OUR SPONSORS

Chevron (Season Sponsor) has been the leading corporate sponsor of Center REP and the Lesher Center for the Arts for the past nine years. In fact, Chevron has been a partner of the LCA since the beginning, providing funding for capital improvements, event sponsorships and more. Chevron generously supports every Center REP show throughout the season, and is the primary sponsor for events including the Chevron Family Theatre Festival in July. Chevron has proven itself not just as a generous supporter, but also a valued friend of the arts.

Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA) (Season Partner) is both the primary fundraising organization of the Lesher Center for the Arts (LCA) and the City of Walnut Creek's appointed curator for the LCA's audience outreach. DRAA's role in the community is all about building partnerships with the focused goal of enhancing artistic quality at the LCA and providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy the arts. Through partnerships with the LCA and its producers, individual donors, corporate and foundation sponsors and the City of Walnut Creek, DRAA plays a vital role in advancing the arts for the betterment of the community. Please visit us online at www.draa.org.

Contra Costa Times (Season Media Sponsor) In the East Bay, the largest newspaper of the Bay Area News Group is the Contra Costa Times and its sister editions, the West County Times, Valley Times, San Ramon Valley Times and East County Times. The Times, was judged the best newspaper in its circulation category in the state five times in a six-year period by the California Newspaper Publishers Association. In 2005, it won the prestigious national Freedom of Information Award from Associated Press Managing Editors. And, in 2007, it was honored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association for its leadership on public records.

Lesher Foundation (Foundation Sponsor) Since 1994, the Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation has awarded grants totaling more than \$40 million and reaching citizens in all parts of Contra Costa County. True to the original wishes of Dean and Margaret Lesher, the Foundation continues to build on the strengths of the community by supporting organizations and programs that provide help and support to people in need; enhance and enrich the lives of all citizens; and promote a healthy and exciting future for the community. Established in 1989, the Foundation received its principal assets from Dean Lesher's estate in 1993 and 1995. In 1997, an additional endowment from Dean Lesher's estate followed the death of Margaret Lesher. A significant and final bequest from Mr. Lesher's estate was received in 2003. As a family foundation, support for the Contra Costa community will be carried on by the next generation of family members. Grantmaking decisions are based on the vision of Dean and Margaret Lesher who felt quality education, diverse art programs, and healthy children and families are the building blocks of a strong and vibrant community. The Leshers defined the "spirit of giving" as "investing in the community and its people." By providing financial support and direction in these critical areas, the Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation is investing every day, every week and every year in the health and wellbeing of this county that Dean and Margaret so loved.

THANK YOU TO OUR OPENING NIGHT DINNER SPONSORS: Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar Oi-C Bowl Scott's Seafood Grill and Restaurant

ABOUT CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

Center REP is the resident, professional theatre company of the Lesher Center for the Arts. Our season consists of eight productions a year – a variety of musicals, dramas and comedies, both classic and contemporary, that continually strive to reach new levels of artistic excellence and professional standards.

Our **mission** is to celebrate the power of the human imagination by producing emotionally engaging, intellectually involving, and visually astonishing live theatre, and through Outreach and Education programs, to enrich and advance the cultural life of the communities we serve.

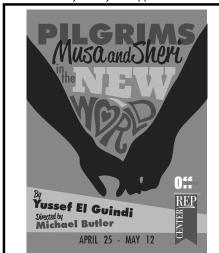
What does it mean to be a producing theatre? We hire the finest professional directors, actors and

We hire the finest professional directors, actors and designers to create our productions at Center REP. These are not touring productions – they're conceived and developed here, the sets and costumes are built in our shops, and the actors rehearse in our rehearsal hall. Whether the production is a Bay Area premiere or a Shakespearean classic, each is devised to be a one of a kind, artistic creation that will be a unique theatre experience for our audience.

What does it mean to be a professional theatre?

It means that all our artists and artisans are career theatre-practitioners. The actors in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association; many of our directors and designers are members of professional unions. All do theatre because it is their profession and their passion.

We are very proud to have the opportunity to produce professional theatre for our community in the beautiful theatres here at the Lesher Center for the Arts. Thank you for your support!



ADDITIONAL THANKS TO:
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Center REPertory Company

Managing Director - Scott Denison Artistic Director - Michael Butler

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Gabe Marin

Marketing Assistant

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Education
Education Directors
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Kerri Shawn

Kerri Shawn
Casting Director
Jennifer Perry
Production
Production Manager

Jeff Collister
Technical
Technical Director
Joshua Lipps

Master Electrician
Ray Oppenheimer
Carpenters
Daniel Casini

Jordan Scott
Cameron Swartzell
Chris Swartzell
Dressers

Sarah Mendez
Edie Olson
Production Assistants

Yelyzaveta Tashkevych John Valentine

Kyle ValentineAssistant
Stage Manager

Joe Coe
Deck Manager
Alex Logemann

Administration
Asst. to Managing
Director

Gail Pfeifer Program

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CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

Michael Butler, Artistic Director

Scott Denison, Managing Director

presents



Adapted by Patrick Barlow From the novel by John Buchan From the movie of Alfred Hitchcock

Scenic Designer
Eric Sinkkonen
Sound Designer
Lyle Barrere

Lighting Designer
Kurt Landisman
Stage Manager
Wesley Apfel*

B. Modern
Prop Master
Christopher Kesel

Cast

Cassidy Brown*
Jennifer Erdmann*

Mark Farrell*
Ben Johnson*

Directed by Mark Anderson Phillips

THE 39 STEPS is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

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Margaret Lesher Theatre March 29 - April 27, 2013 Lesher Center for the Arts

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*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States The Lighting, Costume and Sound Designers are members of United Scenic Artists Union Center REP is a member of Theatre Bay Area and Theatre Communications Group (TCG), The National Organization for the American Theatre



Richard Hannay......Ben Johnson^a
Annabella SchmidtJennifer Erdmann^a
Clown.....Mark Farrell^a
Clown.....Cassidy Brown^a

TIME and PLACE

1935 England and Scotland

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Cassidy Brown* (Clown) is pleased to return to Center REP, where he previously appeared as Cohen in The Underpants. He recently appeared at Pacific Repertory Theatre in God of Carnage and The 39 Steps. He has been



seen at Theatreworks in *Doubt, Distracted,* and *The 39 Steps,* at Marin Shakes in *Complete History of America (Abridged)* and *The Tempest,* and at Shotgun Players in *The Death of Meyerhold, Cabaret, The Just,* and *The Forest War.* Other credits include *Bosoms and Neglect* at The Aurora Theatre, *Hunter Gatherers* and *The North Plan* at Capital Stage, and numerous shows at The Willows Theater. Cassidy produces and hosts a monthly storytelling event called *The Shout,* and is a proud member of AEA and Theater Bay Area.

Jennifer Erdmann*
(Annabella Schmidt)
is delighted to return
to Center REP, having
previously appeared in
Rumors (Chris), BoeingBoeing (Gretchen), and
Noises Off (Belinda). She has
performed with companies



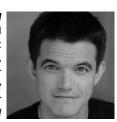
throughout the Bay Area, including San Jose Rep, TheatreWorks, Marin Shakespeare Company, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, American Musical Theatre of San Jose, California Conservatory Theatre, Woman's Will, the Willows Theatre, and the Pear Avenue Theatre. Credits include the world premiere of Bill Cain's 9 Circles (multiple roles) at Marin Theatre Company, Amy Freed's Restoration Comedy (Amanda) at Stanford Summer Theater, Nunsense Jamboree (Sister Mary Leo) at Meadow Brook Theatre, and Pride and Prejudice (Lydia) at Arizona Theatre Company, San Jose Rep, and the Alliance Theatre. Jennifer also works frequently in independent film, commercials, and industrials. Member of Actors' Equity Association. www.jennifererdmann.com

Mark Farrell* (Clown) has appeared inten productions at Center REPertory, most recently in Rumors and Xanadu. Other credits include Next to Normal (Arizona Theatre Company); Putnam County Spelling Bee. Around the World in 80



Days, The Haunting of Winchester (San Jose Repertory Theatre); Loaded by Scott Capurro at Ars Nova Theatre, NYC; The Reduced Shakespeare Company's Completely Hollywood: Abridged (Belgium/Holland Tour); Travesties (American Conservatory Theatre); Around the World in 80 Days (Laguna Playhouse); The Fantasticks (SF Playhouse/Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award); Noel & Gertie (BATCC award) The Mousetrap, Musical of Musicals (BATCC award), and Around the World in 80 Days(Center REPertory Company); Splittin' the Raft and Old Wicked Songs (Marin Theatre Company): Chicago and A Doll's House (Willows Theatre Company): Machiavelli in The Prince (Central Works); The History Channel's Man, Moment, Machine, Member of Actors Equity Association since 2002. Executive Producer of the Long Day Short Film Festival. Next up, Mark will appear in 1776 at ACT.

Ben Johnson* (Richard Hannay) has appeared in Waiting for Godot at Marin Theatre Company, The Underpants at Center REP, Scapin at A.C.T.,The Elephant Man, Mother Courage, La Bête, and Red Noses at the Gamm Theatre



in Rhode Island, A Midsummer's Saturday Night's Fever Dream at the Troubadour Theater Company in Los Angeles and as a company member with BATS Improv in San Francisco. He is a circus performer who has been a featured clown in Cirque du Soleil's world tour of Alegría, a ringmaster in the Zoppe Family Circus and a clown with the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. His Film and TV credits include the children's video project Flummox and Friends, Betrayed, Messenge, Your Feelings, Reversal of Fortune, The Brides of Frankenstein, The 14th Floor and Inhouse: Sketching Reality. Johnson has a BA in History from University of California, Los Angeles, and MA in Teaching from Brown University, www.benbjohnson.com

CREATIVE TEAM

Patrick Barlow (*Playwright*) Patrick Barlow's adaptation of *The 39 Steps* began life at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in 2005. It transferred to London where it plays to this day, and has been produced in over thirty-nine countries world-wide. Patrick won an Olivier Award and was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Play. Last year it won a Molière Award for Best Comedy in France, a Helpmann award for Best Comedy in Australia and saw Patrick win the accolade of being the most performed playwright in America. *The 39 Steps* is still playing throughout the world.

John Buchan (*Writer*) 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, was a British novelist and Unionist politician who, until his death, served as the Governor General of Canada. Buchan was born and primarily educated in Scotland, and further schooled in England, obtaining a degree in Literae Humaniores, and befriending a number of influential future writers while studying at the University of Oxford. After a brief career in law, Buchan then simultaneously began writing and entered the political and diplomatic fields. Buchan was elected as the Member of Parliament for the Combined Scottish Universities, but dedicated the majority of his time to his writing career, and became best known for his novel 'The Thirty-Nine Steps', as

well as his other thriller fiction. He was appointed as the Canadian viceroy in August 1935, and strongly promoted literacy as well as the evolution of a distinct Canadian culture.

Alfred Hitchcock (Film Director and Producer) Born in London on August 13, 1899, Alfred Hitchcock worked for a short time in engineering before entering the film industry in 1920. He left for Hollywood in 1939, where his first American film, Rebecca, won an Academy Award for best picture. Hitchcock created more than 50 films, including the classics Rear Window, The 39 Steps and Psycho. Nicknamed the "Master of Suspense," Hitchcock received the AFI's Life Achievement Award in 1979. He died in 1980.

Mark Anderson Phillips (Director) is an actor and director who has been working professionally in the Bay Area and regionally for over 20 years. Directing credits include Othello at Calaveras Repertory Theater, What the Butler Saw at San Jose's City Lights Theater Company, Little Women at California Theatre Center, and The King and I, Cinderella, and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Childrens Musical Theatre, San Jose. As an actor, Mark was last seen as Estragon in Waiting for Godot at Marin Theatre Company, Russ in Clybourne Park at Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, and as Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, at Center REP. Other REP appearances include, Rumors (for which he won a 2012 Shellie Award), Noises Off, and Witness for the Prosecution. His work at other theatres includes roles with TheatreWorks, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, ACT Theatre of Seattle, San Jose Repertory Theatre, The Magic Theatre (including the US Premiere of Stones in his Pockets), Aurora Theatre, The SF Playhouse, California Shakespeare Theatre, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Arizona Theatre Company, Repertory, and Word for Word. Mark has appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Joan Rivers - A Work in Progress by a Life in Progress) and the New York International Fringe Festival (Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party, which won Best of Fringe). He is the recipient of three Bay Area Drama Critics' Circle awards for best performance by a male in a leading role. On television, he has appeared on the CBS series, Nash Bridges. He plays Gideon T. Flummox in the children's video project, *Flummox and Friends* (flummoxandfriends.com). Film work includes, This is Macbeth and This is Hamlet with Reinventing the Wheel Productions, Something Better with Blu Fly Productions, and Joan Rivers - A Piece of Work with Break Thru Films. www.markandersonphillips.com

designed Doubt, Ain't Misbehavin' and Blues in the Night at Center REP. This is his 21st show at Center REP. Member United Scenic Artists Local 829. He has designed for the Houston Playhouse, Detroit's Hilberry Classic Theatre, San Francisco and Berkeley Shakespeare Festivals, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, San Francisco Repertory and San Diego Repertory Theatres, San Francisco Mime Troupe, Summer Repertory Theatre, Willows Theatre, Center Repertory Co., Marin Theatre Co., TheatreWorks, Aurora Theatre, U.C. Berkeley, Sacramento Theatre Co., San Jose Repertory Co., California Shakespeare Theatre,

San Francisco's Magic Theatre, and designed the world premiere of Mart Crowley's *The Men from the Boys* at New Conservatory Theatre, S.F., and the Los Angeles premiere of *The Men from the Boys* at the Fountain Theatre. He is the recipient of several Dean Goodman Choice Awards, East Bay Shellie Awards, Bay Area Critics Circle nominations, and was nominated for outstanding achievement in set design by the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle for his set and lighting designs for *Master Harold....and the Boys*. His designs were included in an exhibit of American stage designers which toured the United States, including Lincoln Center in New York City and the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

Kurt Landisman (Lighting Designer) Local audiences will be familiar with his work through past productions designed for Center REP including Old Wicked Songs, Xanadu, Arms and the Man, Blues in the Night, Dracula, She Loves Me, Noises Off, All Shook Up, Cabaret, Ain't Misbehavin', Musical of Musicals (The Musical!), A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Mousetrap, How the Other Half Loves, Around the World in 80 Days, and Fugitive Kind. His designs have been seen throughout the Bay Area at many theaters including San Francisco Opera, ACT, Berkeley Rep, San Jose Rep, Theatreworks, California Shakespeare Festival, The Magic Theatre, and Marin Theatre Company. Locally his work has garnered 16 Bay Area Critics Circle Awards, 5 LA Dramalogue Awards and 4 Shellie Awards. Nationally, his work has been seen at many regional opera & ballet companies, including the Los Angeles Opera, Minnesota Opera, Virginia Opera, Tulsa Opera, and Ballet Arizona. His designs have also been presented off-Broadway, represented at Circle Rep, and the Douglas Fairbanks Theatres. Other designs internationally include world premieres of plays by Sam Shepard in Japan, and Singapore, as well as the San Francisco Opera in Shanghai, China, and the Moscow Circus in Tokyo,

B. Modern (Costume Designer) is pleased to return to Center REP for The 39 Steps. Other productions here include A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Marriage of Figaro and Nixon's Nixon. Regional theater credits include productions for Denver Center Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Globe Theatre (San Diego), American Players'Theatre (Wisconsin); Asolo Theatre Company (Florida), TheatreWorks, San Jose Repertory Theatre, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, The Magic Theatre, Indiana Rep, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Seattle Repertory Theatre. Opera credits include productions at Opera Theatre of St. Louis and Opera San Jose. B. is an Associate Artist at Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and Geva Theatre Center, Rochester, New York. She has received numerous awards for her costume designs, including four DramaLogue Awards, three Dean Goodman Choice Awards and a Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle Award. B. shares a home and studio in Santa Cruz with three cantankerous cats.

Lyle Barrere (*Sound Designer*) is thrilled to be returning to Center REP! Beginning his theatre career in the 5th grade, Lyle has worked almost 200 shows for many professional companies in the Bay Area and Los Angeles as a producer,

director, sound or lighting designer, and stage manager. His sound design for *South Pacific* (2003, Willows Theatre Company) was nominated for a Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award and his design of *The Solid Gold Cadillac* (2004, Willows Theatre Company) was nominated for a Shellie Award. A graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, with a degree in Physics, he enjoys hiking and scuba diving when not in the theatre. He was awarded the Eagle Scout Award from BSA Troop 204. Lyle is the Founding Artistic Director of the HOOLIGAN Theatre Company, which provides theatre experiences to college students of all majors. www.LyleBarrere.com

Christopher Kesel (*Prop Master*) You may remember Mr. Kesel's work as Props Master on *Rumors, Arms and the Man* and *Boeing-Boeing*. He has worked at Opera San Jose on *La Boheme, Barber of Seville, La Traviata* and a lavish production of *Idomeneo*. His Bay Area credits include nine seasons as props artisan for San Jose Repertory Theater. Mr. Kesel's work there has been featured in numerous productions such as *Black Pearl Sings, As You Like It, The Kite Runner, Long Day's Journey Into Night, The Haunting of Winchester, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Mary's Wedding.*

Wesley Apfel* (Stage Manager) returns to Center REP after working on Lucky Stiff and Xanadu. Recently: the regional premiere of Somewhere (Theatreworks), ReOrient 2012, Night Over Erzinga (Golden Thread), A Christmas Carol (STC), Once in a Million Moons (42nd Street Moon). Other favorite credits include: The Boys From Syracuse, The Graduate, Festen (Broadway); Mother Courage and Her Children (with Meryl Streep); On the Town, 1776, Kiss Me Kate (Paper Mill Playhouse); Art, See Rock City and Other Destinations (Barrington Stage); the original NY productions of Gutenberg the Musical!, Bat Boy, The Musical of Musicals, Little Fish, Cycling Past the Matterhorn, and The Thing About Men. Production Supervisor and five years as Stage Manager for the SPF Summer Play Festival.

Joe Coe (Assistant Stage Manager) This is Joe's fifth season with Center REP and he couldn't be happier to be a part of such an amazing team of professionals and friends! Joe has had the pleasure of working with such companies as Berkeley Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre, Suicide Kings touring production of In Spite of Everything, Boston Conservatory, SpeakEasy Stage Company, and Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre. Joe would like to thank all of his colleagues here at the LCA for a great season and for making it such a joy to work here!

Alex Logemann (*Deck Manager*) is celebrating his 38th show backstage with Center REP. Alex has been backstage for ten seasons and is beyond pleased to be involved with such an amazing group. Alex has also crewed shows for Contra Costa Musical Theatre and with Diablo Theatre Company. Alex is a proud member of the Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble. He is very thankful for our community and the fun it provides. "The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with, but whether it is the same problem you had last year." — John Dulles





Michael Butler (Artistic Director) This is Michael's seventh season as Artistic Director of Center REP. where his directing credits include The Underpants, A Number, Dracula, Boeing-Boeing and To Kill a Mockingbird, as well as the Shellie and BATCC Award-winning productions of *Around the World* in 80 Days, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, The Marriage of Figaro, How the Other Half Loves, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Enchanted April, and Witness For The Prosecution. His directing work has also been seen at San Jose Rep, Cleveland Playhouse, Seattle Rep, Laguna Playhouse, ACT in Seattle, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre Company, San Jose Stage, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and The Juilliard School, of which he is a graduate. As an actor, Michael has worked on Broadway and off, in regional theatres, film and television, as well as REP's productions of The Mousetrap, Noises Off and Rumors. He is a published songwriter and the co-writer and composer of numerous music-theatre pieces, which he has directed and performed in NY, LA, and at festivals in India and Morocco. In his career as a performer he has also danced with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, portrayed the villainous Pierre LeChance on The Guiding Light, and played guitar and harmonica in many rock, blues, and country western bands at all the notable dives in NYC.

Scott Denison (Managing Director) has been a leader in the Arts for 37 years for Walnut Creek and the surrounding communities. Under Denison's guidance for the last 21 years as General Manager for the Lesher Center for the Arts, he oversees over 850 public events each year. He coordinates performing arts activities with over 85 producers and producing organizations. He is also the Managing Director of the Center REPertory Company producing 8 professional productions each season; and is the director and co-founder of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, an adult family performing arts company which presents programs for the young and Young at Heart. Scott directed CCMT's hits Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, and Hairspray, and for the past 14 seasons Center REP's A Christmas Carol. Denison has directed over 150 productions including most recently REP's The Lady with all the Answers starring Kerri Shawn. In 1979 he created the Shellie Awards, which annually honors outstanding performing arts achievement in Contra Costa County. In 2007 he created the Chevron Family Theatre Festival bringing adult nationally acclaimed performances together for one day performing to over 7,000 guests of all ages.

Up Next at Center REP!

Multiple Tony Award Winner!

May 17 - Jun 22

