



Matthew Homes Limited



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March 2010

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For further details contact on-site sales centres or Matthew Homes Ltd, Matthew House,
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Visit our Web Site at: <http://www.matthew-homes.com> or E-Mail: sales@matthew-homes.com
Prices & Opening Times correct at time of publication. Please check before travelling.

**GRASS ROOTS COURT THEATRE
AT PENDLEY, TRING**



Frayed Knot Theatre Company

in association with Samuel French Ltd presents:

**Glengarry
Glen Ro\$\$\$**

by David Mamet



10-13 March 2010

8pm | Tickets: £7-10

Box office: Castle Insurance Group
Church Yard, Tring HP23 5AE

01442 823130

Reserve tickets online at
www.courttheatre.co.uk

Director's Notes

Closing a deal is the stuff that salesmen thrive on. Survival, in this fiercely competitive world, depends on success and, for some salesmen, they'll stop at nothing to close the deal.

David Mamet's study of competitive capitalism has scarcely dated in the 25 years since it was written. The play not only describes the merciless environment of the sales office, but by implication is a condemnation of consumerism and the endless search for greater profits.

But as well as being an indictment on our frenzied consumerist society it is a play about language. This language is often crude and repetitive but it's the crackling testosterone-fuelled language of desperate men driven to compete and survive.

Mamet manages to show a perverse admiration for these conmen who put themselves on the line every day while at the same time showing the ugliness of a society that thrives on greed and gullibility.

This has been a fabulous play to direct, not least because of the strength of the cast who have all thrown themselves into their characters in a way I could only have wished for. It's been a hard few weeks but I have found it extremely rewarding as, I hope, have they. A play with no special effects or action sequences relies on the power of words to hold your attention and, personally, I have been held captivated for weeks. In fact, there have been moments during rehearsal where cast members have missed entrances or cues because they have been so enthralled by each others scenes. And, in turn, I hope you are able to look beyond the frequent obscenities to appreciate David Mamet's remarkable linguistic skill. Not a word is wasted nor anything overdone.

Crew

Director	Kate Blanchard
Producers	Donna Wright and Sarah Amsden
Lighting and Sound	Chris Cooper
Set Design	Olly Gower
Poster Design	ImageHouse
Front of House	Court Theatre Limited

Special thanks go to: Chris Barnett; Dave Barratt; Nick Russon; Derek Rookley; Ian Gower; Phil Wright; Tom Wright; Rob Jones.

We have also been grateful for assistance from the following: Grass Roots Group; Pendley Manor Hote; Roger Emery; Matthew Homes; Tina Clark; Frazer McGilvray; and Kinzie Thomas.

Cast

Shelley Levene
John Williamson
Dave Moss
George Aaronow
Richard Roma
James Lingk
Baylen

Marlon Gill
Mark Wallington
Andy Crisp
Andy Faber
Wayne Maclaughlin
Nick Jones
Olly Gower

The play is set in Chicago in the early 1980s.

Act One takes place one evening in the Chinese restaurant
across the street from the office.

Act Two takes place in that office the following morning.

The Background

The men all work for Mitch and Murray, a firm of real estate agents. They are paid a 10 per cent commission based on deals they close. These deals are usually the result of leads provided for them by Mitch and Murray. Recently, the leads have run cold and the firm has invested in 5000 new premium leads which will be assigned to those salesmen who close the most deals. Mitch and Murray have employed a member of their family as an office manager in charge of marshalling the premium leads to the top salesmen.

This month they have announced a sales contest in which the top salesman stands to win a Cadillac bonus. The second salesman gets a set of steak knives. The others get fired!

Our Next Production

Frayed Knot's next production will be the premiere of the latest adventure for the famous continental detective, Marreau.

Marreau and the Grey Dagger 21st - 24th April 2010

In this comedy Marreau is beset by the evil schemes of an old enemy intent on discrediting hi, while he seeks the elusive Grey Dagger. With many twists and turns, and some unfortunate incidents, a tangled mystery is unravelled, while Marreau himself is not beyond suspicion of foul play.