

presents

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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

**Directed by Rachael Murray** 

March 22, 23, 29, 30, 2024 7:00 pm March 24 3:00 pm March 30 2:00 pm

> Cherry Theater Columbia State Community College



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#### **Our Mission**

At Watershed Public Theatre, we believe that theatre is the ultimate collaborative art and work to bring together arts professionals, volunteers, students and patrons to share in the illumination that only live performance can provide. We maintain our focus on nurturing community and practicing social and environmental responsibility while striving for the highest quality of artistic and educational experiences.

# 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

### Cast

| Richard Hannay                    | Nathan Burns      |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Annabella Schmidt/Margaret/Pamela | Jessica Fonville  |
| Clown #1                          | Max Fleischhacker |
| Clown #2                          | McKenna Steel     |
| Foley Artist                      | David Fonville    |

### **Production Team**

| Director                        | Rachael Murray                   |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Stage Manager                   | Susan Gaw                        |
| Assistant Stage Manager         | Caleb Finley                     |
| Intimacy Choreographer          | Jordan Tudor                     |
| Dialect Coach                   | Brad Oxnam                       |
| Tap Choreographer               | McKenna Steel                    |
|                                 | Justin Blackburn                 |
| Sound Design/Assistant Technica | I DirectorZach Perkins           |
| Sound Assistant                 | Dillon Hughes                    |
| Props Design                    | Jo Twaddle                       |
| Scenic Painter                  | Krista Totten                    |
| Props Assistant                 | Dani Rust                        |
| Light Design                    | Eva Orman-Garrett                |
| Costume Design                  | Sara McLoud                      |
| Costume Assistant               | Sarah Kennedy                    |
| Wig Stylist                     | MaryAnne Luther                  |
| Crew                            | Milly Johnson, William Meyer,    |
|                                 | Tim Rust, Sosy Seay, David Sharp |

#### There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.

#### Photography, video or audio recording is prohibited during the performance

The 39 Steps is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

### A Note From the Director

There's been an old saying amongst actors for centuries, from David Garrick to W.C. Fields: "Comedy is a serious business."

When the news of the world is all too much, it can be tempting to withdraw from others and despair. This is where we meet Richard Hannay. By chance, he gets swept up in a whirlwind adventure that demands he fight against the odds for the good of humanity. Through it all, he manages to keep his sense of humor — even when it seems all is lost. To quote another comedy legend you may have heard of, a certain Mr. Roger Rabbit, "A laugh can be a very powerful thing. Sometimes in life, it's the only weapon we have." I encourage you to share a laugh with us, and with each other, as much and as often as you want. Both here, and everywhere else in this world you can find one.

Rachael Murray



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### The Cast



**Nathan Burns** (Richard Hannay) is delighted to find himself in your presence this evening! Last seen performing with The Young Americans Dinner Theater, he is excited to be back on the stage with such wonderful entertainers!



**David Fonville** (Foley Artist) graduated from Freed-Hardeman University with a theatre performance degree in 2020. Whether he is under the spotlight or serving as a stage manager or a foley artist, he's honored to be working on his fourth show with Watershed Public Theatre. He gives many thanks to his wonderful wife for supporting his creative endeavors. Past credits include *Romeo & Juliet* and *Anastasia*.



Jessica Fonville (Annabella Schmidt/Margaret/Pamela) is so excited to be in another show with Watershed Public Theatre! You may have recently seen her in *Little Women* (Jo) and *Anastasia* (Tatiana/Ensemble). She is happy to share the stage with her husband David and would like to say "thankoo" to her family and friends for their love and support!



**Max Fleischhacker** (Clown #1) was most recently seen as Nephew Fred in the Nashville Repertory Theatre's production of *A Christmas Carol*, but before that he was frequently seen in productions at Middle Tennessee State University, where he studied both theatre and music. In his time at MTSU he was seen in such roles as Sweeney Todd (*Sweeney Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street*), Captain

Black Stache (*Peter and the Starcatcher*), and Ernst Ludwig (*Cabaret*). Max is also an accomplished musician, having spent five years playing violin in the MTSU Symphony Orchestra and leading a bluegrass band at Cedar Point, where he performed as fiddle/mandolin player and as a vocalist. He is excited now to bring his talents to Watershed Public Theatre in his first production with the company.



**McKenna Steel** (Clown #2) is glad to once again be on the Watershed stage! *The 39 Steps* was one of her first professional productions she saw and she is glad to take part in such a fun play. Previous credits with WPT include *Robin Hood & Friends* (Maid Marian), *Anastasia* (Anya), *Romeo & Juliet* (Mercutio), and *Little Women* (Meg March). She would like to thank her wonderful cast and crew for this

incredible experience. Special thanks to her husband Christian Randell and her cat Nott for their constant love, support and kitty snuggles.

### The Production Team

**Justin Blackburn** (Technical Director) is excited to work on yet another production with Watershed Public Theatre. Prior to joining the WPT team, he was actively involved in Theatre Charlotte and worked a variety of jobs on several productions. In his spare time he enjoys thrifting, practicing magic and providing support for theatre programs in Middle Tennessee schools. He resides in Mount Pleasant with his amazing wife Joyce and dogs Ralphie and Rickie. Thank you for supporting local arts!

**Caleb Finley** (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be a part of *The 39 Steps*. Previously he has been Assistant Stage Manager for *Robin Hood* & *Friends, A Very Maury Christmas* and *Those Wicked Stepsisters*. On stage, he has been seen in WPT's *Anastasia* and was heard as the Sheriff of Nottingham in *Robin Hood* & *Friends*.

**Susan Gaw** (Stage Manager) has been in live entertainment for over 25 years, doing everything from dressing ice skaters at a theme park to traveling with Muppets across the country to working concerts to being a wife and mom! She'll let you guess which has been the most challenging. Thanks to Nate, Allison, and Adam for letting her live the dream!

**Dillon Hughes** (Sound Assistant) is a Memphis native with a background in live show production and audio engineering, both locally and on tour. He is a lifelong lover and occasional performer of live theatre, and is keen to be involved with Watershed Public Theatre as it grows and connects our neighbors with that same love of live performance.

**Sarah Kennedy** (Costume Assistant) is enjoying another Watershed Public Theatre experience. By day she is the director of Ghostlight Books in Spring Hill. In between peddling books, teaching, directing and keeping up with her son Benjamin and miscellaneous pets, she also advises for youth arts and education in multiple organizations regionally and nationally, including serving as WPT's Education & Outreach Manager.

**MaryAnne Luther** (Wig Stylist) has been creating costumes and historic garments for 25 years. When not making things she also enjoys gardening, exercising, and reading.



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### The Production Team (continued)

**Sara McLoud** (Costume Designer) is a Nashville-based reuse artist who loves to forage in thrift stores and other people's houses for the materials she needs. A native of Murfreesboro, TN, she studied costume and fashion design at Middle Tennessee State University. Her work was showcased in *American Tall Tales* (2004) and *Necessary Targets* (2005). She later worked in NYC designing *Underwear: A Space Musical* (2008) and running crew for Terrance McNally's *Some Men* (2007). Sara is delighted to be returning for her third WPT production after *Romeo and Juliet* and *Anastasia*. She currently resides in Nashville with her two children, Arthur and Beatrice, and her fiancé Alex Saylor.

**Rachael Murray** (Director) is a director and intimacy choreographer with ties to Virginia, Tennessee, DC, and New York. Selected Directing: *The Best Punk Band in Conway, Missouri* (UP Theater Company); *The Desk Set* (Fordham University); *#MomVlogLyfe* (The Tank); *The Right and Left Plays* (Elemental Women); *Sioux Falls* (Mead Theatre Lab); *ClickB@it* (Capital Fringe) and *R.U.R.* (Capital Fringe), *[title of show]* (Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre). Founding company member, Naked Theatre Company. www.rachaelwithanamurray.com. Thanks to Jared.

**Eva Orman-Garrett** (Lighting Designer) is a media specialist with a focus on lighting design and programming. She earned a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and holds an associate degree in video production. Much of her experience as a lighting designer was gained while working in Nashville as a concert technician. A lifelong Tennessean, she lives in Columbia with her partner and dog.

**Brad Oxnam** (Dialect Coach) is an actor, director, voice actor and acting coach who has worked with many local theatre companies, including several productions with Watershed Public Theatre. He previously coached dialects for WPT's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and directed last summer's *Romeo & Juliet*. MFA in Acting (University of Southern Mississippi).

**Zach Perkins** (Sound Designer/Assistant Technical Director) recently relocated to Columbia from Kansas. He has worked on several Watershed Public Theatre productions, including serving as Assistant Technical Director of *Anastasia* and *Robin Hood & Friends* and as Technical Director for *A Special Maury Christmas*. Local performance credits include *Romeo & Juliet* and *Those Wicked Stepsisters* with Watershed Public Theatre, as well as *Hamlet for Community Theatre*, *Inherit the Wind* and *Father of the Bride* with Maury County Arts Guild. He has enjoyed getting involved in local theatre and can't wait to do more!

### The Production Team (continued)

**Dani Rust** (Props Assistant) is a recent graduate of Middle Tennessee State University. Some of her shows from her time at MTSU include *Cabaret, Sense and Sensibility, Anon(ymous),* and *Ride the Cyclone*. She previously designed props for *Anastasia* and is excited to work on her second production with Watershed Public Theatre. She would like to thank everyone for their support of her theatre career.

**Krista Totten** (Scenic Painter) is a scenic artist who is honored to be working with Watershed Public Theatre. She previously worked with WPT on *Robin Hood & Friends, Anastasia, Those Wicked Stepsisters, Little Women, Pride and Prejudice, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* and *Alice in Wonderland.* She began painting sets in 2003 in Indianapolis with Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre. She studied under Kristopher Steege of Marian College. One of her favorite sets was for a childrens production, *The Curious Quest for the Sandman's Sand.* Krista sends a heartwarming thank-you to family and friends for supporting the local arts!

Jordan Tudor (Intimacy Choreographer) is a Middle Tennessee native and has performed at Street Theatre, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville Shakespeare Festival and Studio Tenn. She has a BFA in Musical Theatre from Roosevelt University in Chicago. When not working in theatre, she enjoys watching trashy TV, baking, attempting to grow vegetables, and playing with her dogs.

Watershed Public Theatre extends special thanks to the Tennessee Arts Commission and The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee for their generous support.







Watershed Public Theatre extends special thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their assistance and in-kind donations:

- Joyce Blackburn Columbia Academy Columbia State Community College Bob and Kathy Connors Josh Davis James and Judith Dodge Lili Eubank Ellen Foreman Ghostlight Books
- Dillon Hughes Sarah Kennedy Mt. Pleasant Middle School Theater Department Eva Orman-Garrett Theresa Sharp Dr. Janet Smith Jo Twaddle Vanderbilt University Theatre Bill Williams

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