

## BY PETER SHAFFER

## **The Genesian Theatre**

## October 25th - November 29th 2014

By arrangement with ORiGiN Theatrical

The action of the play begins and ends in Vienna in 1823 and plays out in memory between the years 1781 and 1791.

Act 1

Vienna, 1823, 1781-1786 Salieri's apartments and salon

The Palace of Schönbrunn

**The Burg Theatre** 

The Waldstadten Library

**Kapellmeister Bonno's house** 

Act 2

Vienna, 1823, 1787-1791 Salieri's apartments and salon

The Palace of Schönbrunn

**The Prater** 

The Waldstadten Library

A theatre

A Masonic Lodge

Mozart's apartments

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

Envy. Jealousy. Disbelief. These are the three themes that Peter Shaffer has penned his most revered work around. A work that witnesses the struggle of Antonio Salieri meeting his maker, both spiritual and literal. Shaffer takes the complex history of the time and makes a masterful composition that rides the line between reality and fantasy.

Starting back in July our company only had one goal and that was to create a professional production that had people entertained and talking. Much like Mozart's works has done for centuries. As director, I cannot be happier with how this production has turned out and the plays that the Genesian Theatre are now pursuing. Everyone involved has shown a passion and drive that is second to none in bringing you this story.

Tonight we ask you to sit back, get consumed by the production and really question... *Did he do it?* 

**Stephen Lloyd-Coombs** 

#### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

#### **Director - Stephen Lloyd-Coombs**

Stephen is a performer and director and this is his first time directing for The Genesians. His performance credits include *Great Expectations, The Merchant of Venice, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, Lord of the Flies, Away, Billy Liar* and *Cosi.* He has previously directed *Picasso at the Lapin Agile, An Impending Rupture of the Belly* and *Anger Box.* 

#### Assistant Director and Production Manager- Mark G Nagle

Mark is a teacher and actor. While living in Mexico , Spain and The UK he directed student productions and performed with various fringe groups. He has also acted in and held production roles on many Genesian shows and other Sydney based theatre groups. Mark is planning a variety of directing projects for 2015.

#### **Set and Property Designer- Ashley Bell**

Ashley is a production designer who studied at The Australian Film, Television & Radio School in 2010-12. She has worked predominantly on music videos, festival spaces and installation art. In her spare time she does costume design and illustration. "A designer's dream" *Amadeus* is a welcome foray into theatre with great music and iconic characters set against an opulent 18th century backdrop. Ashley's previous Genesian Theatre credit is *The Merchant of Venice* (2012).

#### **Costume Designer- Peter Henson**

A freelance set and costume designer and maker, Peter has worked extensively with the New Theatre, the Zenith Theatre, and the Guild Theatre, as well as with the Genesians. Recent productions include *Pride and Prejudice, Charley's Aunt, Great Expectations*, and *An Ideal Husband*. Currently enrolled in a PHD on cinema costume design at the University of Sydney, having already completed an M.A. in Theatre Studies, and a B.A Honours in Fine Arts.

#### **Lighting Designer- Mikey Rice**

Mikey graduated from Charles Sturt University with a BA: Communications (Theatre/Media) in 2007. Credits include *Eurobeat: Almost Eurovision, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,* and *Lucky Stiff* with Stage Arts, *Forbidden Broadway, Thrill Me, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Carrie the Musical* and *Sondheim on Sondheim* with Squabbalogic and was board operator for the 2014 Australian tour of *The Rocky Horror Show.* 

#### Sound Designer- Michael Schell

Michael has been a member of our theatre for over 35 years. A professional sound and lighting designer his Genesian credits include *Great Expectations, St Joan, The 39 Steps, Terra Nova, Frankenstein and Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure.* Other recent Genesian sound design credits include *Pride and Prejudice, The Mousetrap, Crown Matrimonial* and *Spider's Web.* 

Stage Managers- Cheryl Lawson and Mark G Nagle
Assistant Stage Manager- Jason Guo
Lighting and Sound Operator- Macushla McGown
Set Construction- Tim Carter, Gary Bates, Roger Gimblett, Debbie Smith and
Mehran Mortezai.

Lighting Assistants- Mehran Mortezai, Tim Carter and Debbie Smith.
Photography- Scott Clare and Mark Banks
Make up Artistry - Karin de Jesus

#### **CAST**



#### Jimmy Bai- Salieri's Valet/Major-Domo/Viennese

Jimmy Bai is a pianist, singer and actor. He was first in his class for HSC Drama and had leading roles in productions of Shakespeare's *Henry IV Part 1* and Sobol's *Ghetto*. While at university, Jimmy also wrote, directed and performed in the ANU Law Revue 2008 (*Rudd's New World*) and again in 2009 (2009: A Law Oddity).



#### Timothy Bennett- Baron Gottfried Van Swieten

Timothy recently appeared as Mr. Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. Previous credits include *Shadowlands* (C.S.Lewis), *Harvey* (Elwood), *Pygmalion* (Pickering), *The Fantasticks* (Henry), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bottom), *Wind in the Willows* (Badger), *The Imaginary Invalid* (Argan) & *The Tempest* (Trinculo). Among many Genesian productions Tim most recently directed Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband*.



#### Elia Bosshard- Katherina Cavalieri/Viennese

Elia is a flutist, designer and performer. She facilitates new works exploring spatial and social relationships between performers and audience around a musical epicentre from which site-specific sets are designed. Credits: co-director of *Cache in Point*, Musical *Alaska* curator, BEAMS Festival artist, ABC Classic FM *Everything Always*, Stage Juice *Freshly Squeezed*, Beijing Olympic Orchestra, SYO ensembles.



#### Robert Drew- Count Johann Kilian Von Strack

Rob has performed in many productions for Genesians, among his favourite being *Hamlet*, *Valentine's Day* and *Great Expectations*. Rob has performed in several other productions including *Pygmalion* for The Riverside Theatre, *The Taming of the Shrew* for Cauldron Theatre Company and *Sleuth* for Sutherland Theatre Company. He has recently played in *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*.



#### **Anthony Finch- Venticello**

Melbourne born Anthony trained as a ballet, jazz and tap dancer from the age of 5. Having moved to Sydney he completed a Certificate IV in Music Theatre at ACTT and a Bachelor of Music at AIM. Credits include: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Equus, In The Space Between, Dusty: The Original Pop Diva, Shakers and Promises, Promises.

#### Jasper Garner-Gore - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Melbourne born Jasper has made regular appearances in Sydney independent theatre including *Not Quite Cabaret* (dirs. Deborah Bradshaw & Gary Boulter) *La Ronde* (dir. Stephen Hopley) and the Sydney Shakespeare Festival (dir. Richard Hilliar). Jasper trains regularly with the Hub Studio and Kevin Jackson and for the past two years has been studying the Alexander Technique with Mary Cerny.



#### Nick Hunter - Antonio Salieri

Since graduating from Charles Sturt University, 2007 (B.A Acting for the Screen & Stage) Nick has been continuously involved in the industry. Credits include: Scoobie Doo Live in Stage Fright, guest roles in Home and Away, Rescue Special Ops, Packed to the Rafters, and on stage in Glengarry Glen Ross. Last seen at The Genesian in By Jeeves, Nick has most recently been creating the sketch webseries Nick and Seaton.



#### Michelle Lunicke - Teresa Salieri/Viennese

Michelle is a writer and performance artist. She trained at Trinity Western University in British Columbia and has performed in both traditional and non-traditional venues in Canada, the United States, and most recently in Australia. She is currently writing a show based on her travels that explores the common bond between our cousin countries. She will be debuting this show at the Adelaide Fringe Festival in 2015.



#### Richard Mason - Count Franz Orsini-Rosenberg

Amadeus marks Richard's return to The Genesians after thirteen years. His previous Genesian productions include *King Lear* and *Trelawney of the Wells*. Recent stage appearances include the Shakespeare Festival double bill at the Old Fitzroy: *King Lear* and *Measure for Measure*. Richard has also appeared in many short films and TV commercials, and recent TV credits include *Deadly Women* (History Channel) and *Wanted* (Channel 10).



## Emmanuel Said- Kapellmeister Bonno/ Salieri's Cook/ Walsegg's messenger

Emmanuel has been involved in both on and offstage roles within the Genesian for over 10 years. Last year's production of *Murder on the Nile* marked Manny's return to the stage after completing radio broadcasting studies. Some previous Genesian productions you may recognise him from include *Lady Windermere's Fan, Sense & Sensibility, Wind in the Willow* and *Valentine's Day.* 



#### Claire Stewart-Moore - Venticella

Claire has been acting for sixteen years, honing her skills at The Australian Institute for Performing Arts, the Young Actors' Space in L.A, and NIDA. She received a national award for Speech & Drama, via the Trinity College of London, has a double-major degree in Film Studies/ Performance Studies from Sydney University, and a postgraduate certificate in Screen Writing from UTS.



#### John Willis-Richards - Emperor Joseph II

John recently played *Sherlock Holmes* at the Genesian Theatre, and was also in their *Richard III*. In previous productions he appeared in *Crown Matrimonial* and *An Ideal Husband*. John began his acting career in Canberra, where he performed with the ANU Theatre Society and Canberra Philharmonic. He studied theatre at UWS Nepean and with The San Francisco State University.



#### Nicole Wineberg - Constanze Weber

Nicole is a graduate of Theatre Nepean. Recent credits include: Scenes from an Execution (Tooth and Sinew), Three Sisters and Jesus (Factotum Theatre), Miss Julie, Electra and As You Like It (No White Elephant), Romeo and Juliet and Hamlet (Brave Touch) and for the Sydney Shakespeare Festival: A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Taming of the Shrew, Macbeth and The Merchant of Venice. This is Nicole's first Genesian production.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT

Wigs styled by Sharon Case
Costume Assistants- Susan Carveth, Helen Kohlagen and
Natalia Minana

Lighting Assistants- Mehran Mortezai and Debbie Smith.

Fortepiano creation - Tim Carter

Wheelchair creation- Paul Gilbert

Ticketing- Shane Bates

Transport- Debbie Smith

and the members of the Genesian Theatre who have contributed

to this production.



#### About the Genesian Theatre

The Genesian Theatre Company is a non-professional group operating from an historic church in Kent Street in the heart of the Sydney CBD. We boast among our alumni numerous household names in Australian theatre and film such as Bryan Brown, Baz Luhrmann, Judi Farr, and John Bell. We are, however, just as proud of the hundreds of talented amateur actors, directors, designers, lighting and sound specialists who have contributed to Sydney's unique little theatre over the years.

Over the years the company has developed into a group providing a training ground for young actors and a place where those who love the theatre can meet, share and extend their knowledge of the performing arts. The Genesian Theatre is one of Sydney's most active theatre companies. In addition to six or seven main stage productions each year we run classes, workshops and many other activities.

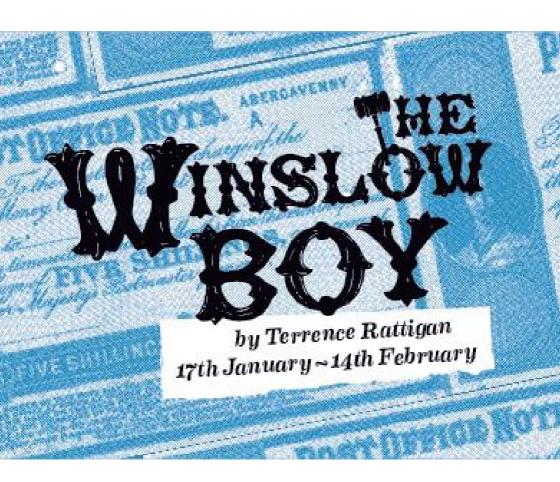
Membership of the company is open to all people over the age of eighteen.

Originally constructed in 1868 as the Church of St. John the Evangelist served as both church and poor school until 1927. The school was operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph and was visited on many occasions by Mother Mary MacKillop now St. Mary of the Cross. In 1932 it was converted into the Kursaal Theatre and later, from 1938, was the first site of the Matthew Talbot Hostel. Since 1954 it has been the home of the Genesian Theatre which was formed in 1944.

#### Membership

If your interest is in acting, directing, stage management, sound, lights, publicity, admin, etc, or if you just want to experience being a member of the group, we would welcome you as a member. You don't need to be experienced, we can provide training and can cater to different levels of involvement. Please see our web site for further information.

## Coming next to the Genesian Theatre...



Subscriptions are available www.genesiantheatre.com.au