

Sunnybank Theatre Group

presents
by kind arrangement with Dominic Drama

PLAY ON!

A COMEDY BY
RICK ABBOT



THE DUNBAR DRAMA SOCIETY
PRESENTS

MURDER MOST FOUL

A MURDER MYSTERY
BY LOCAL PLAYWRIGHT PHYLLIS MONTAGUE

FEATURING

POLLY BENISH..... AS LADY MARGARET
HENRY BENISH AS LORD DUDLEY
MARLA SMITH AS DORIS THE MAID
SAUL WATSON AS DR REX FORBES
BILLY CAREWE AS STEPHEN SELLERS
VIOLET IMBRY AS DIANA LASSITER

DIRECTOR: JOHN ARBERY
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: LESLEY DAVIS

16 SEPTEMBER – 1 OCTOBER 2005

GERALDINE DUNBAR (DIRECTOR)

Gerry has long been involved in all aspects of the theatre starting her stage career at the age of seven as a *Turnip* in “How Does Your Turnip Grow?” After many years treading the boards she has now formed her own society and has undertaken the role of chief director in more than two productions, “Murder Most Foul” being her second. Gerry, not to be outdone by her fellow directors can be found heading many social events at her house and is always seen singing with a large dancing snowman. She then sees off her guests by yelling ‘good-byes’ to her fellow cast with a flinging key chain in hand, in the small hours of the mornings. Gerry now wishes to thank her cast and crew for all their hard work and complete patience and respect for each other and really hopes to work with the cast again.

PHYLLIS MONTAGUE (PLAYWRIGHT)

Although this is Phyllis’s first full length play it is by no means her first time at the writing desk. She has written such memorable short stories such as “The Life of the Neighbour’s Cat”, and the unforgettable sad story “I Cannot Get a Cab Home So My Ice Cream has Melted”. Phyllis has worked so hard on her first production making sure that all the subtle nuances have not been left out and constantly improving the play (much to the delight of the cast and crew) to ensure that the audience is left on the edge of their seats. She has thoroughly enjoyed her first show and wishes to thank Gerry for all her fantastic input and willingness to ensure that the content has remained true to the author.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

LOUISE PEARY..... SOUND AND LIGHTING

ALGIE MANVILLE STAGE MANAGER & PROMPT

GERALDINE DUNBAR..... DIRECTOR

PHYLLIS MONTAGUE PLAYWRIGHT

Louise Peary has worked in the theatre for many years and has always enjoyed the challenges it presents. She lives with a hammer in her hand and loves hammering things into shape. Her very special talent, much to the delight of her current working cast, is her special brews of coffee which revitalize and give them the energy to keep going full of spirit.

Algie Manville works in many theatres and has been involved in all aspects of the theatre, most recently as a big *giant* in the pantomime “There was a Giant”. Algie could not wait to work with Gerry and has really got to terms with the complexity of Stage Manager in this fantastic thriller. Algie has enjoyed this dramatic change.

CAST

MURDER MOST FOUL

POLLY BENISH AS LADY MARGARET

Polly has been a huge force to be reckoned with since joining the theatre almost forty years ago and has not stopped. Polly has worked on many movies and television commercials. She has played a Policewoman in the crime drama “Watch that Dingo”. Polly has also been seen on many Infomercials selling all sorts of products – her last appearance was selling haemorrhoid cream.

HENRY BENISH AS LORD DUDLEY

Married to Polly (this is by far the huge achievement) but not to be outdone by his outspoken wife, Henry decided to join the stage (willing or not). Henry has appeared in television commercials as a *Courier* for “AlwaysLate Couriers” and has also appeared in Polly’s Infomercial as the before and after shots of the haemorrhoid cream.

MARLA SMITH (SMITTY) AS DORIS THE MAID

This is Marla’s first production with a full adult cast. Before this she has appeared as a *Toadstool* in “Where is my Broomstick” and as a *Broomstick* in “Where is my Toadstool”. Having been in a mixed school her mother thought it was best that she be moved to a girls’ school “The New Order of the Chastity Belt” and has now played many male roles. Smitty is now looking forward to playing a woman in this fantastic thriller.

SAUL WATSON AS DR REX FORBES

Saul is no stranger to the stage and has played many speaking roles, some of them all at once. His fast wit and humour make him perfect to play his next character and has loved working with such a fantastic cast. He has such a huge respect for Polly and can’t wait to do it all again. He would love to thank Louise for her fantastic brews of coffee.

BILLY CAREWE AS STEPHEN SELLERS

Billy has also trod the boards many times and has been seen as *Lurch* in “There was a Giant”. And most recently as *Inspector Gadget*. Billy loves his part time job as a Uni student. Billy has been most respected for knowing his lines and delivering them in the right places without fail.

VIOLET IMBRY AS DIANA LASSITER

Violet has been on stage several times including the memorable role of the *Tall Singing Woman* in the panto “There was a Giant”. She has also been involved as an Assistant Director for the drama “I Didn’t Do It”. She has been known to work as a mobile phone tester to ensure that the vibrate function can be felt all over the body.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Where do I begin! It has been a very fast paced and tight rehearsal schedule to say nothing of the fact that we had cast members overseas and the flu struck most of the cast in some shape or form. To everybody concerned a very huge thank you. Most of our cast have had to learn two characters which is no easy task, but one which they have all done admirably. A special thanks to Kurt and Maurice for their fantastic set and special props, once again thanks to John Rix for his expertise in our sound recordings and to Brad for the wonderful special sounds. To one and all, have a fantastic show, go and break all those acting rules and enjoy it.

JOHN ARBERY

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

TIME: THE PRESENT

LOCALE: DUNBAR THEATRE

ACT 1

A REHEARSAL OF PHYLLIS'S *MURDER MOST FOUL*

10 MINUTE BREAK

ACT 2

DRESS REHEARSAL OF THEIR PLAY

20 MINUTE INTERVAL

ACT 3

OPENING NIGHT OF THEIR PLAY

CAST

DEON SPANN	ALGIE MANVILLE
LESLEY DAVIS	GERALDINE DUNBAR
WENDY ROGERS	POLLY BENISH
GARY MCEWAN.....	HENRY BENISH
JACQUI MCKELL	MARLA SMITH
ANDREW HERMANN	SAUL WATSON
MARSHALL ALLEN.....	BILL CAREWE
CAROLINE DE HENNIN.....	VIOLET IMBRY
ALISON PATTINSON	LOUISE PEARY
PAM MURDOCH	PHYLLIS MONTAGUE

CAST



Deon Spann

Deon is in his fourth year at STG and is pleased to be working with many familiar faces. Audiences will remember Deon from our last production “Witness for the Prosecution” as *Mr Justice Wainright – Court Judge*. In this show, Deon gets to extend his talents further in the part of *Algie (Algernon)*. Deon would like to thank his cast, crew and supporters of STG for their support and understanding. This one’s for Gloria.



Lesley Davis

From her very first production as a duckling in a Christmas panto, Lesley has given patrons her own interpretation of various characters from comic to dramatic. Lesley has been with STG for 14 years and has performed in shows such as “Humpty Dumpty”, “Key for Two”, “Not Now Darling”, “Run For Your Wife”, “Dial M for Murder”, and “Cat’s Cradle”. Audiences will remember her more recently from “Witness for the Prosecution” and in the director’s role for “Funny Money”. In this show Lesley combines both talents to play the part of *Gerry – the onstage director*.



Gary McEwan

Recently appearing as *QC Myers* in STG’s production of “Witness for the Prosecution”, Gary returns to us this time as *Henry Benish (aka Lord Dudley)*. With the legal pomp and ceremony of London’s Old Bailey Courthouse a distant memory, Gary finds himself up to his neck in the lunacy that unfolds as a group of misfits endeavours to produce a theatrical masterpiece called “Murder Most Foul”. In his return to the comedy-farce genre, we find Gary.... Confused!!!



Wendy Rogers

Wendy has been acting on stage for over 25 years and studied drama and acting for three years at USQ in Toowoomba. After teaching drama in high school in Townsville, she joined the Police Service and moved to Brisbane. Wendy has been with STG for over five years and played such roles as *Polly* in “Playing the Palace”, *Polly* in “Flying Feathers” and now *Polly* in “Play On!”. ...hang on ... is there some typecasting going on here?! Her greatest role though is as Mummy to her gorgeous daughter Sophie who isn’t quite two yet.



Jacqui McKell

Jacqui has done roles for STG including *Maisie* in “The Boy Friend”, *Gertie* in “Oklahoma”, *Elvira* in “Blithe Spirit”. Her star sign is Virgo, favourite number is forty two and lucky colour is pink.

CAST



Andrew Hermann

This is Andrew's third show with STG this year after playing the role of *Frank Butler* in "Annie Get Your Gun". In 2004 he was *Professor Vernon Hinse* in "The Pajama Game" and a host of extras in "Puss in Boots". In a more serious role, he played *Rick Deckhard* in an adaptation of the film "Blade Runner". Andrew was last seen on stage as *Leonard Vole* in "Witness for the Prosecution".



Marshall Allen

Marshall last appeared with STG as *Inspector Hearn* in "Witness for the Prosecution", and returns to the stage as the spirited, *Billy Carewe*. Off stage, he studies Microelectronic Engineering & Information Technology.



Caroline de Hennin

Following a long career in the theatre as "stage filling" (recently in STG's pantomime "Puss in Boots") and a brief stint behind the scenes as an Assistant Director for "Witness for the Prosecution", Caroline finally steps into the limelight for this production. She has enjoyed working with this incredibly talented bunch and would like to thank her Year 4 students for their encouragement and inspiration this year.



Alison Pattinson

Enjoying the opportunity to use another British accent playing Louise, marks Alison's fourth show with STG. She was previously in "When we are Married", "Annie Get Your Gun" and most recently was the bitter housekeeper, *Janet McKenzie* in "Witness for the Prosecution".



Pam Murdoch

During the past 19 years Pam has enjoyed being at the helm of pantomimes, comedies, dramas and the occasional musical, on the lighter side, such productions as "Stepping Out", "Ársenic and Old Lace", "The Reluctant Debutante" not to mention a few Ray Cooney farces thrown in. On the more serious side Pam has directed such successes as "Dial M for Murder" and "Cat's Cradle", "Beyond Reasonable Doubt". After a break of more than 10 years, Pam returns to the stage as the illustrious playwright, *Phyllis Montague*.



KURT MULLER

JOANNE SEPHTON

STUART SEPHTON

BRAD WYETH

DAVID NORTH

JOHN ARBERY

BEHIND THE SCENES

Director -----John Arbery
Assistant Director-----Lesley Davis
Stage Manager ----- Joanne Sephton
Stage Crew----- Stuart Sephton
Set Construction -----Maurice Thorn
Costumes ----- Sue Rogers
Sound effects and special props ----- Kurt Muller
Lighting Operator----- Brad Wyeth
Sound Operator -----David North
Rehearsal Prompt----- Melissa Daniells
Program----- Sue Willingham
Publicity----- Deirdre Robinson
Front of House ----- Mary Hamilton, Bob Gow,
Jim Cliff, Margaret Waller,
Stephanie Ellis, Fay Gallie,
Colin Robinson, Bing Goh,
Cheryl Allen and Lorraine Muller

Refreshments

**Before the show commences & 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**

DEDICATION

Gloria Spann (Mother of cast member Deon Spann) was a treasured patron of STG. Never one to miss an opportunity to see a show, Gloria was often seen with family and friends in tow, many times coming back several times in a season! Those who saw "The Pajama Game" may remember her watching the show with her husband Anthony, both resplendent in pajamas, nightcap and teddy bear. Often she would turn her hand to helping with costumes. Her enjoyment was that of pure joy, often only remembering cast regulars by their character names. It is with a sense of sadness that we farewell Gloria, who passed away on August 21 2005 after a long struggle with cancer. Her bright smile, enthusiasm and her unique charm will be missed, but never forgotten or far from our hearts.

Gloria is survived by her husband Anthony, son Deon, daughter Kylie and partner Phil, and her three treasured grandchildren – Madeline, Samantha and Felicity.

SUNNYBANK THEATRE GROUP INC
COMING ATTRACTIONS

The Philadelphia Story

Philip Barry
Director: Sue Willingham
Season: 18 November – 3 December 2005
Bookings open 3 October 2005

84 Charing Cross Road

Helene Hanff
Adapted for the stage by James Roose-Evans
Director: Deirdre Robinson
Season: 24 February – 11 March 2006
Bookings open 5 December 2005

Brigadoon

Book and Lyrics: Alan Jay Lerner
Music: Frederick Loewe
Director: Anne Ross
Season: 12 May – 27 May 2006
Bookings open 13 March 2006

Out of Sight ... Out of Murder

Fred Carmichael
Director: John Arbery
Season: 28 July – 12 August 2006
Bookings open 29 May 2006

Nunsense

Dan Groggin
Director: Brad Rush
Season: 15 September – 30 September 2006
Bookings open 14 August 2006

To be advised

Director: Lesley Davis
Season: 17 November – 2 December 2006
Bookings open 1 October 2006



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