

Jane Austen's

Northanger Abbey

Adapted by Matthew Francis



Genesian Theatre

9th July - 20th August 2011

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

When I first mentioned to people that I am directing an adapted play based on a Jane Austen novel, faces lit with excitement.

"Wow, how exciting, which play?". My reply, "Northanger Abbey", saw faces morph from jubilation to sheer blank expression.

Admittedly, not one of her well known!

Comparing the novel and the script I recognised there were minor differences, but appreciated Matthew Francis' version. He has with integrity, taken the work of the romantic novelist and created a fast paced journey for the heroine Catherine Morland by means of pure entertainment and delight.

Catherine's journey takes us on an adventure between her fantasy world of the gothic novel 'Udolpho' and the reality of her new societal life at Bath. As these two worlds head toward an inevitable clash, it is the novels hero, Mr Tilney that awakens her to the wisdom of, "we mustn't allow what we read to effect how we behave".

This play has been a treasure chest for me to direct, filled with the things I love most about theatre. Firstly, I adore anything period- the costumes, the style, the beautiful formal manner of speech. This, mixed with elements of fantasy,dancing,music and masks, have combined to form a play rich in colour and excitement.

I have been fortunate to work with a talented cast and crew and thank them all for supporting me in my directorial debut at the Genesian Theatre. We hope you leave the theatre smiling, having enjoyed the light hearted entertainment of Northanger Abbey.

- Carissa Teeling

Northanger Abbey

By Special Arrangement with Dominie Pty Ltd

Cast

CATHERINE MORLAND -

Sam Prior



Sam Prior has recently returned from travelling overseas in Europe, Canada and America. Before that she studied at AADA and graduated in 2008, since the she has performed in numerous theatre productions and TV commercials, more recently she has an up-coming TV commercials, more recently she has an up-coming appearance in the new TV series *Crownies* on the ABC. This is Sam's first production with the Genesian Theatre.

ISABELLA THORPE - Tiffany C Stoecker



A 2010 graduate of the Professional Actor Program at the Actors College of Theatre and Television, Tiffany's most memorable performance was playing Jack in a unisex version of William Golding's *Lord Of The Flies*. A strong love for classical pieces has lead Tiffany to the Genesian and will eventually take her to Europe where she will explore the traditional roots of the great writers - Shakespeare, Ibsen and Chekov.

JOHN THORPE -

Thomas Greader



Thomas Greader studied Theatre/Media at Charles Sturt University. It was here that he engaged in numerous Theatre, Film and Television productions, including Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*. Thomas is a keen writer, and has written numerous plays that have been staged in Bathurst and Sydney. Thomas is the presenter of *SkillsOne Television* and *Harvest Trail TV* on Foxtel and Austar daily. When not presenting he fulfils the role of editing and camera operation.

MRS ALLEN -

Meg Mooney



Meg has been a member of the company since the nineties in which time she has been appeared in *Twelfth Night*, *The School for Scandal*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Morning Sacrifice*, *Silhouette*, *Gaslight*, *Mansfield Park*, *A Murder is Announced*, *Mad About Men* & *Dead White Males*. She has also directed a production of *The Real Inspector Hound* for the Genesian.

ANNETTE -

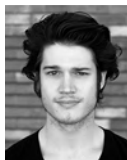
Jane Thorpe



Jane caught the acting bug at the age of 9 when she was cast as *Thumbelina* in the School of the Air annual play in Western Queensland. She has spent the past 20 odd years doing community theatre. Her roles at the Genesians including Lady Cynthia in *The Real Inspector Hound* and Mother in *Ring Round the Moon*. She spends the rest of her time drumming up new members for the theatre and fighting with the computer system.

HENRY TILNEY -

Ray Mainsbridge



Ray became acquainted with acting at St. Ignatius College at the behest of former house-master Melvyn Morrow. Ray has acted in productions of *Tartuffe*, *Under Milkwood* and competed in the Short and Sweet festival. This is his first time performing with The Genesian. He is currently completing his Bachelor of Arts at the University of Sydney, majoring in English Literature.

MRS MORLAND/ MRS THORPE -

Penny Day



Penny trained at the Guildhall school of Music and Drama in London. Penny worked in Asia as a full time voice/theatre actor and ran her own highly successful theatre group Purple Turtle. Since moving to Australia she has appeared in several films, Lorraine Kilner in *Bedlam*, Aunt Penny in *Up the Aisle*, the art gallery owner in *A Dusty Town* and Elaine in the award winning web series *Snow Wight and the Stripper*.

Theatre roles: actor in the award winning *Landing*, Lady Montague, *Romeo and Juliet*; Gwen. Curry for *Lunch*; Allie Doolittle, *Pigmaleon*; and Natasha in wildcard finalist *Too Late*.

ELEANOR TILNEY -

Justine Kacir



Justine studied acting at The Australian Academy of Dramatic Art in Sydney, and has since been involved in various short film and stage projects. This is her third production with the Genesians, having last stumbled around on stage in *Black Comedy* at the end of last year, and enjoying Bernard-Shaw's *Pygmalion* prior to that. She hopes you enjoy this foray into the world of Jane Austen.

JAMES MORLAND -

Nicholas Pond



Nicholas Pond is a Communications graduate from UTS, as well as holding a certificate IV in Screen. He studied and performed in Youth Theatre for many years before leaving to work as a teacher in Russia. Since returning home, he has worked in front of and behind the camera on a number of independent films and continued to write, direct and act throughout his studies. He works in magazine publishing.

MR THORPE -

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. Jon was last on the Genesian stage as Inspector Blore in *And Then There Were None*.

GENERAL/ MONTONI/ DIMITY -

Mark Nagle



After theatre studies in Australia Mark travelled and lived overseas. During his years in London he appeared in *Our Country's Good*, *Habeus Corpus*, *Volpone*, *The Bacchae*, *Cloud 9*, *Mad Forest*, *The Visit* and, in 1996 *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

This is mark's return to the Genesian Theatre. He was involved in productions between 1981-1984 as either cast or crew on *Harvey*, *Ghosts*, *Androcles and The Lion*, *Private Lives*, *A Murder is Announced*, *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*, and *Trelawney of The Wells*.

Elise Bialek



Elise has recently moved to Sydney and is a new member of the Genesian theatre company. She has gained experience in both acting and behind the scenes work having completed a diploma at Sydney theatre school. Elise hopes to continue her involvement in aspects of the theatre.

Production

Director:	Carissa Teeling
Assistant Director & Choreographer	Debbie Smith
Set Design:	Owen Gimblett
Costume Design:	Nicola Griggs
Lighting Design:	Timothy M Carter
Sound Design:	Carissa Teeling
Computer Programming:	Tom Massey
Costume Team:	Susan Carveth, Helen Bailey, Sandra Bass & Megan Carmen
Transport:	Debbie Smith
Set/Prop Construction:	Debbie Smith, Elise Bialek, Roger Gimblett, Jon Prowse, Paul Gilbert, Paul Barbary and cast members
Dialogue Coach:	Del Dines
Photography:	Mark Banks
Graphics/Program:	Ross Oblea, Tom Massey
Production Manager:	Roger Gimblett
Acknowledgement:	Peter Henson

Crew

Stage Manager:	Amy Roberts
Bio Box:	Susan Lafford-Jacob & Jess Zapelli

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.

The building that houses The Genesian Theatre Company was originally St John the Evangelist 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 Genesian Theatre...

Agatha Christie's

THE MOUSETRAP



1st Sept - 15th Oct 2011

Subscriptions are available
www.genesiantheatre.com.au