

***Rope* by Patrick Hamilton**

Medway Little Theatre, 5th-14th April 2018

Rope is one of the true classics of the suspense genre. Written by Patrick Hamilton (*Gaslight*, *Twenty Thousand Streets Under The Sky*) in 1929, and filmed by the BBC in 1939, by ITV in 1957, by Australian TV in 1959, and by Alfred Hitchcock in 1948, its appeal has endured to this day.

Loosely based on the true story of the kidnap and murder of teenager Robert Franks by Leopold and Loeb, two wealthy students at the University of Chicago, in May 1924, and pastiched, parodied, and performed ever since, Hamilton's play operates like a murder mystery in reverse. The culprits are revealed at the very beginning of the play, and the thrills derive from teasing the audience as to whether or not they will be found out or get away with the heinous crime.

We hope you enjoy the show.

Mike Dickinson, Director

Cast

James Bullen as Wyndham Brandon

Rope is James' third show this year, having previously appeared in season opener *The Hound of the Baskervilles* as well as *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency*. In the little time he spends away from the theatre he sells soap at Lush.

Tom Watson as Charles Granillo

Tom studied performing arts at the University of Salford and can usually be found appearing as part of punk band Crybaby Special. He joins us as Brandon's suave yet rattled roommate Granillo.

Jaki Newton as Sabot

Jaki brings a certain Gallic *je ne sais quoi* to the play as Brandon and Granillo's French servant, Sabot. She previously appeared in MLT's acclaimed production of *The Browning Version*, among many others.

Matthew Bowen as Kenneth Raglan

You may have seen Matt in some of our youth company's recent productions, appearing as Merlin in *Tales of King Arthur*, and Peter in *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*. This is his first play with the adult company.

Daisy Young as Leila Arden

This is Daisy's first show with Medway Little Theatre, playing the part of film fan, socialite, and astrophobe Leila.

Michael Bath as Sir Johnstone Kentley

Michael directed the recent, moving production of *Look Back In Anger* among many others in years past, including *She Stoops To Conquer* and *As You Like It*. You may have caught his Judge Wargrave in *...And Then There Were None*.

Chris Hynd as Mrs Debenham

Chris first joined MLT over twenty years ago after seeing an excellent production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Since then she has tackled most roles in the theatre and has enjoyed them all, from learning to tap dance for *Stepping Out* through to directing *...And Then There Were None*. Chris is currently our treasurer.

Chris Loft as Rupert Cadell

Appearing in the role of poet, war veteran, and unlikely detective Rupert Cadell, Chris Loft played David Bliss in last summer's production of *Hay Fever* and Louis Harvey in *The Ladykillers*, among many, many other roles.

Crew

	Stage Manager	Peter Clark
	Light & Sound	Andrew Coulson
	Wardrobe	Elaine Thomas and Carol Clark
Props	Dawn Jones, Maggy Muileboom, and Marji Waterhouse	
	Photography	Neil Thorne

In memory of Godfrey West

Coming Next

VERONICA'S ROOM

By Ira Levin

Directed by Del de Lorme

10th-19th May


This chilling mystery thriller by the author of *Rosemary's Baby* explores the thin line between fantasy and reality, madness and murder. Students Susan and Larry find themselves as guests enticed to the Brabissant mansion by its dissolute caretakers the lonely Mackeys. Struck by Susan's resemblance to the long-dead Veronica Brabissant, the older couple gradually induce her to impersonate Veronica briefly to solace the only living Brabissant, her addled sister who believes Veronica alive. Once dressed in Veronica's clothes, Susan finds herself locked in both the role and in Veronica's room. Or is she Veronica, in 1935, pretending to be an imaginary Susan?

Medway Little Theatre Needs You!

Our theatre produces several shows a year and we always welcome new members, whether they are interested in acting, stage managing, set building, working lights and sound, or any of the dozens of other jobs needed to produce live theatre. If you are interested in moving from seat to stage, please ask our front of house team or bar staff for information on how to join, or just turn up at one of our social nights, held every Tuesday evening in between show runs. The next one will be on Tuesday 17th April.

This amateur production of *Rope*
is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Ltd.

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ROPE
by Patrick Hamilton

5th - 14th April | Doors 7pm
Tickets £6 - 10

Directed by Mike Dickinson

MEDWAY LITTLE THEATRE
256 HIGH STREET
ROCHESTER

BOX OFFICE
01634 400322
TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/MLT

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