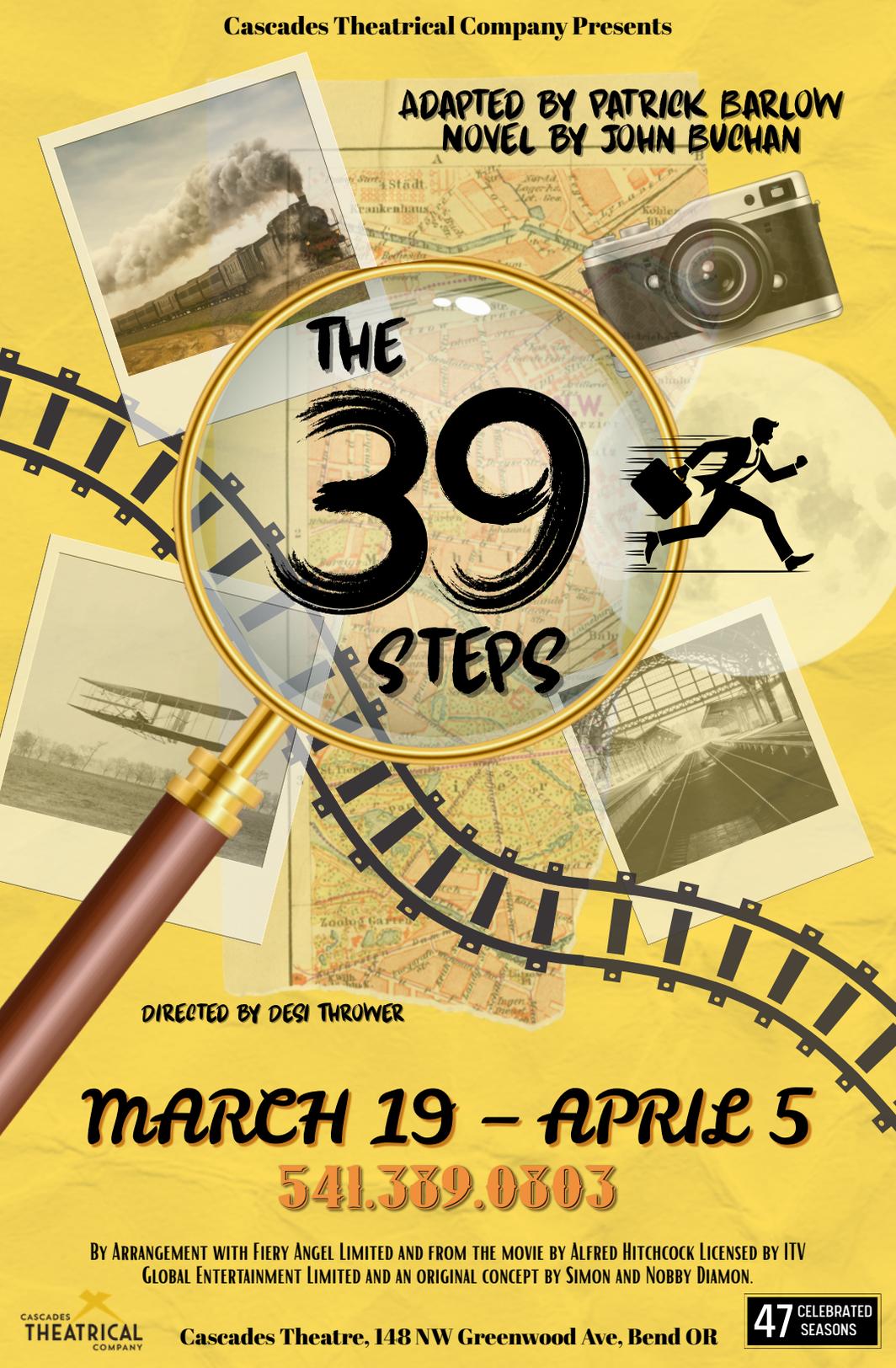


Cascades Theatrical Company Presents

ADAPTED BY PATRICK BARLOW  
NOVEL BY JOHN BUCHAN



THE  
39  
STEPS

DIRECTED BY DESI THROWER

MARCH 19 - APRIL 5  
541.389.0803

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH FIERY ANGEL LIMITED AND FROM THE MOVIE BY ALFRED HITCHCOCK LICENSED BY ITV  
GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT LIMITED AND AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY SIMON AND NOBBY DIAMON.

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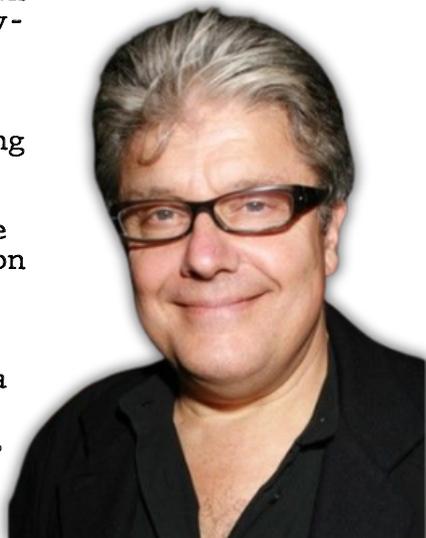
Cascades Theatre, 148 NW Greenwood Ave, Bend OR

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# ABOUT THE WRITER

## ADAPTED BY PATRICK BARLOW

Patrick Barlow is a British actor, comedian, and playwright best known for adapting the novel "The Thirty-Nine Steps" into the hit stage comedy *The 39 Steps*. Born in England in 1947, Barlow began his career in comedy and radio, gaining recognition as the creator and performer behind the spoof religious program National Theatre of Brent. His theatrical adaptation of *The 39 Steps* premiered in 2005 and became an international success, known for its fast-paced humor and inventive staging with a small cast playing many roles. Barlow has also written for radio, television, and stage, and has performed extensively as a comedian and actor.



## NOVEL BY JOHN BUCHAN

John Buchan (1875-1940) was a Scottish novelist, historian, and public official best known for writing the adventure thriller *The Thirty-Nine Steps*. Born in Scotland, Buchan studied at the University of Oxford and went on to have a successful career in writing, politics, and public service. He wrote numerous novels and historical works, often focusing on espionage and adventure. *The Thirty-Nine Steps* introduced the character Richard Hannay and became one of the earliest and most influential spy thrillers. Later in life, Buchan served as the Governor General of Canada from 1935 until his death in 1940, while also continuing his work as an author.



# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Originally adapted by Patrick Barlow from the novel by John Buchan and the classic film by Alfred Hitchcock, *The 39 Steps* is a theatrical love letter to suspense, cinema, and the joy of pure storytelling. Our production embraces the play's unique blend of high-stakes espionage and low-tech theatrical invention.

At its heart, *The 39 Steps* is a story about an ordinary man swept into extraordinary circumstances. Richard Hannay's journey from boredom to breathless adventure unfolds at breakneck speed. Rather than grounding the play in gritty realism, we lean fully into its theatricality. This is not a film on stage—it is a celebration of what only live theatre can do.

Four actors play dozens of roles, conjuring trains, planes, chases, and vast Scottish landscapes with minimal props and maximum imagination. My guiding thought throughout rehearsals has been: How can we make the audience complicit in the magic? The humor lands best when the mechanics are visible—when steamer trunks and ladders become a train, when a singular door frame opens to many adventures, when a single lighting shift transforms London into the Highlands.

Physical comedy is central. The two "clowns" (who play every supporting character) operate with choreographic precision, often switching roles in a split second. Timing is everything. We've drawn inspiration from silent film traditions and vaudeville rhythms, reflecting the era of the original 1935 Hitchcock film.

Our set is intentionally spare, flexible, and suggestive rather than literal. A handful of trunks, ladders, and platforms become the entire world. This minimalism invites the audience to complete the picture with their imagination.

Costumes support rapid transformation. Small but distinct character markers—a hat, a coat, a scarf—allow actors to pivot instantly between roles. Lighting and sound act almost as additional characters, propelling the pace and heightening tension when needed.

## A Note to the Audience

This production asks you to lean in, to suspend disbelief with us. When you see an actor sprint in circles to suggest a chase, or diving through a window that doesn't exist, you are witnessing theatre in its purest form – collaborative, inventive, alive. Thank you for joining us on this madcap journey across moors, trains, and secret organizations. Buckle up – the adventure moves quickly. And remember sometimes the simplest staging creates the most thrilling ride.

**DESI THROWER, DIRECTOR**

# PLAY SYNOPSIS

The fast-paced comedic mystery follows the journey of Richard Hannay, an ordinary man who becomes embroiled in an extraordinary adventure filled with espionage, murder, and romance. As Hannay flees from both the police and a mysterious organization, he encounters a delightful array of quirky characters, including a charming femme fatale and an array of eccentric villains.

## SETTING

1930s London and  
the Scottish Highlands

## ADVISORIES

This production contains strobe lighting and flashing light effects that may affect patrons who are sensitive to light.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited. If taking photos, please be mindful of other patrons and NO flash photography.

# THE CAST

Anabella/Pamela/Margaret...Whitney Garner  
Richard Hannay.....John Alan Hulbert  
Clown.....Don Delach  
Clown.....Daniel Witty

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive Director.....Christine Mehner  
Director.....Desi Thrower  
Assistant Director.....Perry Scott Schwarz  
Stage Manager.....Sienna Moreau  
Costume Designer.....Babette Lary  
Technical Director & Set.....Kyle Pollitt  
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Special Guest Musician Dianne Hayes and  
special thanks to Bill Alsdurf

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# MEET THE CAST



## WHITNEY GARNER AS ANABELLA/PAMELA/MARGARET

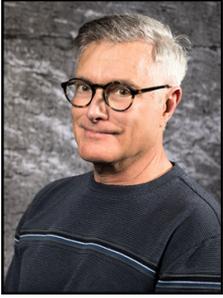
This is Whitney's fourth show at CTC and it has been such an honor to work with this amazing cast and crew! She was recently on stage with CTC in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *Grand Horizons*, and in *Tiny Beautiful Things* with Ellipse Theatre Community. Whitney would like to thank the whole team behind *The 39 Steps*, as well as her husband for his support. She can confidently say "this is the show you want to see, inspector," and hopes you enjoy every minute!



## JOHN ALAN HULBERT AS RICHARD HANNAY

John Alan Hulbert is an actor/filmmaker who works in film, television, commercials, theatre, and immersive performance. He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Performance from Southern Oregon University and now works in making his own productions through his company Panophobia! Haunted Home Movies, alongside traveling between Oregon and California to perform professionally. You may have seen John Alan at CTC as Eddie McCuen in *The Musical Comedy Murders of the 1940s*. Other theatre credits include Peter in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Leaf Coneybear in *Spelling Bee*, Gibson/Mr. Burns in *Mr. Burns*, and his Irene Ryan Award nominated performance as Moritz in *Spring Awakening*. He'd like to thank the cast, crew, his family, Mari, and teachers in guiding his passions through storytelling.

# MEET THE CAST



## DON DELACH AS CLOWN

Don Delach taught middle school Science and Drama for 36 years and now putters with his greatest fan, Michael, on their farm in Powell Butte. Don has directed or acted in 40 local productions including *Voicelless-A Musical*, *Rent*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Shooting Star*, and *Les Miserables*. Every night, he delights in the tomfoolery that Desi and her team encouraged and nurtured from the start. Clowning around with these three fresh-faced, exceedingly talented actors has made him feel 10 years younger...you know, almost as young as their parents. And what a bonus it is for him to work with John Alan, one of his favorite middle school acting students from over 15 years ago!



## DANIEL WITTY AS CLOWN

Daniel is a Central Oregon native who was bitten by the acting bug at an early age. You might think "if he's been doing it for so long, why isn't he better at it?" with which he would agree, but not answer the question and likely deflect with humor. Daniel's previous productions include *Rumors*, *Proof*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and many others. Daniel is elated to be able to work with this incredible cast and crew. This marks the first time he and his BFF (Best Freaking Friend) John Alan have been on stage together in a decade, and he is grateful for the opportunity to share the space with him and his fiancé Sienna once more.

# MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM



## DESI THROWER - DIRECTOR

Desi has been acting, directing, and producing for many years in both community and repertory theatre. As a director, Desi has brought over 35 productions to the stage including *Night Watch*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Miracle Worker*, and most recently at CTC, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Grand Horizons*. She also co-directed this past summer's *Rock of Ages* for Theater in the Park. Since moving to Bend 5 years ago, Desi acted in roles at CTC including *Murder on the Orient Express* (Helen Hubbard), *You Can't Take It With You* (Penny), and *Sylvia* (Phyllis). Desi was the Mayor/Ensemble in Theatre in the Park's production of *Spamalot* and played Mistress Quickly in Guerrilla Shakespeare Co.'s *Merry Wives of Windsor*. In addition, Desi is a featured player in the upcoming film *Bampire*. She would like to thank this incredible cast and crew for their dedication and talent.



## PERRY SCOTT SCHWARZ - AD

Assistant Directing *The 39 Steps* under Desi Thrower, alongside this remarkable cast, is an opportunity that excites me on many levels. Experiencing the creative process from the other side of the table offers perspective that can only strengthen an actor's craft. After four consecutive productions—Bill French in *Grand Horizons*, Doc Baugh in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Dennis Dupree in *Rock of Ages*, and Scrooge in *Ebenezer Scrooge's Big Bend Christmas Show* — I am especially grateful for the trust placed in me. It is both an honor and a joy to support, learn from, and collaborate with such a talented and dedicated cast and crew.



## SIENNA MOREAU - STAGE MANAGER

Sienna is so grateful to be able to work with such an amazing team on this fun show. She's glad to help foster an environment in which people can smile and feel joy. Most recently, she stage managed and assistant directed *Proof*. She's thankful for the support from her fiancé, the cuddles from her cats, and the fun times with this wonderful group!

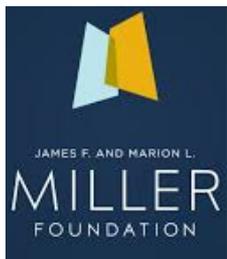
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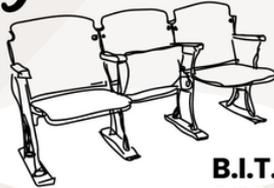
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