following morning.
There will be a short break of 5 minutes during Act 1 for a scene change**

INTERVAL (15 minutes)

**Act 2: The same day, in the afternoon and evening
The following day**

For your convenience please note:

The play will have brief periods of semi-darkness between scene changes in both Acts 1 and 2. There will be short periods of time when smoke machines will be used on stage. The gun in production is a theatrical prop and is non-functioning. The play contains loud dramatic music and sudden sound effects, including gunshots.

By Arrangement with Dominie Pty Ltd

BACKGROUND

Agatha Christie's novel *And Then There Were None* was first published in the United Kingdom by the Collins Crime Club on 6 November 1939 as *Ten Little Niggers* and in January 1940, in the United States by Dodd, Mead and Company under the title *And Then There Were None*. It is Christie's best-selling novel with 100 million sales to date, making it the world's best-selling mystery and the seventh most popular book of all time. It has been adapted into several plays, films, and a video game and is still considered to be one of the great mystery classics of our time.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Bringing to the stage a well-known and loved play can be a challenge. Firstly, many in the audience are familiar with the story or have previously seen it. So we wanted to stay true to Christie's intentions and create a 'murder mystery' which delivers both a dramatic and 'fun' evening's entertainment. So the play has been set in Christie's era of the glamorous 1940's, but with more murderous moments played out on stage to keep modern audiences motivated.

Secondly we aimed to highlight the dichotomies which were important in much of Christie's writing. She likes to study notions of morality and punishment for sin or, in other words, goodness conquering evil. She also questions the fine line between humanity and insanity. All her characters are flawed in some way or other, and we've used this to develop the constant flow between the trust and suspicion and innocence and guilt which occurs between the characters.

Finally, in this Genesis Theatre production, you will see many unique and interesting features. For example, Dr Armstrong's character is portrayed as a female which adds an extra dynamic to the conversations she has with the other guests. Also, the curved nautical design of the set, accompanied with the constant ebb and flow of the characters' movements, creates a sense of constant motion like the sea and strongly supports the characters' feelings of insecurity and confusion.

Debbie Smith and Jenny Jacobs



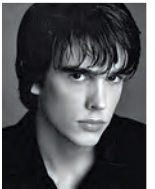
PAUL BARBARY - Paul has performed roles as diverse as Macheath in *The Threepenny Opera* and Macbeth, Othello and Malvolio for Sydney's *Shakespeare By The Sea*. He has studied in many places including The Drama Studio, London and NIDA. Recently he appeared with the Genesian Theatre in *Journey's End* and a rehearsed reading of *The Real Inspector Hound*.

ROBERT DREW - Robert has been active in theatre for many years. His favourite performances for the Genesians are *Hamlet* (playing Polonius), *Shadowlands* (Warnie) and *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime* (Baines). Notably, he has also played Argan in *The Imaginary Invalid* for Cronulla Arts Theatre and Gremio in *The Taming of the Shrew* for Cauldron Theatre.



MICHAEL FAUSTMANN - Michael discovered acting by accident in 2000, whilst studying Cinematography. He trained at the Actors College of Theatre and Television, Sydney. Since then, he has appeared in *The Shifting Heart*, *The Homecoming*, 'Allo 'Allo, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Shakespeare by the Sea*, *Competitive Tenderness* and ***Lost in Yonkers***. As well as numerous short-films, TV spots and feature films, Michael works in the corporate training arena as a professional actor.

ALEC HARTNELL - Alec is a former participant at the National Youth Theatre and currently attends the NIDA Open Programme. His previous roles include Iago in Shakespeare's *Othello*, the Marquis De Sade in Doug Wright's *Quills*, Walter Burns in Ben Hecht/Charles MacArthur's play *The Front Page* and the Wicked Witch of the West in L. Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz*.



CLARE MARTIN - Clare is new to the Sydney theatre scene, but not to Agatha Christie. Previously she has performed in *Black Coffee* (2006) and *An Unexpected Guest* (2008) with Tempo Theatre Inc (Canberra). This is Clare's first production with the Genesian Theatre.

JESSICA MESTRE - Jessica discovered a passion for theatre three years ago whilst living in London. She has completed numerous drama courses and performed professionally at the 2009 Camden Fringe Festival. Since then, Jessica has been discovering Australia and recently arrived in Sydney. This is her first production with the Genesian Theatre.





ELIZABETH PETRIE - Elizabeth trained at Newcastle School of Music & Performance (UK) in both acting and musical performance and at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, London. She has appeared in musical productions of *Oh You Pretty Things*, *Godspell*, and *Cabaret*. Other credits include leading roles in *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Street Car Named Desire*, *Miss Saigon* at the Criterion Theatre London, West End and *Showstoppers*, which toured Europe.

JON PROWSE - Jon has appeared in over 30 musicals and plays, including Captain Fitzpatrick in *Tom Jones*, the Judge in *A Few Good Men* and Glenn Cooper in *Rumors* with the Guild Theatre; Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd* with Regals Musical Society and Miles Gloriosus in *Forum* with Miranda Musical Society.



ROD STEWART - This is Rod's third play for the Genesian Theatre. He has also performed in the musical *By Jeeves* and *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*. Rod is a musician and also composes musical plays. The Genesian Theatre 'workshopped' his musical *Rikky* last August and hopes to do the same with his latest production *Devil May Care*.

STEWART STUBBS - Stewart trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama. Last year he performed in *Hamlet* and recently, he directed a workshop of *Salonika* by Louise Page, both for the Genesian Theatre. He has also performed in *Galileo*, *The Perfectionist*, *Room to Move*, *Tibetan Inroads*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Christian Brother*.



PRUDENCE VINDIN - Prudence studied at Groundlings Improvisation Troupe and Advanced Scene Studies at The Ivana Chubbuck Studios in Los Angeles (January-May 2010) and at The Actors Centre, Surry Hills. Her theatre credits include *On Top Of The World* and *The Immigrants*. Prudence has appeared in several short films including *Dice* (2010) and *Dilemmas* with White Eye Productions (2009); as well as being a stand in and featured extra in Baz Lurhmann's *Australia* (2009).

PRODUCTION TEAM

Directors	Debbie Smith and Jenny Jacobs
Set Design	Debbie Smith
Costume Design	Nicola Griggs and Susan Carveth
Lighting and Sound Design	Michael Schell
Lighting Rigging	George Wright, Eric Bicknell, Tom Massey and Chris Wood
Text Control	Frances Milat
Programme	Ross Oblea
Photography	Chris Smith at 8th&Goes Fotografia
Website Administrator	Tom Massey
Transport	Debbie Smith
Catering	Lisa Harrison
Set Construction	Cast, Crew and Members

CREW

Stage Manager	Chris Wood	
Biobox Technicians	Lisa Harrison	Kathy Curran
	Janina Olmos-New	Merry Tran
	Lizzie Gibson	Shirley Perle

CAST... IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE (NOT DISAPPEARANCE)

Mr Rogers	Stewart Stubbs
Narracot	Paul Barbary
Mrs. Rogers	Jessica Mestre
Captain Philip Lombard	Michael Faustmann
Ms. Vera Claythorne	Elizabeth Petrie
Mr. Anthony Marsden	Alec Hartnell
Detective Blore	Jon Prowse
General Mackenzie	Rod Stewart
Ms. Emily Blunt	Prudence Vindin
Sir Lawrence Wargrave	Robert Drew
Dr. Edwina Armstrong	Clare Martin
The Voice	Paul Gilbert

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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About the Genesian Theatre

Born in 1944 and named for St Genesius, Patron Saint of Actors, The Genesian Theatre Company has developed into a strong community-based organisation that boasts among its alumni numerous household names in Australian theatre.

The Company is a non-professional group operating from an historic church in Kent Street. While still retaining links with our origins, the Catholic Church, we do not shy away from meeting the challenges of plays that comment on the human condition.

The building which houses the Company was originally St John's Church, and dates from 1868. It has served as a church, a poor school, and was the first Matthew Talbot Hostel. Since 1954 it has been the home of The Genesian Theatre Company.

Over the years The Genesian Theatre Company has become a community theatre 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 main stage productions each year we run classes, workshops and many other activities.

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...

The Glass Menagerie

By Tennessee Williams



Directed by Timothy M Carter

16th Oct - 13th Nov 2010

Subscriptions are available
www.genesiantheatre.com.au