

MEDIA RELEASE: Monday 2 March, 2015

MTC, KAY & MCLEAN PRODUCTIONS AND
WARNER BROS. THEATRE VENTURES PRESENT

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

DIRECTED BY SIMON PHILLIPS
ADAPTED BY CAROLYN BURNS



NORTH BY NORTHWEST CAST ANNOUNCED

Tickets on sale 9am Wednesday 4 March

Melbourne Theatre Company announced today the cast of *North by Northwest* with acclaimed actor **Matt Day** in the leading role of man-on-the-run, Roger O. Thornhill, and **Amber McMahon** as the cool blonde, Eve Kendall, in this stage adaptation of Alfred Hitchcock's classic spy-thriller.

Matt Day, returning to MTC after last appearing in *Scarlett O'Hara at the Crimson Parrot*, and **Amber McMahon**, making her MTC debut, will be joined by **Nicholas Bell** (*The Speechmaker*), **Ian Bliss** (*Hamlet*), **Sheridan Harbridge** (*The Speechmaker*), **Matt Hetherington** (*Next to Normal*), **John Leary** (*Private Lives*), **Tony Llewellyn-Jones** (*Realism*), **Deidre Rubenstein** (*His Girl Friday*), **Justin Stewart Cotta** (*Glengarry Glen Ross*), **Lucas Stibbard** (*Boy Girl Wall*) and **Lachlan Woods** (*Hamlet*).

Adapted for stage by **Carolyn Burns** and directed by **Simon Phillips**, who is also co-designing the set, *North by Northwest* will be realised by a creative team including **Nick Schlieper** (lighting and set design), **Esther Marie Hayes** (costume design) and **Ian McDonald** (composition and sound design).

'With a magnificent cast now assembled and a stellar creative team behind it, *North by Northwest* has all the ingredients needed to bring this theatrical spectacular to life,' **MTC Artistic Director Brett Sheehy AO** said. 'The glamour, thrilling escapism and cinematic scope of this production is going to be a treat for audiences, and one not to miss on the 2015 theatre calendar.'

When Roger O. Thornhill, a suave and successful advertising executive, is abducted by thugs who insist he is a man called George Kaplan, there's obviously been a mix up. When they don't believe him, that's infuriating. When they try to kill him, that's frightening. And when they pin a murder on him, that's time to run!

From New York to North Dakota, Thornhill is chased by spies, Feds, crop-dusting planes and the inevitable cool blonde. Years before the James Bond films there was *North by Northwest*, a lightning paced thriller that mixed glamour with espionage to make a truly irresistible cocktail. MTC presents *North by Northwest* in collaboration with Kay + McLean Productions and Warner Bros. Theater Ventures.

North by Northwest plays at **Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse** from **1 June to 4 July 2015**. Tickets for *North by Northwest* and all remaining MTC Season 2015 productions go on sale at 9am on Wednesday 4 March. For more information visit mtc.com.au/2015, call 03 8688 0800 or visit Southbank Theatre Box Office.

Media Enquiries

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