

join us for our next production

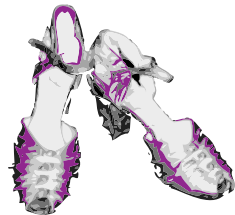


Stepping Out

a dance comedy by **Richard Harris**

directed by **Dierdre Robinson & Pam Cooper**

box office opens May 11



sunnybank theatre group presents



**wait
until
dark**

**a
thriller
by
Frederick
Knott**

April 12 to 27, 2013

The action of the play takes place in basement flat in Notting Hill Gate, London

our crew

Act 1

A Friday evening in September

Saturday afternoon

Twenty minutes later

About an hour later

Act 2

Immediately following

A few minutes later

A minute later

directors note

I am delighted to have the opportunity to direct *Wait Until Dark* for STG. It is a real challenge for both director and cast when the audience become aware of the plot and consequences before the characters in the play. Added to that the main character Suzy is blind. Three petty crooks are anxious to find a drug-filled child's doll unwittingly brought into the basement flat of Sam and Suzy Henderson.

The writer, Frederick Knott, has a remarkably slim list of credits to his name however each play he wrote brought him a substantial amount of fame and acclaim for his ingenious and unorthodox plots. He was so successful with three of them that he managed to live and thrive in Manhattan for the last 30 years of his life, adding nothing further to his literary accomplishments. His wife was quoted as saying "He hated writing. He wrote for money". It is fortunate that he was still in need of finances when he wrote the two plays *Dial M for Murder* and *Wait Until Dark*, both later adapted into very successful movies

It has been a delight to work with such a talented and dedicated cast and I take this opportunity of thanking them for working so diligently, particularly in recent weeks, to bring these challenging roles to life. I must also thank the fantastic production staff including my Assistant Director, Gary Suthers, our Stage Manger, Laura Stinton and her team. They have been a great support and inspiration. I could not have done it without them.

Chris Guyler

Stage Manager
Stage Crew

Laura May Stinton
Loriza Tuthill
Sophie Rohweider
Jarred West
Callan Suthers

Set Construction

Bob Clayton
Chris Guyler
Mark Westby
Gary Suthers
Chris O'Leary
the Cast

Lighting Design
Lighting and Sound
Costumes
Props

David Gemmell
Chris O'Leary
The Cast
Sophie Rohweder
the Cast

Photography
Program and Media
Front of House

Kayleen Gibson
Chris O'Leary
Margaret Oakhill
& our wonderful volunteers

thank you

Sincere thanks to many people who helped bring this production to the stage -:

Ian Platell

Karen Knight of Vision Australia

Jim and Carmel Hill of HT Bins

Gem Guyler

Photo Continental for the enlarger



SAM - MARK WESTBY

Mark recently moved back to Brisbane from places west and south and is happy to be back on stage again. He played the role of Danny Gilmartin in Coffs Harbour Memorial Theatre production of *Calamity Jane*, starred in *Welcome to Broadway* at the Melbourne Palladium and, at the 13th hour, jumped into the role of Franz in STG's production of *The Sound of Music*.

Mark has produced and recorded two albums of original music as well as providing backing vocals to Rita McNeil, John Farnham, Simon Gallaher and Rolf Harris.



GLORIA - TANIESHA PURNELL

Taniesha has had a lot of experience in the film and television industry from an early age. However, she only recently discovered her true potential in acting when she won the Junior Narration Championship at the Quota Speech and Drama Eisteddfod. She has appeared in numerous TV commercials and was a catwalk model for many years with the Delfin Australian Fashion Design Awards (live telecast Channel 9). Also, she was the face of Australian Designer, Little Workers, from 2001 – 2010. Taniesha has been learning piano for 8 years and voice lessons for 3 years. She is also extensively involved in dancing with cheerleading being her favourite. Taniesha played Marta in STG's production of *The Sound Of Music* and she is currently rehearsing for *Godspell*.



GLORIA - AMY RIETHMULLER

Amy has been an actress all her life. From a very early age she has performed at shopping centres on an impromptu basis. Now she gets her very first opportunity on stage in *Wait Until Dark*. She is also currently rehearsing for *Seussical The Musical* at the Brisbane Arts Theatre and partaking in the production of a music video. Amy learns piano and enjoys singing lessons. She is very excited to be making her acting debut with STG.



DIRECTOR - CHRIS GUYLER

Chris was born in the UK of parents who were both involved in the entertainment industry, so its hardly surprising that he shared an interest in community theatre from a very early age!! Chris has been involved in more than 70 productions, acting and directing in theatres all over the world as his career in aviation took him to different countries! Australia became home in '74 and since arriving in Brisbane over 25 years ago he's



played many leading roles. Here at Sunnybank we've seen him in both comedy and drama, including *Anyone for Breakfast*, *Beyond Reasonable Doubt* and *The Mousetrap*. He also has a passion for directing with a long list of directorial credits to his name including, *Desperate Hours*, *Out of Order* and *Trap for a Lonely Man* here at STG and, having directed *Wait Until Dark* in Melbourne over 35 years ago, he's enjoying the challenge once more with us here.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - GARY SUTHERS

Gary has taken an active part in theatre production, having attended various workshops and courses: Directing for the Stage by RLT, Arts Marketing Course by the Australian Council for the Arts and Technical Theatre Skills and Staging presented by The New Moon Theatre Company. Since joining STG in 2011, Gary has been involved on stage in *Arsenic* and *Old Lace* and *The Sound of Music* and backstage for *The Mousetrap* and he is



currently a member of STG's management committee. Helping to bring *Wait Until Dark* to the stage has been a fabulous opportunity that Gary is honoured to be a part of. This play is a technical and artistic challenge that has had all cast and crew contributing time and talent to bring you a thriller that will surprise, chill and shock you.



SUZY - LESLEY DAVIS

Having been bitten by the theatrical 'bug' at a very early age, Lesley has spent close to 35 years playing a wide range of roles in dramas, thrillers, comedies and musicals. Her most recent role was that of Maria in STG's very successful production of *The Sound of Music*. She has had a very diverse theatrical career with amateur theatre, both on and off the stage. Her stage highlights include Sister Amnesia, a singing and dancing Nun, in STG's

productions of *Nunsense* (2006) and *Nuncrackers* (2010); Laura Warwick, the wife accused of murder in Front Row Theatre's production of Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest* (2010); and Romaine Vole, the German wife of Leonard Vole who is on trial for murder, in STG's production of *Witness for the Prosecution* (2005). A director in her own right, Lesley has assisted with many productions over the past 24 years with STG, including co-directing STG's production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in 2007. She'll take the reins again later this year for STG's presentation of *A Few Good Men* by Aaron Sorkin.



ROAT - RUV EK MAHARAJ

Ruvek Maharaj is a graduate of the Southbank Institute of Technology, Performing Arts (Acting) and NIDA Young Actors Studio. He has performed as The Mayor in *The Inspector General* at Southbank and various roles in *Hamlet Machine* with NIDA, but is a fresh face to the regional theatre scene. He is an avid reader and, being born in South Africa, his role models

include Nelson Mandela and Mohandas 'Mahatma' Gandhi. Ruvek is extremely excited to perform his debut role in Sunnybank Theatre Group's production of *Wait Until Dark*.

MIKE - STEVE PEARTON

Steve has performed in a number of shows at the Brisbane Arts Theatre: *The Adventures of Mr Toad*; *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *The Sentimental Bloke* and supporting roles in *The Rivals* and Arthur Miller's classic drama *A View From the Bridge*. For Centenary Theatre Group he performed in *Table Manners*, *Wrong Turn At Lungfish*, Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest* and as Ali in *Red White and Boogie*, which he also directed.

Other performances include *Pillow Talk* and *Call Me Madam* for STG; *An Inspector Calls* and the wartime musical *Live At The Trocadero* for Villanova Players, and as a part of the heartBeast ensemble in the visually intoxicating *Beauty Is Difficult*. In 2012 Steve worked on no less than six productions, including David Williamson's *After The Ball* at Phoenix Ensemble, and directing his first short film, *Boot*, a comedy.



CROKER - CHARLES LANGFORD

Charlie has been involved in the theatre for many years. Playing Croker is his return to the stage after a 2 year break. He lived in the UK for 12 years and was a member of many companies. His favourite roles have been Tobias in *Sweeney Todd*, Cornelius in *Hello Dolly*, Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof* and The Arbiter in *Chess*. His most memorable time was playing Malcolm in *The Full Monty* which included a season at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. It has been a pleasure working with this cast and crew.

