

Issue No 4



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R E P E R T O I R E

Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group



Robert Louis Stevenson's

TREASURE ISLAND



Adapted by Bryony Lavery
Directed by Megan Dansie

With Jim we go on a swashbuckling and gruesomely comic adventure for all the family. We meet Long John Silver, a motley crew of pirates, and of course, a parrot. Armed with a treasure map, Jim and the crew of the Hispaniola brave the stormy seas to reach Treasure Island.

BOOK NOW at www.adelaiderep.com for:
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R E P E R T O I R E

Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

TREASURE ISLAND

Adelaide Repertory Theatre
presents

Treasure Island

Written by Robert Louis Stevenson

Adapted by Bryony Lavery

Directed by Megan Dansie

Suitable for ages 12+

It's a dark and stormy night.
The stars are out. Jim, the
inn-keeper's granddaughter,
opens the door to a terrifying
stranger.

At the old sailor's feet sits
a huge sea-chest, full of
secrets.

Jim invites him in and her dangerous voyage begins.

Jim Hawkins in this version is now Jemima, but she
refuses to conform to either gender stereotype.

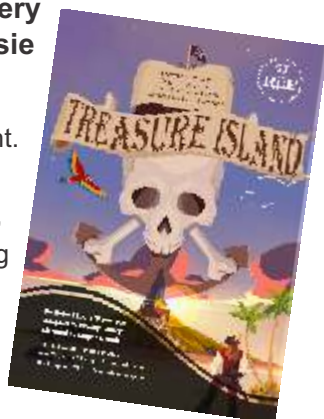
Her desire of adventure takes over as she resolves to
find the treasure of legendary Captain Flint. Armed with
a treasure map, Jim and the crew of the Hispaniola
brave the stormy seas to reach Treasure Island.

With Jim we go on a swashbuckling and gruesomely
comic adventure for all the family. We meet Long John
Silver, a motley crew of pirates, and of course, a parrot.

This new adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's
classic pirate adventure was first performed at Britain's
National Theatre. It has a fresh take on the classic
story, thrilling, streamlined, and filled with music and
humour.

Lavery's script follows the basic plot of Robert Louis
Stevenson's book, yet offers some much needed
modernisation. Jim Hawkins becomes tomboy Jemima
Hawkins and Lavery adds in several light-hearted jokes
about this switch.

Although the novel may have been intended for
children, Lavery's adaptation will instill a childlike
feeling of adventure into any adult in the audience.



CAST

Sophie Livingston-Pearce as Jim and Stuart Pearce
as Long John Silver in this ripping adventure for the
whole family.

Aided by a cast of gnarly marauding pirates Ben
Todd, Lindsay Dunn, Bronwyn Ruciak, Brian Godfrey,
Jenny Allan, Rebecca Kemp, Heather Crawford, Brad
Martin, Frederick Pincombe, Jacqui Maynard, Damien
White, Thorin Cupit, Rose Vallen, Mike Leach, Thomas
Miden, Ryan Ricci, Maxwell Whigham, Leah Lowe
and Matthew Chapman as Captain Flint the parrot.

FAMILY AFFAIR

It's a family affair for the two actors playing the pivotal
roles of Jim and Long John Silver. Daughter and father
Sophie Livingston-Pearce and Stuart Pearce have
been cast into these roles.



Whilst they have both done a lot of theatre separately,
it's the first time that they have acted together. Stuart
says that it's been a lot of fun. "Sophie is seeing a
different side of me!" he laughs.

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SET SAIL FOR ADVENTURE IN NOVEMBER AT THE ARTS THEATRE!

Join young Jim Hawkins and friends as they set sail on a perilous journey to uncover buried treasure. With pirates, mutiny, and a mysterious one-legged sailor named Long John Silver, this gripping tale unfolds on a treacherous island where alliances shift and secrets abound.

"This adaptation by Bryony Lavery keeps the spirit and much of the plot of the novel, but makes it not just a boy's story, but a story for all young people and grown-ups," says director, Megan Dansie. "Jim is now Jemima, and new female characters are introduced."



Some of the most famous pirates were women, such as Ann Bonney and Mary Read and Lavery has taken inspiration from them in introducing a more modern gender mix to the cast."

The production, which is the South Australian premiere of the acclaimed National Theatre play, features sword fights, sea shanties and puppets as the cast of twenty (and birds) sail the high seas to adventure.

So buckle that swash, hoist the mainsail and prepare to be transported to a world of high seas, hidden maps, and daring escapades in this captivating and unforgettable theatrical experience. *'Treasure Island'* promises an exhilarating voyage that will leave you on the edge of your seat from start to finish.

Shiver my timbers! *'Treasure Island'* is being brought to life in a new adaptation at the ARTS Theatre by playwright Bryony Lavery. Robert Louis Stevenson's novel about the adventures of Jim Hawkins - a coming of age story of treachery and treasure - is on stage from November 16 – 25 2023.

For media enquiries please contact:

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Book tickets at adelaiderep.com



First published in the 1880s, *'Treasure Island'* has been enthusiastically received in words, on the stage and in film by generations of boys, girls and grown-ups. The story, largely told in the first person, tells of Jim Hawkins's discovery of a treasure map, and his adventure as a cabin boy on board the *Hispaniola* and the murderous events on Treasure Island itself. It's a classic bildungsroman (a literary genre that focuses on the psychological and moral growth of the protagonist from childhood to adulthood (*coming of age*), in which character change is important), charting Jim's development from innocent youth to adulthood and his experiences of friendship, bravery and honour.



Support The Rep!

Adelaide Repertory Theatre is the oldest surviving amateur theatre company in the Southern Hemisphere.

We rely on the generous support of our members, patrons and the public to be able to provide four dramatic shows a year and to host other theatre groups and the community who use the facilities at the ARTS Theatre. Donations to the Adelaide Repertory Theatre are tax deductible. You will receive an email receipt upon your donation which can be used for tax purposes.

To donate go to Support Us on our website www.adelaiderep.com



The Director Megan Dansie

Megan has been involved in theatre for over 50 years, although she can't quite believe that figure is correct. She started with the Bunyip Children's Theatre mainly playing animals and old women. Her acting experience is varied, including Elizabeth Proctor in *'The Crucible'*, Jodie in *'Don's Party'*, Mrs Mercy in *'The Killing of Sister George'* and most recently as Lady Markby in *'An Ideal Husband'*.



Megan has a particular love for Shakespeare, even though he has very few pirates. She has directed many award-winning shows, including *'The Crucible'* (Burnside Players) *'The Pillowman'* (UATG), and *'Richard III'* (UTAG). Her most recent play for the Rep was the popular *'A Christmas Carol'*.



The Adelaide Repertory Theatre Inc.

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

Venue: ARTS Theatre, 53 Angas St, Adelaide 5000

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The author Robert Louis Stevenson

Robert Louis Stevenson (born Robert Lewis Balfour Stevenson; 13 November 1850 – 3 December 1894) was a Scottish novelist, essayist, poet and travel writer. He is best known for works such as *'Treasure Island'*, *'Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'*, *'Kidnapped'* and *'A Child's Garden of Verses'*.



Born and educated in Edinburgh, Stevenson suffered from serious bronchial trouble for much of his life, but continued to write prolifically and travel widely in defiance of his poor health. As a young man, he mixed in London literary circles, receiving encouragement from Andrew Lang, Edmund Gosse, Leslie Stephen and W. E. Henley, the last of whom may have provided the model for Long John Silver in *'Treasure Island'*. In 1890, he settled in Samoa where, alarmed at increasing European and American influence in the South Sea islands, his writing turned away from romance and adventure fiction toward a darker realism. He died of a stroke in his island home in 1894 aged 44.

A celebrity in his lifetime, Stevenson's critical reputation has fluctuated since his death, though today his works are held in general acclaim. In 2018, he was ranked, just behind Charles Dickens, as the 26th-most-translated author in the world.

WANT TO EAT BEFORE THE SHOW?
Here is a great offer for Rep patrons

The Wakefield Hotel on Wakefield Street
offers 50% off the 2nd meal when you
produce your Rep tickets

Message from President David Sinclair



As we approach the end of another wonderful year of theatre, I would like to personally thank all the amazing people who enable the REP to continue to produce live theatre in the heart of our great city of Adelaide (recently named the "coolest" city in Australia).

Thank you to all our amazing production teams, talented cast members, bump in and backstage crews, our friendly front of house and bar crews who all volunteer their valuable time. Without the generous support and dedication of our volunteers, the REP simply could not operate.

This year has seen several changes to the Board membership. Rose Vallen continues her REP involvement working tirelessly as our Office Manager. I cannot thank her enough for everything she does.

It is fair to say, the REP finds itself at a critical juncture. We are the only amateur theatre company in South Australia (possibly Australia) which also owns and operates a significant theatre venue in the CBD of a capital city. The ARTS theatre is the home to so many other amateur theatre companies. Our decisions and plans not only concern our beloved REP but also have a direct impact on community theatre more broadly.

As owners of The Arts Theatre, the Board recognizes we have an obligation to continue to provide a venue which meets the needs of our hirers as well as those of our theatre patrons now and into the future. We must also ensure we continue to comply with all relevant government safety and building regulations.

Over the first 60 years of its life, a conservative estimate of individual productions mounted at the ARTS would be in excess of 1,200 plays and musicals. It is arguably the most heavily used theatre in South Australia with fewer dark nights than other "mainstream" professional theatres such as the Her Majesty Theatre, Festival Theatre and Dunstan Playhouse.

Unfortunately, not everybody is able to experience live theatre at The Arts. We believe we have a responsibility to all theatregoers to provide a fully accessible theatre so that everyone can feel welcome, comfortable and safe whilst attending a production.

To that aim, we are in the process of developing a Master Plan for "The Arts Theatre Accessibility Redevelopment Project". We are still in the early stages and are in discussion and consultation with key stakeholders, architects and other interested parties.

This is going to be a very costly project and we will be looking to raise funds through all avenues including Donations, Grants, Bequests and other campaigns. The REP cannot fund the redevelopment from general operations and therefore we are relying on the Government, The Adelaide City Council, Businesses, our Hirers, individuals and organizations and the corporate sector to help.

The original construction of theatre was funded by a Building Fund Appeal, now known as "crowd sourced funding". The people of Adelaide came together and built a theatre. We are asking South Australians to donate again to help keep the ARTS alive in Adelaide.

If you would like to hear more about the project or if you would like to provide support in any way, please let us know via email on enquiries@adelaiderrep.com

Thank you for your continued support of The REP and The ARTS theatre.

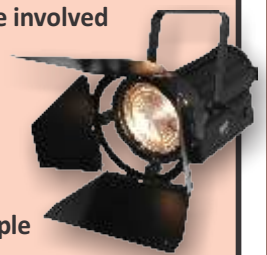
Become Involved Why not be part of the Rep Team

You don't need to be an actor to be involved with the Rep.

Every production is supported by teams of behind the scenes volunteers.

We need people who can prompt, paint, design, construct, show people to their seats; move sets, or sew costumes.

People who like to play with sound and lights, people to make tea and iron costumes.



Email your details to
enquiries@adelaiderrep.com

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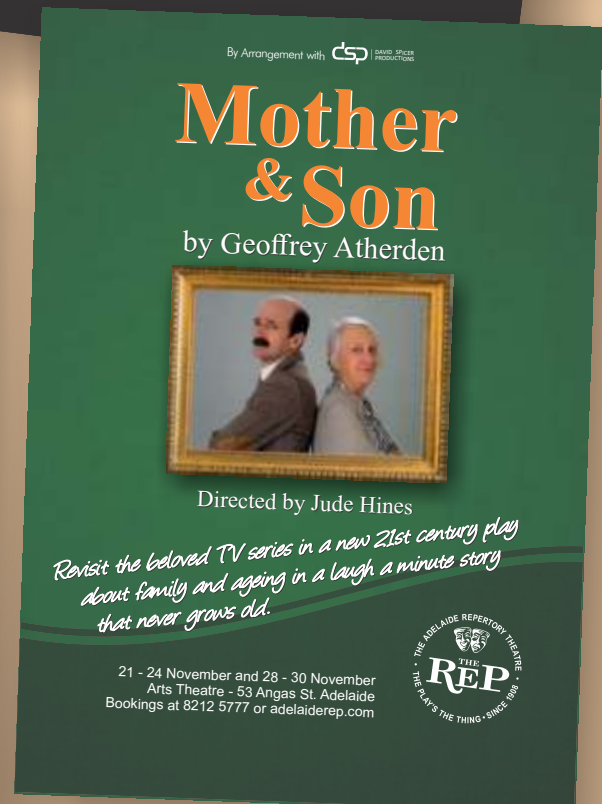
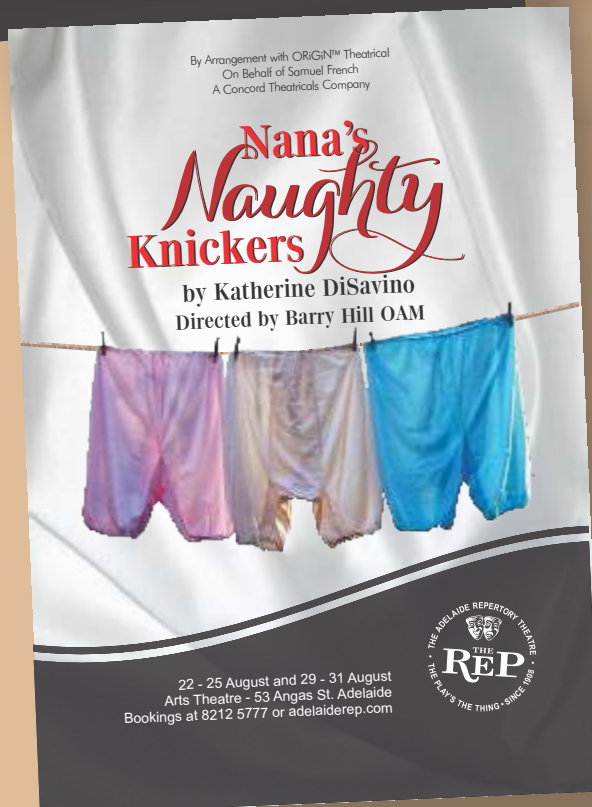
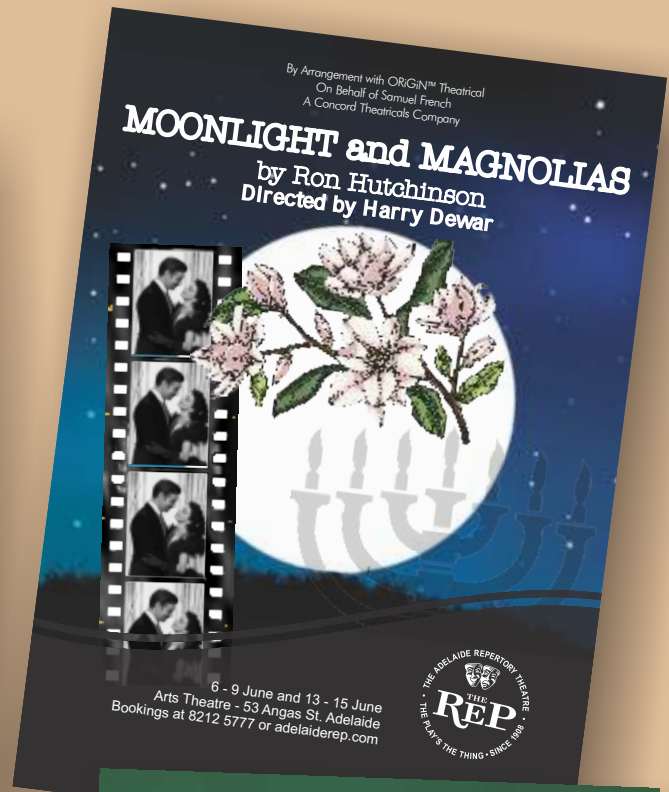
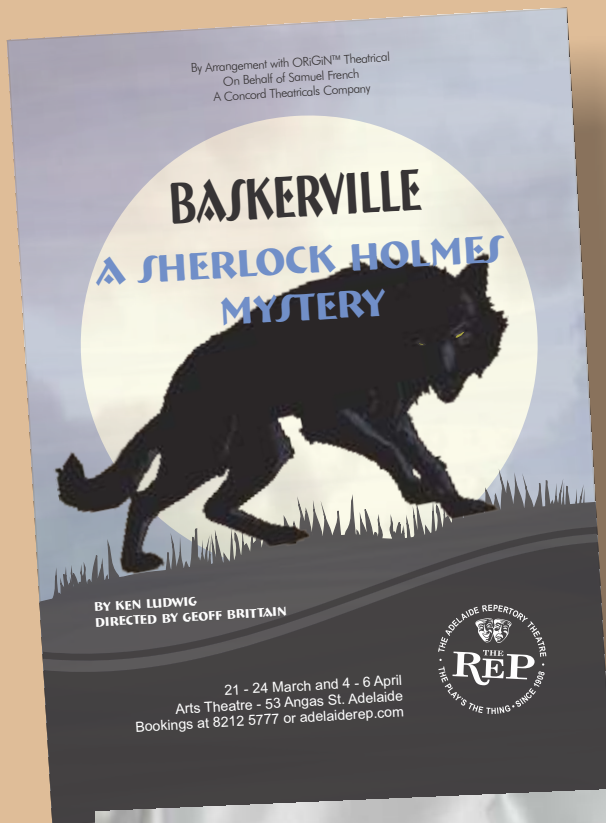
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The Rep's productions



for 2024