Langham Court Theatre

presents

亚39 STEPS

Adapted by Patrick Barlow

From the novel by John Buchan

From the movie by Alfred Hitchcock

Directed by Keith Digby and Cynthia Pronick

March 6 - 23, 2013







Directors' Notes

Part Alfred Hitchcock and part Monty Python, *The 39 Steps* has been a treat to direct and will be, we hope, a treat for the audience. Allegedly, the deathbed statement of actor Edmund Kean was "Dying is easy; Comedy is hard." The cast and crew of this production will undoubtedly agree with him! Onstage, backstage and in the booth, *The 39 Steps* is a technical monster with its innumerable changes of character, set, costumes, props, light and sound, and all involved have laboured mightily in an attempt to achieve the apparently effortless. We, the directors, have asked a lot of this amazingly focused company and we thank them for their boundless energy and wonderfully creative input. Perhaps there's another quote that's appropriately parallel; writer Nathaniel Hawthorne famously quipped: "Easy reading is damned hard writing!" Equally, comedy can only be achieved after seriously hard work! Enjoy!

Cynthia and Keith

Langham Court Theatre presents

The 39 Steps

adapted by Patrick Barlow from the novel by John Buchan from the movie by Alfred Hitchcock

March 6 - 23, 2013

Langham Court Theatre - Home of the Victoria Theatre Guild & Dramatic School Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. New York City

Licensed by ITV Global Entertainment Limited and an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon

Directors KEITH DIGBY* & CYNTHIA PRONICK

Producer ANDREA PITE

Stage Manager SYLVIA LINDSTROM

Set Design BILL ADAMS

Lighting Design KARRIE WOLFE

Costume Design JANINE METCALFE
Sound and Projection Design KEVIN STINSON

Properties ROSEMARY HENRY

Cast

ALAN PENTY Richard Hannay

KAREN BRELSFORD* Annabella/Margaret/Pamela

NICK SEPI Clown

TOSHIK BUKOWIECKI Clown

KEITH DIGBY Pilot #1

MORGAN MCLEOD BBC Announer & Pilot #2

Synopsis:

In *The 39 Steps*, Richard Hannay, a man with a boring life, meets a beautiful, mysterious woman with a thick accent. Murder and murky mayhem follow, with both the police and a 'shadowy organization' hot on Hannay's trail in a nationwide manhunt ranging from London's West End to the wildest of Scotland's wilds – a hunt that climaxes in a death-defying (not to mention highly unlikely) finale!

ACT I

1935: From the West End of London to the Wilds of Scotland, at breakneck speed

ACT II

The same, in reverse order, and even faster.

WARNING: A strobe light and fog will be used in this production.

^{*}Appearing by permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association

Production Team

Head Scenic Carpenter BILL ADAMS

Carpenters JULIUS MASLOVAT, MIKE KUSS, GORDON ALEXANDER,

BARRY GRIMSHAW, CHARLIE ENCELL, DOUG ANDERSON

Head Set Painter BILL ADAMS

Painters JOHN SMITH, BARRY GRIMSHAW

Assistant Sound Design ALAN MACKENZIE

Sound and Projection Operators MICHAEL KING, ALAN MACKENZIE, KEVIN STINSON

Costume Assistant NICOLE BOBICK

Dressers NICOLE BOBICK, DIANE BRIGGS-HOYLE, ANNE KIRKALDY,

SARAH KURTIS, PETA MACKENZIE, GLORIA SNIDER

Stage Crew CAROL-ANNE MOORE, NICK STULL

Lighting Operators SARAH INNES, GORDON HOYLE

Lighting Crew BEN BURROW, NIC HUME, KEN MASON, ROD HOGG,

CAROL-ANNE MOORE, MICHAEL ROMANO,

GORDON HOYLE, SARAH INNES, LANE CHEVRIER,

PERRY BURTON, LAURA BROUGHAM

Jitterbug Choreography KELLI MCLEOD, Barre None Dance Studio

Wigs LAL O'CONNOR

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Oak Bay Flowers, Pacific Opera Victoria Scene Shop, John Forster Coull, Shawnigan Lake School, Gregg Perry

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CYNTHIA PRONICK

Co-director

Cynthia has been active in theatre for over 30 years, both onstage and back-stage. Co-directing with Keith at Langham Court Theatre began with Arcadia in 1996, and has since included The Dining Room, Racing Demon, Pack of Lies and The Lady in the Van. Her favourite onstage memories include playing Eliza Doolittle in Pygmalion, Annie in The Real Thing, and Betty Meeks, a 75 year old Georgian woman in The Foreigner with Bard at Brentwood in 2010. Cynthia and Keith are excited about returning to Stoppard, directing Rosencrantz &

Guildenstern are Dead next season. Cynthia's most cherished role is that of Gramma Lamma to her 3 grandchildren with number 4 due in April!

Production Biographies

KEITH DIGBY Co-director

A long-time educator (Brentwood College) and theatre professional, (Artistic Director of Bastion Theatre in Victoria, Theatre 3 and Phoenix Theatre in Edmonton), Keith now writes for the screen and lives for part of each year in the South of France. Since 1996, Keith has had the great pleasure of directing for Langham Court Theatre with his partner, Cynthia. Their co-directions include *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard, *The Dining Room* by A.R. Gurney, *Racing*



Demon by David Hare, and The Lady in the Van by Alan Bennett. Keith's latest venture was co-writing and producing the movie *Trunk*, a thriller, currently in post-production after an exciting shoot in Sidney.



ANDREA PITE

Producer

This is Andrea's eleventh production at Langham Court and her third as Producer. She was the producer of *A Month in the Country* and *Rabbit Hole*. She has also been Stage Manager for St. Luke's Players and Assistant Stage Manager for Gilbert & Sullivan. Andrea finds it a real joy to be part of *The 39 Steps* and work with such talented and committed cast and crew. Special thanks to Sylvia, Keith, and Cynthia.



Stage Manager hat an amazing

Sylvia is having the best time ever working on *The 39 Steps*. What an amazing cast! And as if that wasn't enough, the production team is an absolute dream, especially Jon, Katt, Rose, Iren, Janine, Peta, Karrie, Bill, Kevin, Al, Andrea. She sends huge thanks to Keith and Cynthia for inviting her on this roller-coaster ride with their enthusiasm for finding the silly quotient in every scene. Previous stage management work includes *Pack of Lies, Laramie Project* and *Drowsy Chaperone*.







JON SCHEER Assistant Stage Manager

Jon is in his fourth year as Treasurer for Langham Court Theatre and working on his third show of the past year. He has a BA in Theatre from the University of Michigan plus over fifty five years experience on and off stage. Since moving to Canada in 2006 he has worked with St. Luke's Players, VOS, Peninsula Players, Victoria Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Stage West, and Four Seasons Musical Theatre as director, stage manager and actor. His wife, Teva, is known as a theatre widow.



KATT CAMPBELL Assistant Stage Manager

The 39 Steps is Katt's second show at Langham Court. She 'debuted' at this theatre in spring 2012's production of *The Foreigner* as stage crew/klan member. Katt graduated from UVic's Theatre program with a degree in Stage Management in 2008, and has been working in Vancouver and Victoria ever since. Her favourite part of this show has been tracking all of the costumes so she knows where every person's pants are at all times. Enjoy!

BILL ADAMS Set Design

Because this play has more than 30 scenes that change in frantic succession, Bill's design is not so much a set design as a design of a lot of different stage pieces, many with multiple functions. The stage crew and the clowns have quite a job moving them on and off, but this job is aided with the use of the revolving stage. This is Bill's final show as Head Scenic Carpenter at Langham, but he will continue to be involved now and then as a set designer and actor.



KARRIE WOLFE *Lighting Design*

Production Biographies

Happy to be working with Keith and Cynthia for the first time, and with such a great cast and crew, Karrie has enjoyed the challenge of lighting a play almost entirely with specials. Who knew you didn't need stage washes? Selected designs: Lady Windermere's Fan, Drowsy Chaperone, Laramie Project, Under Milkwood. Thanks to Todd for understanding "why", and as always, to phil, who would have loved every crazy, silly minute.

JANINE METCALFE

Costume Design

After working the last 20 years in Toronto in the film and fashion industry, Janine decided to move back to the west coast. In the early 90's she worked in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver and Miami styling fashion shoots for various publications. Later that decade, she concentrated her work in the film and television industry, directing the wardrobe departments for numerous commercial and independent films. In the past couple of years she has continued to work in the business as well as costume design three plays. "I love what I do!"





KEVIN STINSON

Sound Design

This is Kevin's fourth sound/video design for Langham. Previous sound designs were 1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible, That Summer and Blithe Spirit plus projections for The Laramie Project and Lady in the Van. He also designed the sound for Theatre Inconnu's productions of In the Next Room and Kafka the Musical. Recent onstage performances include The Laramie Project and Elizabeth Rex at Langham, Glengarry Glen Ross with Stellar Jay/Island Repertory

Company, and Falstaff in Keep It Simple Theatre's production of *Henry IV Part I*. Also, if you need help with your Mac he's your friendly neighbourhood Mac Geek 4 Hire.

ROSEMARY HENRY

Properties

This is Rosemary's first time being props manager for a production at Langham Court. She is thrilled to be working with such established directors, talented actors and creative production crew. Rosemary comes to Langham from a lifetime of creative organization in recreation planning, raising children, running her own small business and always having a project on the go.



About the Playwright

Adapted by PATRICK BARLOW (1947 -)

Patrick Barlow is an English actor, comedian, and playwright. His comedic alter ego, Desmond Oliver Dingle, is the founder, Artistic Director, and chief executive officer of the two-man national Theatre of Brent, which has performed on stage, on television, and on radio.

From the movie by **ALFRED HITCHCOCK** (1898 – 1980)

Sir Alfred Hitchcock was a British director, who worked in Hollywood from 1940. His name, his profile, and his lugubrious voice are a trademark around the world for suspense thrillers with a touch of impudence. He made more than fifty films. Among the best known are: *Psycho, The Birds*, and *North by Northwest*.

From the novel by **JOHN BUCHAN** (1875 – 1940)

As a writer of suspense novels, John Buchan remains one of the best. Scholar, journalist, biographer, major in the Intelligence Corps in the first World War, member for the British House of Commons, his career was a catalogue of successes. In 1935 he was raised to the peerage and as first Baron Tweedsmuir went to Canada as Governor-General.



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Cast and Crew of The 39 Steps



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ALAN PENTY *Richard Hannay*

Alan is excited to be back at Langham Court for his fourth role. He was last seen in *Drowsy Chaperone* serving drinks and getting a face wash. You can see him most Tuesdays at the VEC in Sin City: The Improvised Serial, as Colonel Humprey Majorminor. He spends his days teaching amazing students at Vic High and he wants to thanks his incredible support team of wife, daughter and friends.

Cast Biographies

KAREN BRELSFORD

Annabella/Margaret/Pamela

Karen Brelsford is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts (NY), and works in Canada and New York's Film, TV and Theatre industries. Film/TV credits: APTN's *She Kills Me* (self), Hallmark's *Cedar Cove* (Sherry), and Movie Central's *Terminal City* (Annette). Theatre credits: *Night Must Fall* (Olivia),



A Midsummer Night's Dream (Helena), Sin City: The Improvised Serial and No Sex Please, We're British! (Susan). Karen also has a Master's Degree from UVic in Dendrochronology! www.karenbrelsford.com



NICK SEPI

Clown

Nick is grateful for the opportunity to work with the wonderful Langham community once again. You may have seen him last season portraying the seemingly dim-witted, brick-bird-building southerner, Ellard, in *The Foreigner* at LCT. Nick has two BFAs in Performance and Design from the Savannah College of Art &

Design. To his beautiful wife Kate, he fervently exclaims "Bravo!" from the mezzanine for never letting him forget his love for theatre.

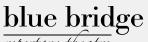
TOSHIK BUKOWIECKI

Clown

Although Toshik has been involved with more than fifty shows at Langham, his last appearance on stage here was in 2005 as Harry in Timothy Findley's *The Stillborn Lover*. He finds it a definite challenge to be "trodding the boards" again after eight years – especially playing multiple roles. In addition to directing



and doing set design for numerous shows, Toshik's acting credits include Antonio in *Twelfth Night*, Harry Henderson in *Racing Demon*, Dr. Sloper in *The Heiress* and Wilf in *Of Mice and Men*. Toshik appreciates the opportunity to return to acting and thanks the cast, crew and production team for their dedication, hard work and laughter.



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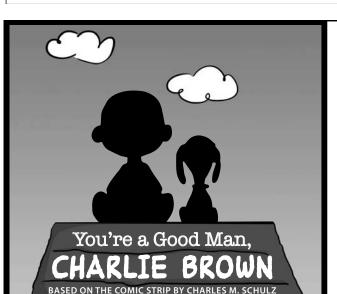














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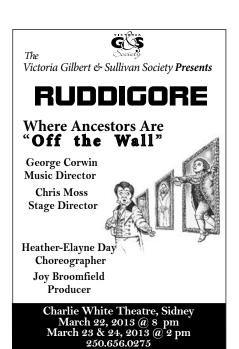
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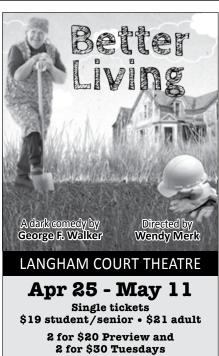
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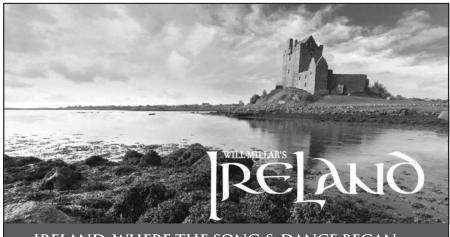
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