

This production dedicated to the memories of

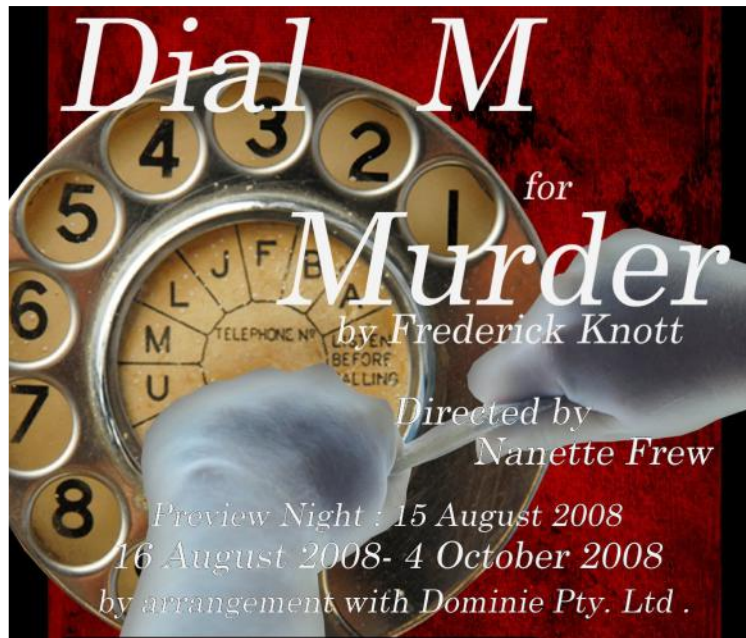
P.W. Ryan: God

Caroleen Heaton: Satan (but really an Angel of Light)

Brian Donovan: A Shepherd and A King

who performed in the original workshop of this play December, 2000

Coming Next to the Genesian Theatre



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

THE DIRECTOR



WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY
REBEKAH JENNINGS

PRESENTED WITH

MEDIEVAL MYSTERY PLAYS

COLLATED & DIRECTED BY
REBEKAH JENNINGS

GENESIAN THEATRE
12TH JULY - 2ND AUGUST 2008

Production

Director	Rebekah Jennings
Assistant Director	Glen Harman
Set Design	George James Wright
Costume Design	Susan Carveth
	Fiona Miller
Lighting Design	Eric Bicknell
	George James Wright
Sound Design	Rebekah Jennings
Set Construction	George James Wright
	Paul Gilbert
	Members of the Company
Set Detailing	Noel Camilleri
Photography	Craig O'Regan
	Grant Fraser
Programme	Tom Massey
Truck	Grant Fraser

Crew

Stage Manager	Glen Harman
Lighting Operator	Wunndonna Hughes
Sound Operator	Emmanuel Said

Cast

The Director	Alan Chapman
The Younger Director	Leon Wasserman
God, Herod	Andrew Robjohns
Lucifer, A Woman	Emily Twemlow
Eve, A Sheep, A Woman	Bianca Howard
Adam, Herald (Hewald)	Leon Wasserman
Gabrielle, A Woman	Rebecca Tromp
Mary, A Star, A Woman	Melissa Jones
Joseph, A Shepherd, A King	Matt Oxley
A Shepherd, A King	Marnie Bicknell
A Shepherd, A King, A Soldier	Noel Camilleri
A Soldier	Glen Harman

With Special Thanks to: Michael J Schell and Timothy M Carter

Director's Note

Martyrdom. In the modern context the word has lost some of its original power. People are told not to 'play the martyr' or are described derisively as having a 'martyr complex'. A martyr is by definition a victim and worse, they choose to suffer. What can we make of this choice? What could possibly drive a person to martyrdom?

History tells us very little about Genesius, the person who became the patron saint of actors. We know nothing of the sort of man of he was, what his life was like or what he thought of the persecution of the Christians prior to his conversion. Some stories say he had a vision during a performance which led him to announce publicly his desire for a baptism, others that he was influenced by talking to Christians while he was researching for a show aimed at mocking them. Either way, the result was that he joined the ranks of those who peacefully surrendered their lives rather than deny their beliefs.

In this play the character of Genesius does not appear. He does not speak for himself here any more than he speaks for himself in history. We can only interpret his actions. Like the character of the Director we might wonder if Genesius was crazy, or drunk. Could he have suffered an hallucination or was he the victim of a publicity stunt gone horribly wrong? Or, more scarily – what if he was right?

The Director is not about the choice Genesius made. It's about what choices we make for our own lives and to what extent our own beliefs are revealed in these choices.

The Medieval Mystery Plays

In the Middle Ages stories from the Bible were acted out in churches as a way of making the stories more memorable for a largely illiterate population. As both the popularity and the bawdiness of the plays grew, they were moved to outside performance venues and, following a Papal ban forbidding clergy to act in public, were taken over by the town's guilds.

These plays represent some of the earliest examples of 'community theatre' in the world. Each section was generally performed by the most 'appropriate' guild. For example, the Goldsmith's Guild would take charge of presenting the story of the Three Kings – no doubt because they could most easily locate the required props!

The plays that have been chosen have been taken from the York, Wakefield and Chesterfield Cycles.