



THE 39 STEPS

ADAPTED BY PATRICK BARLOW

FROM THE NOVEL BY JOHN BUCHAN FROM THE MOVIE BY ALFRED HITCHCOCK LICENSED BY ITV
GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT LIMITED AND AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY SIMON CORBLE AND NOBBY DIMON



Program Coordinator Letter

Dr. Troy Comeau



Welcome to the 2021-2022 season of Pitt State Theatre. I hope you are as excited as our department is as we return to live productions on the stage! This year we return to viewing each and every performance from the comfort of the Dotty and Bill Miller Theater and our Grubbs Studio Theatre. Our faculty and students look forward to each and every one of you coming back to enjoy theatre as it was intended to be.

Dr. Megan Westhoff is in her second year leading our program and we are excited to have Mr. Gil Cooper and Mr. Linden Little return to direct in the Bicknell Family Center for the Arts.

We are also pleased to have Lisa Quinteros return in her role as Costume Designer/Wardrobe Supervisor. Lisa brings over 20 years of experience to our program.

This year's season opens on October 21-24 with the production of *Lapin Lapin* directed by Mr. Linden Little. From the creator of *Three Men and a Baby*, we join the Lapin family as their world is flipped upside down through a comical military coup and a possible alien invasion.

Our second production on December 3-4 features our student directors as they direct their one-act plays in *Theatre Unplugged*, which is always fascinating, always popular, and always free of charge.

Mr. Gil Cooper directs our third production on February 24-27, *The 39 Steps*. Join us for a fast-paced comedy thriller with some Hitchcockian intrigue and Monty Python humor as Richard Hannay begins an evening at the theatre only to end the night with a dead body in his apartment. The action continues as he is on the run searching for an alibi and the actual killer's identity.

Finally, we are pleased to feature one of our graduate students, Cooper Dammrich in their mainstage directing debut from April 21-24. You are sure to enjoy the passion and energy as Cooper's vision becomes a reality on stage.

We appreciate your support of Pitt State Theatre and hope you enjoy this season's productions.


Director of Theatre

Dr. Megan Westhoff

I love the feeling of anticipation for live theatre. The last-minute controlled chaos backstage as the cast and crew are doing their final preparations, hearing the hustle and bustle of the audience as they enter the lobby, and the excited conversations while the audience gets seated in the theatre. These instances lead to one of my favorite moments in theatre when the house lights go out, the audience is still and quiet at the same time, and the chills of excitement when the stage lights come up and seeing the entrance of the first character and hearing the first words of dialogue. There is no other place for me that produces that feeling in a shared human experience.



Thank you for your support and kindness over the past year as we navigated a very different theatre experience for our students, faculty and staff, and patrons. We are thrilled to welcome you back to live theatre!



To the cast and crew,

Break A Leg!

Alpha Psi Omega - Theatre Honor Society
Alpha Epsilon Theta Chapter

President, Joshua Ramsey II
Vice President, Hailey Denton
Secretary, Madi Correll
Business Manager, Tayler Matthews



Matt Buck and Tayler Matthews rehearsing

Director's Note

Gil Cooper

In 1915 John Buchan published the novel *The 39 Steps*. Twenty years later Alfred Hitchcock adapted it (rather freely I might mention) into what is credited as being the first true spy thriller movie. Numerous elements found in Hitchcock's *The 39 Steps* are now standard fare for spy movies: femmes fatales, evil masterminds, riveting chase scenes, the common citizen caught up in a diabolical scheme that only they can solve.

I became a fan of the spy genre during middle school when I started reading Ian Fleming's James Bond novels, and watching the films. Little did I know then that Hitchcock had set the genre decades earlier and decades after that I would be given the opportunity to direct a spy thriller. I want to thank everyone involved in making this production. The coordination of the technical elements, the acting demands, and all the logistical components were highly challenging for this show. The actors, staff, and crew have been great. It is this collaboration that I love about theatre.

So, a spy adventure it is for tonight, but with a twist. All 200+ characters of the film have been squeezed down to 40+ characters for the stage, and 4 actors are going to play them all! Playwright Patrick Barlow's adaptation of *The 39 Steps* adds a comedic touch by tasking these talented actors with switching characters and scenes at literally the drop of a hat. Can they secure the safety of a nation, stay true to noble ideals, find romance, and keep up an incredible zany pace?! It's definitely a thriller!



Matthew Parrot's character dodges bullets

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The 39 Steps

Adapted by Patrick Barlow

From the novel by John Buchan

From the movie by Alfred Hitchcock

Licensed by ITV Global Entertainment Limited

And an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon

Director.....Gil Cooper
Costume Design.....Lisa Quinteros
Technical Director.....Linden Little

CAST

Richard Hannay.....Matthew Parrot
Annabella, Margaret, Pamela.....Madi Correll*
Clown #1.....Tayler Matthews*
Clown #2.....Matthew Buck

The original London production directed by Maria Aitken designed by Peter McKintosh lighting designed by Ian Scott sound designed by Mic Pool and movement directed by Toby Sedgwick opened at the Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn in August 2006 and transferred to the Criterion Theatre in the West End on 14th September 2006. The original production was directed by Fiona Buffini.

This production is licensed and the films distributed by ITV Global Entertainment Ltd.

PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Manager.....Jenna Russell*
Assistant Stage Manager.....Bryce Presley
Assistant Properties Manager.....Hunter Adamson*
Michaela Henningsen
Sound Operation.....Zach Kamm
Light Operation.....Ryan Bennett*
Projection Operation.....Grace Springer

PITT STATE THEATRE STAFF

Production Assistant.....Matthew Parrot
PR/Advertising Manager.....Daisy Burns
Artwork Design.....April Ahlders
Production Photographer.....Shakota Woolsey*

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NATIONAL THEATRE HONOR SOCIETY**



Director Gil Cooper



The cast running lines

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Annabella (Madi Correll) reveals a deep secret to Richard Hannay (Matthew Parrot)

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Matt Buck on the phone to the mastermind



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Special Thanks

We thank everyone who provided invaluable services, materials, and support to this production.

Local Upcoming Shows

Pittsburg Community Theatre:

The Book of Will
March 25-27, 2022

Matilda
July 22-24, 2022

Pittsburg High School:

Repertory Theatre Class Improv Show
April 21-23, 2022

St. Mary's Colgan Elementary:

Beauty and the Beast
March 23 & 26, 2022