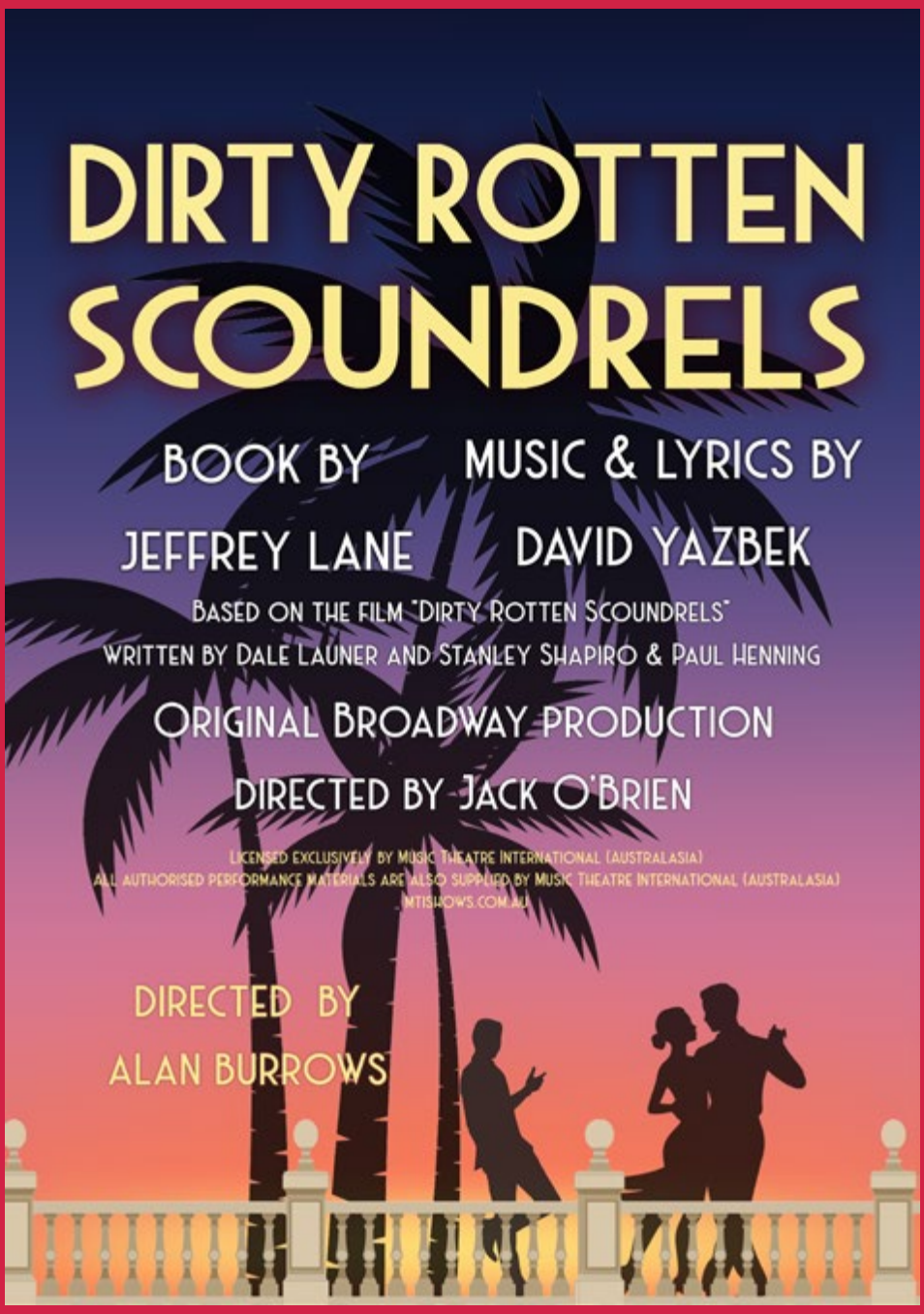
malvern theatre company

is proud to present its 386th major production



23 October – 7 November 2026

Director's Notes

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels is a kind of 'buddy-grifter-screwball' comedy with music. It's a preposterous confection of low life skullduggery and scheming that is a laugh-out-loud joy. The story is catapulted into an entertainment realm of guaranteed outrageous wit and verve. Think of vulgar, daring turn of phrase, and rhyme – material to match the low life world of this gang of 'crooks' on the Riviera and, remember back, when you laughed out loud. This show has been a joy to put together and I am indebted to our collaborative, supportive production team that has made this show such fun to be part of.

Setting

Beaumont-sur-Mer, a fictional, sun-drenched resort town tucked away on the ultra-luxurious French Riviera. A timeless, mid-century golden era of high-society glamour, sleek casinos, and elite con artistry.

The Cast

Lawrence Jameson.....Phil Lambert

Freddie Benson.....Rob Blowers

Christine Colgate.....Madeleine Magetti

Andre Thibault.....Tim Murphy

Muriel Eubanks.....Lauren Seymour

Jolene.....Gabi Bergman

Ensemble.....Gaynor Borlase

Ensemble.....Abby James

Ensemble.....Jess Lowman

Ensemble.....Garry Barcham

Ensemble.....Horatio Yen

It is strictly forbidden for audience members to make any form of recording of this production.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

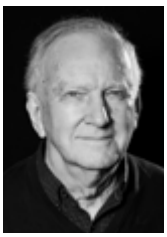
Produced on Broadway by Marty Bell, David Brown, Aldo Scrofani, Roy Furman, Dede Harris, Amanda Lipitz, Greg Smith, Ruth Hendel, Chase Mishkin, Barry and Susan Tatelman, Debra Black, Sharon Karmazin, Joyce Schweickert, Bernie Abrams/Michael Speyer, Barbara Whitman, Weissberger Theatre Group/Jay Harris, Cheryl Wiesenfield/Jean Cheever, Clear Channel Entertainment and Harvey Weinstein.

In association with MGM On Stage/Darcie Denkert & Dean Stolber.

World premiere at the Old Globe Theatre, San Diego, California Artistic Director: Jack O'Brien/Executive Director: Louis G. Spisto.

Orchestrations by Harold Wheeler; Vocal music arrangements by Ted Sperling/David Yazbek; Dance music arrangements by Zane Mark.

The performance will last for approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes, including a 20-minute interval.



ALAN BURROWS – *Director*

Alan has worked for over 55 years in all facets of theatre, including musicals, operas, pantomimes and straight plays, with an array of credits that total well over 237. His directing highlights include *Mame*, *42nd Street*, *Still Alice*, *1776* and *Educating Rita*. Alan has won several VDL, Lyrebird and Music Theatre Guild Awards, and in 2013 he was inducted into the Lyrebirds Hall of Fame for Services to Community Theatre. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* marks his fifty-seventh production, and his ninth in cooperation with Malvern Theatre Company. Alan is also proud to be the current President of Lilydale Athanæum Theatre and a Life Member of the Company.



JEFFREY LANE – *Book*

Jeffrey Lane was most recently represented on Broadway by his work with David Yazbek for the musical version of Pedro Almodóvar's *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*. His work for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* earned him both Tony and Drama Desk nominations, as well as the Drama League Award for Best Musical. Perhaps best known for such television programs as *Mad About You*, *Ryan's Hope*, *Lou Grant*, *Cagney & Lacey*, *The AFI Life Achievement Awards*, *The Tony Awards*, *The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd*, and the miniseries *The Murder of Mary Phagan*, he was the winner of five Emmy Awards, three Writers Guild Awards, two Peabodys, a Golden Globe and the Christopher Award, and the relatively good-natured loser of many more. According to imdb.com, he also played Clarice's father in the film *The Silence of the Lambs*. But he didn't. Jeffrey Lane passed away on May 20, 2026.



DAVID YAZBEK – *Music & Lyrics*

A varied career as a recording artist, screenwriter, music producer and pianist has somehow led Yazbek to a career on Broadway. His 6 shows, *The Full Monty*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Women on The Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*, *Tootsie*, *The Band's Visit* and *Dead Outlaw* were all Tony nominated for Best Score and Best Musical. Yazbek won the Tony for Best Score for *The Band's Visit*. He has also won an Emmy (for Outstanding Writing on *Late Night with David Letterman*) and 2 Grammys (for producing the original cast albums of *Buena Vista Social Club* and *The Band's Visit*.) His various shows have won him an Obie, several Drama Desk awards, NY Outer Critics Circle awards, and many others. *The Fully Monty* won him the Drama Desk Award for Best Music. As a recording artist, Yazbek is responsible for five albums: *The Laughing Man*, *Tock*, *Damascus*, *Tape Recorder* and *Evil Monkey Man*. Yazbek scored the final season of HBO's *BOARDWALK EMPIRE*, scored and performed the music for Larry David's Broadway hit *Fish in the Dark*, and built an Ikea storage shelf all by himself.



MARK CLUNING – *Musical Director*

Mark has previously appeared on-stage at Lilydale Athanæum Theatre in *The Game's Afoot*, *Moon Over Buffalo* and *Fracked! or: Please Don't Use the F-word*. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* marks his Musical Director debut, and he would like to thank the company for giving him the license to take it on. He has enjoyed working with such a talented and dedicated cast.



NICOLE KAPINIARIS-ANSON – *Choreographer*

Nicole is delighted to have worked alongside this stellar production team in her second Lilydale Athanæum Theatre production, and first as choreographer. Nicole's most recent and memorable stage credits include 'Dorothy Brock' in *42nd Stree*t (Babirra), 'Nickie' in *Sweet Charity* (MDMS), 'Rosalie Mullins' in *School of Rock* (Windmill Theatre Company) – Lyrebird Nomination, 'Dr Greenbaum/Bunny Caldwell' in *Cruel Intentions: The 90's Musical* (Phoenix TC), 'Tanya' in *Mamma Mia!* (Babirra) - MTGV Award, 'Oz' in *We Will Rock You* (Phoenix TC) – Lyrebird Award, and 'Baroness/Miss Phillips' in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Babirra). Nicole is proud to hold a BA in Music Theatre Performance from the former University of Ballarat (2004).



FRANCESCA CARL – *Assistant Director*

After many years of performing onstage, Francesca has joined the production team for the first time. She has previously appeared in productions of *The Deep Blue Sea*, *Still Alice*, *Moon Over Buffalo* and *The Game's Afoot* at Lilydale Athanæum Theatre. It has been a privilege for Francesca to support such a talented cast and to work within a process that has reinforced for her the value of collaboration, respect and care in theatre.



COLIN PROHASKY – *Music Supervisor*

Colin has provided unique solutions to media and theatrical productions around Melbourne, working in various musical and technical roles, since the Apollo missions. Colin has rearranged whole music scores where necessary to suit performances in smaller venues such as Lilydale, Malvern and Brighton Theatres. He has also composed choral and orchestral music for dozens of short films and been commissioned to arrange music for singers and television bands. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* is packed with complex Latin rhythms, rapid-fire lyrical pacing and Vaudevillian musical jokes.

The Cast



PHIL LAMBERT – *Lawrence Jameson*

Phil made his Malvern Theatre Company debut aged 19 in the small role of 'Felix the waiter' in Noël Coward's *A Song at Twilight.* His Malvern appearances since then have been as 'Stefan' in *Ladies in Black* and 'Billy' in *Lovesong.* Recent shows elsewhere include *Other Desert Cities* (Heidelberg Theatre Company) and Max Meaden's *The Last Parma Night* (Chapel off Chapel). For ANAM he has written and performed *Bach Diaries* and narrated Schoenberg's *Ode to Napoleon Buonaparte*. Phil wishes to assure patrons that if he meets them in the foyer after the performance, he will not relieve them of their valuables.



MADELEINE MAGETTI – *Christine Colgate*

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels marks Madeleine's debut with Malvern Theatre Company. Previous theatrical highlights include 'Charity Hope Valentine' *Sweet Charity* - MDMS, MTGV and Lyrebird nominations, 'Velma Kelly' *Chicago* (Parklife Productions), 'Fastrada' *Pippin* (Parklife Productions), 'Lois Lane' *Kiss Me, Kate* (GSOV), 'Cha Cha DiGregorio' *Grease* (Babirra) – Lyrebird nomination, *Nice Work if You Can Get It* (CLOC) and 'Ann, "Anytime Annie" Reilly' *42nd Street* (Babirra). Professional dance credits include *Broadway and Beyond* (Company A), *La Traviata* (Victorian Opera), *The Pearl Fishers* (Melbourne Opera), *Danse Bacchanale* (Regional Chamber Ballet) and the feature film, *The Very Excellent Mr. Dundee*. By day, Madeleine works as a psychologist.



ROB BLOWERS – *Freddie Benson*

Rob is an actor, singer, songwriter, and director who has worked in the Melbourne theatre circuit for the past ten years in both musical theatre and plays. Most recently, Rob appeared as 'Pat Denning' in Babirra Music Theatre's production of *42nd Street*, also under the direction of Alan Burrows. In addition to acting and directing, Rob also currently serves as a member of the Board of Management at The 1812 Theatre Company. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* marks Rob's debut appearance at Malvern Theatre Company, and he hopes to return again in the near future.



TIM MURPHY – *Andre Thibault*

Tim is delighted to return to the Malvern Theatre Company stage having most recently appeared in *The Lifespan of a Fact* back in 2024. Other favourite recent stage credits include *Sleuth* (Lilydale), *Leaving* (Theatre 451), *The Architect* (Brighton), *The Deep Blue Sea* (Lilydale) and the world premiere of the new Australian play *Penance* at La Mama. Musical credits include *Cabaret*, *Chicago*, *Spelling Bee*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *All Shook Up* and *My Fair Lady*. Tim's voice-over work is featured in a variety of short films and documentaries including audiobook podcasts of Jane Austen's 'Pride and Prejudice' and 'Persuasion'.



LAUREN SEYMOUR – *Muriel Eubanks*

Lauren is delighted to work with Alan again after appearing in *They're Playing Our Song* at Lilydale Athanæum Theatre back in 2012. Performance credits include 'Svetlana' *Chess*, 'Sarah Brown' *Guys and Dolls*, 'Ado Annie' *Oklahoma*, 'June/Go-to-Hell Kitty' *Chicago*, 'Jane Smart' *The Witches of Eastwick*, 'Cinderella' *Into the Woods*, 'Julia' *The Wedding Singer*, 'Yum-Yum' *Hot Mikado*, 'Joanne' *Godspell*, 'Heidi' *I Sing!*, and roles in *Footloose*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Cats*. As a Drama and Theatre Studies educator, Lauren has also directed, musically directed, and produced productions including *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Legally Blonde*, *Seussical*, *Aida*, *The Addams Family*, and *Beauty and the Beast* for Vermont Secondary College. Most recently, she directed Stage Bugs' return season of *Ruthless*! The Musical as part of the 2025 Midsumma Festival.



GABI BERGMAN – *Jolene*

Gabi Bergman is a high school teacher with a love for all things theatre. She holds an Arts Degree with a Double Major in Theatre and Film/Screen Studies, and a Master of Teaching. Past credits include 'Constance Blackwood' *Ride The Cyclone* (PEP), 'Myra/Dawn' *Ladies in Black* (Beaumaris Theatre Company), 'Widow Corney' *Oliver!* (NOVA), 'Rona-Lisa Peretti' *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Saltpillar Theatre), 'Tzeitel' *Fiddler on the Roof* (MLOC), 'Edna' *Bright Star* (Fab Nobs), 'Titania' *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (MLOC), 'Beula Harridene' *The Dressmaker: A Musical Adaptation* (MLIVE), 'Minnie Davies' *The Hatpin* (Waterdale), and 'Smitty' *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (MLOC). She has also performed ensemble roles in *Sweeney Todd* (Fab Nobs), *Les Misérables* (SSA), *Seussical* (Waterdale) and *Into The Woods* (Aspect Inc.). In her limited free time, Gabi is a theatre journalist and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of AussieTheatre.com.



GARRY BARCHAM – *Ensemble*

Over the past twenty years Garry has worked with a variety of companies both onstage and behind the scenes. Onstage credits for over thirty shows have been mainly in musicals but in a few straight plays as well. Garry also finds time to manage set construction, and occasionally co-design, for Babirra Music Theatre and to design, build and paint sets for Players' Theatre Company – winning a couple of Lyrebird awards in the process. Garry is pleased to be back at Malvern Theatre Company for the fifth time and hopes you enjoy the silliness of this show.



GAYNOR BORLASE – *Ensemble*

Gaynor has worked across many areas of the performing arts as a performer, choreographer, director, producer and dance and drama teacher. Her performance credits include *Sweet Charity* with MDMS, *Urinetown* with OCPAC and *Hairspray* with SLAMS. At Ringwood Secondary College, her Lyrebird Award-winning choreography credits include *All Shook Up*, *Chicago*, *The Producers and Oliver!*, the latter earning her the inaugural Victorian Theatre Guild Award for Choreography in a Junior Production. Gaynor has also worked as a VCAA VET Dance Assessor, masterclass presenter, wedding MC and trivia host for Quizmeisters. She is thrilled to have the exciting opportunity to perform this double season of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* at both Lilydale and Malvern theatres.



ABBY JAMES – *Ensemble*

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels marks Abby's first performance with Malvern Theatre Company. Abby has been performing all her life, furthering her training post high school at Kelly Aykers Full Time Dance, where she completed her Diploma in Musical Theatre. Since then, Abby has appeared in the ensemble of several productions, including *The Producers*, *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert*, *My Fair Lady* and *42nd Street*, all with Babirra Music Theatre. Abby is excited to bring a whole host of characters to the Malvern stage in this dirty, rotten, scandalous show!



JESS LOWMAN – *Ensemble*

This is Jess' first time onstage at Malvern Theatre Company, although certainly not her first musical theatre venture. Her previous performance credits include 'Mrs Teavee', *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, 'Elsa' *Frozen Jr.*, 'Teen Fiona' *Shrek, The Musical*, and 'Anna' *Stories in the Dark*. Jess has extensive experience through YABC and vocal lessons, and is a keen theatre director – most recently working as Assistant Director for *The Little Mermaid* and Director for *Stories in the Dark* (both at Luther College). She can't wait to bring this show to life onstage!



HORATIO YEN – *Ensemble*

Horatio loves performing and has taken on a variety of roles in both plays and musicals at school and more recently with community theatre groups. Earlier this year Horatio performed in *Mamma Mi*a with Diamond Valley Singers. Some of his favourite roles and experiences have been playing 'James' in *Wild Swans*, 'Romeo' in *Romeo and Juliet*, and mastering all the dancing in *Footloose*. Other musical theatre highlights include *Urinetown* and *Matilda*. This is Horatio's first show with Malvern Theatre Company – he has thoroughly enjoyed being in the cast and hopes you enjoy the show.

Production Team

Director ..... Alan Burrows
Assistant Director ..... Francesca Carl
Musical Director ..... Mark Cluning
Choreographer ..... Nicole Kapiniaris-Anson
Music Supervisor ..... Colin Prohasky
Backing Vocals ..... Audrey-Maeve Barker, Mark Cluning, Nicole Kapiniaris-Anson
Production Coordinator ..... Penelope Peck
Set Design ..... Barry Pearce
Set Painting & Scenic Art ..... Barry Pearce, Robyn Sawtell
Lighting Design ..... Deryk Hartwick
Lighting & Sound Operation ..... Nicholas Ryan
Costumes ..... Maria Smedes
Dresser ..... Ann Hubbard
Stage Manager ..... Bella Da Silva
Assistant Stage Managers ..... Margaret Baxter, Gloria Lin, Wren McKee, Penelope Peck
Properties ..... Gina Ingham, Steve Tanner
Set Construction ..... Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre, reconfigured by David Allen, Noel Ellis, Peter Erlanger, Graeme Munro
Photography ..... Alexandra Carter
Programme Designers ..... Katie-Jane Amey, Janine Evans
Programme Coordinator ..... Jade Colletti
Publicity ..... Blake Stringer
FOH Manager ..... Judy Clues
Ticketbox Manager ..... David Gordon
Ticket Secretary ..... Kerry Carr

Calling All Volunteers

Would you like to volunteer at Malvern Theatre? There are many opportunities to be involved. Please visit our website and click on the 'Volunteer' tab to express your interest.

Proud member of 2026 THE VICTORIAN DRAMA LEAGUE

Thanks to our Sponsors

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L'Olivo MALVERN EAST

L'Olivo is a small, family-owned restaurant located at 171 Waverley Road in Malvern East. Show your ticket for a 10% discount off your total bill. Visit lolivo.com.au.

VIA FRATELLI

Via Fratelli is a traditional Italian restaurant located at 151 Waverley Road, Malvern East. Mention the show at the time of booking for a 10% discount off your total bill. Visit viafratelli.com.au.

Acknowledgements

Malvern Theatre Company acknowledges that we are performing on the traditional land of the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri People and offer our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

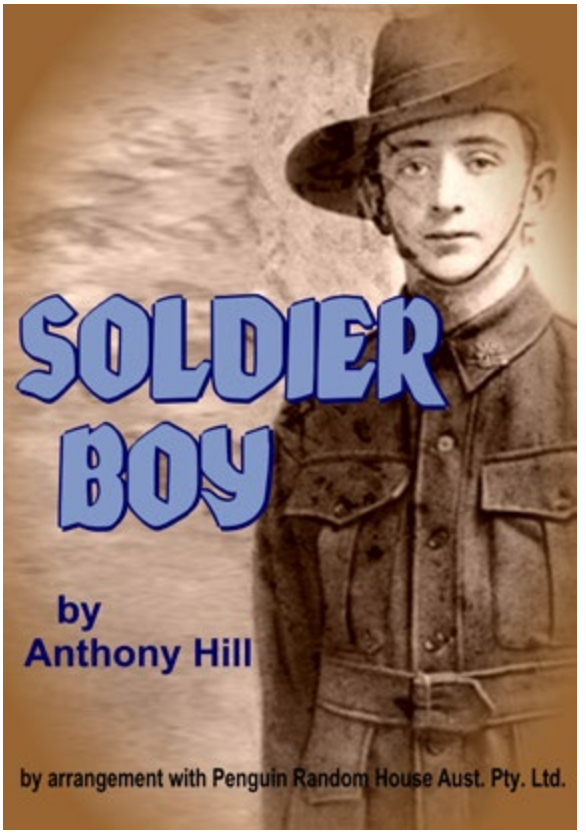
Malvern Theatre Company is very grateful for the support provided by the City of Stonnington.

As an organisation, we take pride in supporting the local volunteer network in the community and the charitable organisations that underpin this important work. As such, we have donated all benefits of the Charity Night performance to the following organisations:

- Ashburton Baptist Church
- RSPCA
- Compassionate Friends Victoria

If you are a member of a volunteer group or a charitable organisation and would like to raise funds by arranging a group to attend our Charity Night Preview Performance, please contact us at malverntheatrecompany@gmail.com

Next at Malvern Theatre Company



SOLDIER BOY

by Anthony Hill

In 1914, the outbreak of war was an exciting time for a generation of young Australians – a chance for adventure, an opportunity to see the world, and most important of all, a proud answer to the Empire's call. And 14-year-old Jim Martin of Hawthorn was determined not to miss out. With his parents' reluctant signature, Jim enlisted, and sailed to Gallipoli...

The incredible true story of a young local boy who became the youngest Anzac to fight in that terrible hell, *Soldier Boy* moves from the streets of Melbourne to the ships in the Dardanelles and the war-ravaged cliffs of Turkey. The novel *Soldier Boy* won multiple awards on its release in 2001 and is now an unforgettable play.

Directed by Nicholas Opolski

12 February to 27 February 2027

Tickets on sale from 1 December 2026.
To book tickets, visit our website at malverntheatre.com.au/book-tickets or phone 1300 131 552.