

The Genesian Theatre 2008-2009 Season



Enchanted April by Matthew Barber from a novel by Elizabeth von Arnim, directed by Debbie Smith

The Director by Rebekah Jennings and a traditional *Medieval Mystery Cycle*, directed by Rebekah Jennings

Dial M For Murder by Frederick Knott, directed by Nanette Frew

By Jeeves by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Alan Ayckbourn, directed by Roger Gimblett

Noises Off by Michael Frayn, directed by Tom Massey

Ring Round the Moon by Jean Anouilh adapted by Christopher Fry, directed by Joyce Birch

We hope that you will enjoy our 2008-2009 season!

Subscriptions are available.

www.genesiantheatre.com.au



**ANTONY
&
CLEOPATRA**

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Joyce Birch

Genesian Theatre
8th March - 26th April 2008

Cast in order of speaking

Soothsayer
Cleopatra
Alternate Cleopatra
(9 March, 5,6,11,12,13 April)
Mark Antony
Zalika
Scarus
Charmian
Alexas
Iras
Octavius Caesar
Lepidus/Proculeus
Mardian/Seleucus
Agrippa
Octavia
Enobarbus
Eros
Thidias
Dolabella

Sandra Bass
Loretta Tolnai
Vanessa Coffey

Matt Butcher
Marnie Bicknell
Jeremy Just
Lisa Harrison
Michael Sterbal
Elisa Duffy
John Bonaventura
Robert Drew
Gordon Smith
Eric Bicknell
Naomi Englebrett
Alan Chapman
Daniel Musumeci
Paul Gilbert
John Cross

Production

Director
Assistant Director
Set Design
Costume Design
Lighting & Sound Design
Set Construction

Joyce Birch
Shane Bates
Joyce Birch
Susan Carveth
Michael Schell
Grant Fraser
Cynthia Gibbs
Alan Hayter
Sandra Truelsen
The cast & crew
Sandra Bass
Craig O'Regan
Tom Massey
Alan Scully

Dramaturg
Photography
Programme
Blood Consultant

Crew

Stage Manager
Lighting Operator
Sound Operator

Marnie Bicknell
Wundonna Hughes
P.W. Ryan

Director's Notes

Antony and Cleopatra is a famous love story of Roman times.

However, Shakespeare's text of the play also brings to life the great rivalry between Mark Antony and Octavius Caesar. These two men were vying for control of the Roman senate after the death of Julius Caesar - Octavius being the nephew of Julius and Antony a highly popular Roman general.

We see Octavius' star rising as Antony's fades through his obsessive love for the capricious temptress Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt, who draws Antony away from his Roman responsibilities.

Caesar and Antony with Cleopatra between them constitute the power struggle, which is the central theme of the play.

Some careful, judicious editing presents the audience with a good tight story and much of Shakespeare's beautiful language to enjoy.

Thanks to the Board of the Genesian Theatre and the Genesian Theatre publicity committee.

I would like to give a special thanks to Sandra Bass for her work as dramaturg. This was a large task that took many months, and resulted in a very tight and concise script for us to work with.