



Market House Theatre

November 2011 Off Stage Noises

We don't just entertain... We change lives!

Comic thriller opens November 20th!

Gunshots, murder, and dastardly plots; thrilling chases and serious flirtation; all are a part of the upcoming Tony Award winning script of **The 39 Steps** at Market House Theatre, November 10-20. Market House Theatre is fortunate to be among the first community theaters to produce this play for public enjoyment. *The 39 Steps* is an adaptation of the 1935 film of the same name by Alfred Hitchcock. The play is adapted by Patrick Barlow from the novel by John Buchan, with the original concept created by Nobby Dimon and Simon Corble.

The cast of four plays over 140 characters in this fact-paced comedy thriller that's great fun for ages 9 to 90. **Fowler Black** (Paducah Visitors and Convention Bureau, *The Wizard of Oz*) plays Richard Hannay who learns from a beautiful spy, **Heather Tomko** (AEP River Operations, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*), about a plot of international espionage. The spy is killed in Hannay's flat and he suddenly finds himself caught up in a race from London to Scotland in hopes of stopping secrets from being smuggled out of the country. All three female roles are played by **Tomko**. The remaining multitude of characters (spies, policemen, inn keepers, traveling salesmen, etc.) are played by just two actors, **Roy Hensel** (Hendron Lone Oak elementary school teacher, *Over the Tavern*) and Landon Baker (MSU student, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*).

The play remains very close to the film, particularly in its fast-paced timing. Using ingenious theatrical devices, the stage goes instantly from a scene on a train to a plane crash, transforms into a luxurious Scottish manor and then a London flat, or suddenly becomes the London Palladium. Also occurring at breakneck speed are over 100 costume changes, which often happen right before the audience in the blink of an eye.

The New York Times reported, "Fast and frothy, performed by a cast of four that seems like a cast of thousands... Theater at its finest." Plan on being surprised, amused, and in the end, well-entertained as you witness Alfred Hitchcock's special brand of romance, intrigue, and espionage performed at its best.

Directing *The 39 Steps* is Market House Theatre's Executive Director, **Michael Cochran**. Assistant Director/Stage Manager is **Denise Bristol**. Production crew includes Jim Keeney, Lisa Humphrey, Jim Roush, Diane Byrd, and Kris Shanks.

The production runs November 10-20, 2011, with shows at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday afternoons. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students 21 and under. **There will be one Saturday matinee at 2:30 p.m. on November 19th, with all tickets being \$15.** To purchase tickets, contact the Market House Theatre Box Office at (270) 444-6828 between noon and 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or go online any time to www.mhtplay.com.



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www.mhtplay.com

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KENTUCKY Arts Council The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency, provides operational support funding for Market House Theatre with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.



MURDER AT THE COMPANY CHRISTMAS PARTY



MHT Dinner Theatre

December 8 & 9, 2011

6:30 p.m. Tickets

\$35



Looking for something a little different to celebrate the holidays with friends! Acme Products is facing a hostile takeover and tensions run high when Ray Takeover Tackett himself shows up at the company Christmas party. Who will lose their job? Who is forming alliances with whom? Suddenly, someone dies before your eyes.....but who is the murderer? What is the motive? It is up to you and your tablemates to determine who did the dastardly deed.

Join us **Thursday or Friday, December 8 or 9 at 6:30 p.m.** as the Market House Theatre Murder For Hire Troupe presents *Murder at the Company Christmas Party* in the main theatre. The chairs will be out and tables moved in so that you may enjoy a dinner of Roast Beef, Poppy Seed Chicken, 3 vegetables, rolls, tea, and dessert prepared by Neil's Catering. Beer and wine will be available at our cash bar.

Tickets are \$35 and are available at the box office at (270) 444-6828 or online at www.mhtplay.com. Please make your reservation before 5:00 p.m. December 7th.

Add a little mystery to your holiday season!



GIFT IDEAS FROM MARKET HOUSE THEATRE:

A mini-subscription for the last 3 shows of the season: the hunting comedy *Escanaba in da Moonlight* January 12-22, the romantic comedy *Getting Sara Married* in April, and the effervescent *Hairspray* in June. The cost for a reserved seat mini subscription is only \$51.

A gift certificate in any amount.

MHT note cards, car tags, and fabulous Bill Ford prints!

A donation to the theatre to honor your favorite MHT devotee! Your gift and the honoree will be acknowledged in the MHT playbill for one year....until next Christmas! You may call the box office to make your gift by phone (444-6828) or mail a check noting the honoree to 132 Market House Square, Paducah KY 42001.

Annual Campaign

Market House Theatre is extremely grateful to our donors who help bridge the gap between ticket sales and expenses so that we can offer first-rate community theatre and educational programming in area schools. **This year's fundraising goal is very ambitious**, so we need the continued support of our long-time, faithful donors, as well as that of new donors who appreciate the work we do.

We are facing some challenging unexpected expenses this year, what with water damage from the heavy rains last spring, the demise of the compressor on the theatre's main air conditioning unit, and the near death of our lighting system. We would greatly appreciate your help.