

# 84 Charing Cross Road

by Helene Hanff

Adapted for the stage by James Roose-Evans



February 2006

Dear Patron,

*It was post-war 1949 when struggling American writer Helene Hanff penned her first letter to the London antique bookseller Marks and Co., at 84 Charing Cross Road*

*— and thus began a relationship that was to transcend not only the Atlantic, but also more than twenty-one years. The correspondence between Helene, ever in search of rare books to enjoy and cherish, and the staff at Marks and Co. particularly the taciturn Frank Doel, is the basis of this story. This is a gentle love story, warm, compassionate, and very human, but it is a love of literature that binds the characters together, and the friendships that are created in the process are very special. We hope you enjoy 84 Charing Cross Road.*

Sincerely,

Director, Cast and Crew

Set simultaneously in the New York apartment of Helene Hanff and the antique bookshop at 84 Charing Cross Road, the play spans the years 1949 to 1971.  
There will be one interval.

## The Players

### Jane Andersen (Helene Hanff)

Last seen on the STG stage in *Funny Money*, Jane has since appeared in a production of *The Witches* in Birmingham, England. With her fine singing voice she naturally has a great love for musical theatre and is soon to appear at the Schonell Theatre, St Lucia in *Rent*. Jane's outstanding dramatic talents are to the fore in this production as she embraces the complex personality of Helene.

### Wayne Mulley (Frank Doel)

Wayne has appeared in a variety of roles with STG, the most recent being Seth Lord in *The Philadelphia Story*, and as **Buffalo** Bill Cody in *Annie Get Your Gun*. Frank Doel in this production is only Wayne's second dramatic role and he notes, has been his greatest acting challenge to date. His sympathetic interpretation will ensure that audiences continue to enjoy Wayne in this genre in the future.

### Judith Barbeler (Cecily Farr)

An experienced and talented actor, Judith's credits include *The Lark*, *The Talented Mr Ripley* and *Ring Around the Moon*. She directed *48 Shades of Brown* for Arts Theatre and *Rope* for Centenary Players. This is her first onstage appearance for STG and hopefully the start of a long association.

### Lisa Rose (Megan Wells & Maxine Stuart)

First seen at STG in the panto *Puss in Boots*, and last year in *Annie Get Your Gun*, Lisa is a high school Dance, Drama and Art teacher. Theatre is her passion and *Megan* is her first dramatic role with the company.

### Cheryl Allen (Miss Martin, Maxine Stuart, Joan Todd)

Multi-tasking in this production, Cheryl is sharing the role of Maxine with Lisa Rose. She spent many years with Caboofture King Street Players and appeared in documentaries and commercials before joining STG in 2001. Since then she has appeared in several musicals and in *When We Are Married*.

### Lindsay Fletcher (William Humphries)

After studying Drama at school and TAFE, Lindsay directed a short film which won Most Promising New Filmmakers at the 2000 Awards Presentation. This role is his first in a drama, and he will be seen next as Jeff in STG's forthcoming production of *Brigadoon*.

## The Crew

Stage Manager..... Brad Wyeth  
Assistant Stage Manager..... Colin Robinson  
Set Construction..... Bill Keating, Maurice Thorn  
Set Decoration (Art work) ..... Terry Nichols  
Lighting Design..... David Gemmell, Colin Robinson  
Lighting Operator ..... David Gemmell  
Rehearsal Prompt ..... Jaqui Adams  
Program / Publicity ..... Deirdre Robinson  
Photography..... Peter Pasener  
Special Properties..... Kurt Muller  
Front of House Manager ..... Jim Cliff  
Front of House Staff ..... Mary Hamilton  
and Members of Sunnybank Theatre Group  
Assistant Director ..... Colin Robinson  
Director ..... Deirdre Robinson

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***Brigadoon***

Lerner & Loewe's much loved romantic musical, set in the mystical highlands of Scotland.  
Director - Anne Ross  
May 12 - 27 (Bookings open 13 March)

***Out of Sight, Out of Murder***

A comedy who-dun -it! Farce at its best.  
Director - John Arbery  
July 28 - August 12 (Bookings open 29 May)

***Nunsense***

An irreverent musical romp, Get into the habit of laughter!  
Director - Brad Rush  
September 15 - 30 (Bookings open 14 August)

***Caught in the Net***

The hilarious sequel to *Run For Your Wife*. The internet was never meant to be like this:  
Director - Pam Murdoch  
November 17 - December 2 (Bookings open 2 October)

## *Refreshments*

**Before the show commences and during interval  
our fully licensed bar offers a range of alcoholic beverages, ice-creams,  
chocolates and soft drinks as well as tea and coffee.**

**The bar will remain open after the show  
for you to enjoy a drink with cast and crew.**

**For individual and small group bookings  
please phone Mary on 3345 2383  
on or after the date bookings open for the show.**

**Large Group Bookings (whole of theatre or club nights)  
please phone Deirdre on 3345 8756  
Please note these Bookings can be made at any time.  
Ask about our subscriptions for 2006.**

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