A hand holding a black marker is drawing a red heart on a white textured surface. The heart is partially completed, with the top and right sides filled in red. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

GO BACK FOR MURDER

by Agatha Christie

Director's Note

Go Back For Murder was originally written by Agatha Christie in 1942 under the title *Five Little Pigs* in the UK and *Murder in Retrospect* in the US. It was adapted for the stage by Christie herself in 1960, during which she removed one of her famous detectives, Hercule Poirot, from the story. However, the intricate relationships between the characters remain.

It is the unusual nature of the storytelling which drew me to this play, with the murder having been committed years beforehand and revisited later. This allows the audience the benefit of knowing who is murdered, and how it was done, when we first meet the suspects and form our opinions about them.

The events of the play begin sixteen years after the death of renowned painter Amyas Crale. The design of the show draws on two distinct elements - the first is the 'noir' films of the period in which the original story was written. The stark colours represent how life has turned out for those who knew the Crales - bland, cold and shadowy - as if passion itself seemingly died along with Amyas. The second element is seen upon visiting Alderbury - a blank painter's canvas upon which each character becomes one of the colourful brushstrokes that make up the vibrant picture of Amyas' life.

Go Back For Murder is an incredibly detailed story. Even after months of rehearsals, we are constantly finding new subtleties in the script - small references that hint at each character's true thoughts and motivations, or add a new spin on their actions. I have endeavoured to bring this feeling to the audience: the sense that all is not as it seems, and that we all have secrets we try to hide - or to forget.

Michael Heming
Director

MICHAEL HEMING - Director *Go Back For Murder* is the second show Michael has directed for Genesian Theatre, following *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure* in 2014. 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).

DANNY NERCESSIAN - Assistant Director In 2012, Danny completed *The Musical Performer* at NIDA. Since then he has played Elgin the Butler in Agatha Christie's *Spiders Web* in 2014 and played Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* earlier this year. Danny also doubles as cabaret performer 'Apple Addams' and is producing a cabaret show for The Sydney Fringe Festival 2015.

ELIZABETH "BESS" ELWELL-COOK - Costume Design Elizabeth is an historical costumier who runs 'Cote & Cutler Outfitters' (www.facebook.com/coteandcutler). From Ancient Egyptian, to High Renaissance, to the 20th Century, she prides herself on accuracy, producing designs for stage, screen and re-enactment. She teaches extensively for schools, community and professional development, and from teaching studios on her property in Portland, Blue Mountains.

SUSAN CARVETH - Costume Design Susan is Wardrobe Co-ordinator for the Genesian Theatre. Her credits are extensive and include *A Man for All Seasons*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Dead White Males*, *Crown Matrimonial*, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, *By Jeeves*, *Witness for the Prosecution*, *Hay Fever*, *Murder on the Nile*, *Star Child*, *Morning Sacrifice*, *Richard III*, and *Frankenstein*. She has also worked for Opera Australia, ABC, BBC and as costume maker for Tall Poppeas, Ondine Productions, and Opera Bites.

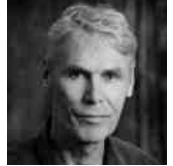
MEHRAN MORTEZAEI - Lighting & Sound Design Mehran has written, directed, stage managed, sound/lighting designed many plays since his studies in Performing Arts almost 20 years ago. He has been a member of the Genesian Theatre for four years and has been involved as either the sound and lighting designer, or stage manager on shows such as *Simpson, J. 202*, *Crown Matrimonial*, *Dangerous Corner*, *Daisy Pulls It Off*, *The Young Idea*, and *The Winslow Boy*.

MACUSHLA MCGOWN - Stage Manager Macushla is an active behind the scenes member and is the current Genesian of the Year. She has worked on many shows over the last few years including *By Jeeves*, *Richard III*, *Frankenstein*, *Daisy Pulls it Off*, *Murder on the Nile*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *Simpson, J. 202*, *Amadeus*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



DAVID HOPKINS - Justin Fogg David recently graduated from The Actors Pulse's Three Year Full Time Acting Program. He has also studied under such luminaries as Larry Moss, Ivanna Chubbuck, and Kevin Jackson. Enjoying a diverse output spanning across stage and screen, he currently plays the leading role in the upcoming TV series *Rent A Guard* for TVS.

PAUL BARBARY - Turnbull Paul graduated from The Drama Studio, London in 1974. He balances a teaching career with a love of acting and has been a Genesian for five years. His appearances include workshops and productions such as *Journey's End*, *And Then There Were None*, *The Adventures of a Bear Called Paddington*, and *Murder in the Cathedral*.



TAMRYN LIDDEL - Carla Le Marchant / Caroline Crale Tamryn has been pottering around on stages for quite a while, having started amateur theatre in Canberra at 11. Tamryn commenced her training in Sydney at the McDonald College of Performing Arts. She has since trained in acting with Screenwise, ACA and The Hub. She is really excited to be making her Genesian debut in *Go Back for Murder*.

DERECK CAMERON - Jeff Rogers Dereck has appeared in numerous pivotal roles for disparate Sydney companies across the years. As well as appearing in *Frankenstein* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Genesian, he moonlights with the Players in the Pub. Dereck has also provided live music, not least of all to *In Between Days* for the Sydney Fringe, and *Vernon God Little* at the New.



JOHN-PAUL SANTUCCI - Philip Blake *Go Back for Murder* is John-Paul's first Australian production since returning from four years of acting in New York. His last role on stage was in an Off Broadway production of *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*.



CLANCY CARRAWAY - Meredith Blake Clancy's love of theatre emanates from a love of storytelling. An AADA graduate, his credits include; Orlo in Iain Sinclair's *The Great*, Steve in Jason Langley's *Chekhov in Hell*, Jack in multi-playwright show *Ambrosia*, Okami in Blue Theatre Company and Hayes Theatre Co's *Akio!*, and numerous short films.

DOMINIQUE PURDUE - Elsa Melksham Dominique was heavily involved in the International School of Manila's performing arts program appearing in plays such as *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Inspector General*. She was a four-year member of her school's Dance Company. She travelled around Southeast Asia to represent her school in drama and dance. She was the President of the Fine Arts Council. After high school, she trained at the Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute and the New York Film Academy. She also appeared in various short films in New York.



DENISE KITCHING - Miss Williams Denise has been acting from primary schooldays with May Pusey as her drama teacher and mentor - a former Genesian, notable actress and drama coach. She won Most Promising Actress at the Genesian Drama Festival (high school competition) in 1965 and in 1969 joined the Genesians appearing in *Sabrina Fair*, *Richard II*, and crewed for *Playboy of the Western World*. She is better known for her performances at the Guild Theatre Rockdale and has been walking the boards there for the last twenty five years. Mrs Malaprop *Rivals*, Veta *Harvey*, Mrs Bramson *Night must Fall*, Cissy *Quartet*, and Mrs Klopper *Book of Everything* are some of the major roles she has performed there.

CASSADY MADDOX - Angela Warren This is Cassady's second appearance with Genesian Theatre, following 2014's *Frankenstein*. Other credits include Canterbury's *Leader of the Pack* (2015); Genesian's *The Dream* (as AD, 2015); New Theatre's *Book of Days* (as MD, 2014), *Cherish* (2013), *Vernon God Little* (2012), and *The Crucible* (2007); Riverside's *Educating Rita* (2013) and various Players in the Pub productions (2012-present). She also performs with bands The Glimmer and Terry Serio's Ministry of Truth.



LOUIS EMERSON-CHASE - Amyas Crale Louis Emerson-Chase has been involved in independent theatre and film in Sydney for the past four years, debuting in *Black Rainbow* last year at the TAP Gallery. With continuing study at Screenwise and the Screen Practice with Benjamin Matthews, Louis is also currently involved in pre-production for a new independent Australian Feature Film *Brutally Honest Love*.

Production

Director

Michael Heming

Assistant Director

Danny Nercessian

Set Design

Garry Bates

Costume Design

Elizabeth Elwell-Cook, Susan Carveth

Lighting & Sound Design

Mehran Mortezaei

Set Construction

Garry Bates, Members of the Company

Costume Assistants

Danny Nercessian, Carole Ashmore

Production Manager

Mary Westmacott

Photography

Craig O'Regan

Graphic Design

Tom Massey

Publicity

Shane Bates

Acknowledgements

Carlin Hurdis, Mark Nagle, Debbie Smith

Crew

Stage Manager

Macushla McGown

Assistant Stage Managers

Paul Barbary, Dereck Cameron

Lighting & Sound Operation

Rob White, Leah White

Cast

Carla Le Marchant

Tamryn Liddell

Justin Fogg

David Hopkins

Turnball

Paul Barbary

Jeff Rogers

Dereck Cameron

Philip Blake

John-Paul Santucci

Meredith Blake

Clancy Carraway

Lady Elsa Melksham

Dominique Purdue

Angela Warren

Cassady Maddox

Caroline Crale

Tamryn Liddell

Amyas Crale

Louis Emerson-Chase

Miss Williams

Denise Kitching

About the Genesian Theatre

Having celebrated our 70th year as a company in 2014, The Genesian Theatre Company has been operating for 60 years 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 Genesis Theatre...



Three Sisters

www.genesiantheatre.com.au

By arrangement with ORiGIn Theatrical, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd