

from the book by Helene Hanff



84 Charing Cross Road

Adapted by Andrew Meredith



"Charming, charming, charming.... A gently touching hands across the sea chronicle, sentimental in the best sense of the word." N.Y. Daily News.

October 20 - November 4, 2006



MWRGERMANY.COM



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Adapted by Andrew Meredith



DIRECTOR - ANDREW MEREDITH

THE COMPANY

Miss Helene Hanff.....	Regina Ros enberger
Mr. Frank Doel	Richard Roberts
Mrs. Cecily Farr.....	Sylvia Pancake
Mr. Bill Humphries.....	SFC Charles Ross
Miss Megan Wells.....	Kerri Pangman
Nora Doel.....	Sylvia Rausch
Maxine.....	Havi Lepage
Mrs. Joan Todd.....	Havi Lepage

The Setting – New York City & 84 Charing Cross Road, London
The Time – October, 1949 to January, 1969

Pre sented through special arrangements with Samuel French, Inc.

**** Acknowledgements ****

George Rodriguez, Jason Strunk and the Installation Pass Office
for assisting our guests and participants with the front gate;

Tim Higdon & U. S. Army Entertainment, Washington, D.C.
for assistance with copyright clearance and support;

Theatrix, Darms tadt, for costume support;

James Sohre, IMA Europe Entertainment Director for invaluable support of the Roadside and all Army Entertainment programs;

and the many volunteers and patrons whose support and assistance make Roadside Theater productions possible.

*** US Army Garrison Heidelberg ***

COL Willie E. Gaddis..... Commander
CSM Yolanda Lomax..... Command Sergeant Major
Mr. Michael Duday..... Director, MWR

*** The Roadside Theater Staff ***

Dane Winters..... Entertainment Branch Director
Richard Roberts..... Business Manager/Educational Director
Andy Meredith..... Mannheim Entertainment Director

*** Roadside Volunteer Staff ***

Brian Rausch..... Assistant Technical Director
Michiel DeVito..... Costume Mistress
Elfi Carberry..... Costume Mistress
Sandy Sapatka..... Costume Mistress
Ron Paoletti..... Web Master

*** The Production Staff ***

Director & Script Adaptation..... Andy Meredith
Assistant to the Director..... Jan Wotring
Technical Director..... Dane Winters
Stage Manager..... Jan Wotring
Assistant Technical Directors..... Andy Meredith & Brian Rausch
Set Design..... Andrew Meredith, & Dane Winters
Light Design..... Dane Winters & Andrew Meredith
Sound Design..... Chris Pancake, Ron Paoletti & Andrew Meredith
Light Board Operator..... Janice Haas
Sound Operator..... Chris Pancake
Costume Support..... Theatrix, Darms tadt
Costume Mistresses..... Elfi Carberry, Michiel DeVito & Sandy Sapatka
Fire Marsh als..... Andy Meredith, Richard Roberts & Dane Winters
Poster Design..... Heather Gillespie
Program Editor..... Dane Winters & Richard Roberts
Front of House Managers..... Richard Roberts & Dane Winters
Hospitality Staff..... Nilene Quigley; Tasha & Rick Cady; Bernd Roeder,
Jessica Rigdon; Anne Kopplin; Gabrielle Hartmann; Jane & Matt Gargett;
Lisa Jenkins; Marion Ruck; Tom & Jane Helfrich; Cathy Banks; Valerie Laragy;
Marco Vialpando; Mary Campbell; Tom Carberry; Wanda Smith-Goshorn;
Marion Laragy; Steven Stanfill; Connie, Jerrica and Julienn e Howard; Debo rah Hester;
Magdalena Pen a; Carolyn & Cara Burmedi; Amy Funderburk;
Sue, Emma & Louis Leibfried and Stephanie Krebs.

In consideration of others....

- *Unauthorized videotaping or photographs of any kind are not allowed.*
 - *Please turn off all "handy" cell phones, pagers and beepers.*
- If they are required for an official duty, please turn them into the theater staff who will contact you for a business related call.*
- *Be aware, additional emergency exits are located on either side of the stage behind the black curtains.*



The Roadside Theater is a proud member of the American Association of Community Theatre

*** THE ROADSIDE THEATER ***

The Roadside Theater is a part of the U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg Morale, Welfare and Recreation program. For over 40 years, we have served servicemen, their families, civilians, and their invited guests in and around the Heidelberg area.

Our mission is to provide our community members the opportunity to see and participate in a variety of outstanding theater productions. Additionally, the Roadside Theater assists the command in developing host nation relations through the participation of local citizens of all nationalities and through important cultural exchange.

As a fully operating community theater, we offer a complete season of comedies, dramas, musicals and special events. Our *Educational Wing* presents classes and workshops for all ages in the theatrical arts. Our *Matinee Series for Youth* presents exciting and creative productions just for community young people. Additionally, we host the annual *US Army Europe Entertainment Festival of One Act Plays* and the *Tournament of Plays Awards Event*.

Roadside Theater productions have consistently won awards at regional, national and international competitions and festivals. We have competed in the U.S. National AACT Festival in 2001 and 2005. Roadside productions have also participated in international festivals in Scotland, Ireland and Nova Scotia. We presented the World American Community Theater Premieres of *LES MISÉRABLES*, *WIT* and *IN THE BEGINNING* and the European Premieres of *THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES*, *PUTTING IT TOGETHER*, *THE GOODBYE GIRL*, *SUBURB – The Musical* and two works by Tennessee Williams.

GET INVOLVED!

The Roadside is open to everyone. Open auditions are held for each production and no experience is required. We are always looking for directors, choreographers, costumers, carpenters, painters, electricians and much more. It is also a great way to meet new friends. To get involved, contact the Roadside Theater.

*** BOX OFFICE INFORMATION ***

Building 109, Patton Barracks

Box Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 12-5 p.m.

Telephone: DSN 373-5020 or CIV 06221-175020 **Website:**
www.roadsidetheater.com

TICKETING AND RESERVATIONS POLICY

Due to the growing popularity and limited number of performances, reservations are recommended. Ticket reservations can be made:

- At the theater office during operating hours: Tuesday-Friday, 12-5 p.m.
- by telephone during operating hours
- through the Roadside Theater Website at www.roadsidetheater.com

We request prepayment and pick up of tickets before the night of the performance. Unpaid reservations will be released 30 minutes before the performance. Reservations after this time are not guaranteed. Unsold tickets are offered 30 minutes before curtain to the general public. We kindly ask you to notify us of cancellations or changes in the number of your party so we can provide these tickets to other community members.



THE ROADSIDE THEATER EDUCATIONAL WING

“Continuing education in the theatrical arts”

The Roadside Educational Wing offers community members an opportunity to learn, develop and hone skills in all areas of the theatrical arts including:

*** Beginning Acting for adults & youth**

*** Dance**

*** Advanced acting for adults & youth**

*** Singing**

*** Acting Styles and Physicalization**

*** Musical Theater**

*** Introduction to Directing**

*** Script Analysis**

*** Advanced Directing**

*** Technical Theater**

Workshops and classes are taught by professional staff and guest artists from Europe and the U.S. and are held at the Roadside Theater.

Classes and workshops are open with no or limited requirements or prior experience. The Educational Wing is a growing program with classes added throughout the year.

A complete syllabus will be announced shortly on our website and in our email newsletter.



Season Tickets

Season Tickets for our 2006/2007 Season of Shows are still available, so you haven't missed the best deal in town!

Season Ticket Productions are *84 Charing Cross Road*, *Disney's Beauty & the Beast*, *Enchanted April* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

As our shows continue to grow in popularity and are often sold-out, Season Tickets make it easier for you to enjoy our full season of shows and show your support for our program. The Season Ticket discount makes it the smart way to buy your tickets. They also make terrific gifts for your favorite theatre-goer.

As a Roadside Theater Season Ticket, you:

- **enjoy Preferred Seating.....**

Season Ticket holders will have an extra week to make reservations before the general public, allowing you to pick the seat YOU want.

- **get four shows for the price of three.....**

That's one show free – a \$12 value

- **receive invitations and discount tickets to special events.....**

Throughout the year the Roadside Theater plans special events. Upcoming special events include CHILDREN OF EDEN, PINOCCHIO, A FEW GOOD MEN and HELEN & THE DAUGHTERS OF TROY.

As Season Ticket Holders you will receive free or discount tickets to these and other unannounced performances, special events, opening night receptions and "meet the cast & crew" events.

- **and become an invaluable supporter of the Roadside Theater.**

Roadside Season Tickets and more information is available at the ticket counter or on our website.



*** THE COMPANY ***

(In alphabetical order)

Havi Lepage (*Maxine & Mrs. Joan Todd*) Havi grew up playing on the pink sand beaches of Bermuda. She has been in Germany for 10 years with her husband, Armand, her daughter Natasha Bush and granddaughter, Madeline. Havi last appeared as "Judith Bliss" in last season's *Hay Fever* - for which she received a "Best Actress in a Comedy" Topper nomination. Other credits include "Eleanor of Aquitaine" in *The Lion in Winter*; "Yenta" in *Fiddler on the Roof*; *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *Guys & Dolls* and *W;t*. Havi also appeared in the CBS TV show "The Right Look." Havi works at Army Community Services where she teaches German cultural classes and basic German language.

Sylvia Pancake (*Cecil Farr*) Sylvia, husband Chris and son Jeremy arrived in Heidelberg two years ago from Montgomery, Alabama and they all immediately found the Roadside Theater. Sylvia first appeared in our "Broadway in Concert" version of *Jekyll & Hyde* and then went on to appear in *Hello, Dolly!*, *Children of Eden* and will shortly be seen in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. Her credits at The Little Theatre of Savannah, Georgia include *Godspell* and *The Man of La Mancha*. She also performed for two years with the Song Spinners Show Choir of Colorado Springs. "Before coming to Heidelberg, it had been over twenty years since I'd been in a show. Now, I'm glad to say that it's become a family activity for me, my husband, Chris and my son, Jeremy."

Kerri Pangman (*Megan Wells*) Kerri is a Computer Science teacher at Mannheim High School and has been part of the Roadside family for many years. She has appeared in numerous productions including *Evita*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Honk!*, *Twelfth Night*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Hello, Dolly!* and *The Music Man*. She also presented her one-woman show, *The Belle of Amherst*, at the Roadside, and directed the one-act play *Adaptation*. Kerri has lived "everywhere" while accompanying her husband, Mike, but spent many years in Texas.

Sylvia Rausch (*Nora Doel*) Sylvia has graced the stage since she was three and the Roadside stage since 2000. Her award-winning performances include lead roles in *W;t* and *Lost in Yonkers*. She has also appeared in *Evita*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Les Misérables*, *Hello Dolly!*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Sylvia*, *School for Scandal*, *Fiddler On the Roof*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *Honk!*, *Cinderella*, *Peter & the Wolf* and many more. Sylvia is a 7th grade teacher at Heidelberg Middle school and says she loves her Roadside Theater family and enjoys spending weekends in acting classes or working on sets with her husband, Brian, who is the Roadside Theater Volunteer Assistant Technical Director.

Richard Roberts (*Frank Doel*) is the Director of the Roadside Theater Educational Wing. He teaches classes (Acting, Directing, Workshops) at the theater for adults and youth from 6th grade up. He has directed our award-winning productions of *Proposals*, *Twelfth Night* and *The School for Scandal* as well as directing *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Shakespeare On Love*, *Greater Tuna* and most recently our award winning production of *Hay Fever*. Richard is also an actor known for his “understated”, “subtle” and “carefully nuanced” performances of the “Stepmother” in *Cinderella* and “Hysterium” in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Most recently he branched out into NON-Dress-Wearing roles: “Gerardo” in *Death and the Maiden* and “Dr. Gerald Lyman” in *Bus Stop*.

Regina Rosenberger (*Helene Hanff*) has been a part of the Roadside Theater for many years and countless productions. Her past Roadside appearances include “Ernestina Money” in *Hello Dolly!*; “Mrs. Dilber” in *A Christmas Carol*; “Domina” in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; “Miss Verjuice” in *School for Scandal* and most memorably as “Golde” in *Fiddler On the Roof*. She also appeared in *Guys & Dolls*, *Les Misérables*, *The King and I* and *The Will Rogers Follies*. Regina works at SAP AG in Waldorf and has been in Germany for 20 years, but grew up on Long Island, NY. “I have loved *84 Charing Cross Road* ever since I read it as a child in one of the monthly issues of ‘Reader’s Digest’ and would like to thank Helene Hanff, wherever you are, for giving us this wonderful gift.”

SFC Charles Ross (*Bill Humphries*) works at 7th ARCOM, hails from Oak Park Michigan and has been in Heidelberg for 10 months. He made his Roadside Theater debut in last season’s *Hello, Dolly!* His previous theatrical credits include *Once Upon a Mattress*; *Cheaper By the Dozen*; *The Uninvited*; *The Music Man*; *Everybody Loves Opal*; *A Few Good Men*; *Who’s on First?*; *Daddy’s Dyin’*; *Who’s Got the Will?* and *Plaza Suite*. Charles says “I am privileged to be in a cast of very talented performers for my first drama here at the Roadside, and working under Andy’s direction has been a wonderful experience.”

Andy Meredith (Director) Andy is the Mannheim Entertainment Branch Director and splits his time between the Roadside Theater and the Off Main Street Theater. Andy’s Roadside appearances were quite special – the tortured shadow with the ice cream headache in *Jekyll & Hyde* and the fabulous “Miss 14th Street” in *Hello, Dolly!*. He trained at Kidderminster College and brings with him extensive acting, directing and technical credits. Andy comes from Swansea, Wales and has been in Germany for 25 years – but he is still called the “Staff Welshman.” Andy was also the Entertainment Director in the former Worms military community.



A Brief History of 84 Charing Cross Road

The Shop

Benjamin Marks and Mark Cohen began bookselling in 1904. When they decided to go into business together Mark Cohen reluctantly agreed to his partner’s suggestion that the firm be called Marks & Co rather than Marks and Cohen and the pair set up shop in Old Compton Street before moving first to No. 108 and then 84 Charing Cross Road.

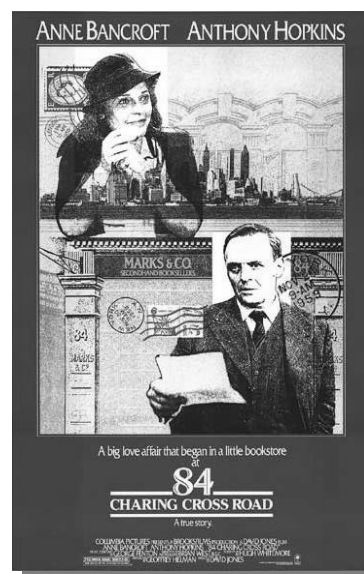
The facade of 84 Charing Cross Road has changed a great deal since the 1920’s but some things remain the same. There is a brass plaque on the site of the former shop, in memorial to the remarkable correspondence between two remarkable people.



The Story

84 Charing Cross Road, published in 1970, is constructed from a collection of correspondence between the author Helene Hanff and a London bookseller, Frank Doel.

The relationship began as Hanff delved into the work of a professor at Cambridge University. Professor “Q,” as he is called, became the catalyst for Hanff’s letter writing. Her admiration for the professor fueled her pursuit of classic literature, resulting in their letters to 84 Charing Cross Road. *84 Charing Cross Road* spans a twenty-year period, incidentally chronicling events abroad, such as Winston Churchill’s 1951 election in London and the U.S. Democratic presidential nomination in 1960. This remarkable correspondence was the basis for a British play, then Broadway production and finally the movie *84 Charing Cross Road* (1987) with Anne Bancroft, as “Helene” and Anthony Hopkins as “Frank Doel.”



The story touches on the ideas of lack and sufficiency, whether it be Helene’s bibliomania (obsession for books) or a black-market trade of eggs for a pair of pantyhose in London. It is a story of beginnings and endings as represented by each letter, from date to signature. The power of language figures prominently, presenting the challenge of inference in the white space of the text as Helene waits breathlessly for her next letter to arrive. Finally, it is a story of appearances for exactly the same reason: the only information the viewer has is based on the letters. Thus each audience member creates the details of the story, the character and their relationships themselves.

Helene Hanff – 1916-1997

Helene Hanff was born April 15, 1916. Growing up during the depression in Philadelphia, Helene was in a family that lived for the theater - her father was a shirt salesman who took the family to plays every week. All she ever wanted to do was to be a playwright. She could only afford a year of college at Temple University, but all her life continued to learn as an avid reader.

She left Philadelphia for New York, and through the 1940s wrote over 20 plays, none ever produced. She supported herself precariously by writing television scripts and children's books.

She was first employed as a manuscript reader for Paramount Pictures, and then accepted a position as a television scriptwriter for CBS and NBC.

Most importantly, Helene read – a lot. One wall of her apartment was filled with books, almost all from Marks & Co. It was that bookshop and her connection with it that brought her fame. Twenty years of hand-to-mouth writing (with an overflowing ashtray and a near-by gin bottle) and repeated pleas from Marks & Co. and Frank to visit them in London could only happen after the success of the book. By then it was too late - the bookshop was boarded up and the staff scattered.

Helene died in 1997. Her former apartment house at 301 E. 72nd Street in New York has been named "Charing Cross House" in her honor. A brass plaque at the entrance commemorates her residence and her remarkable book.



Frank Doel - 1908 - 1968

Frank Percy Doel was born in Wallasey, Cheshire on July 14th 1908 the youngest of three children. In 1924, on leaving school, Frank started his first, and only, job with Marks and Co. From the outset and up until his untimely death he was always known as "young Frank"

He quickly became absorbed in the book trade gaining invaluable business expertise from the experienced Ben Marks whilst benefiting from Mark Cohen's comprehensive bibliographical knowledge. In later life Cohen would describe him as the shop's 'anchor man'.

Frank met, and in the summer of 1936 married Mary Price, their daughter Sheila was born in 1939. Sadly Mary died in 1945 and two years later Frank married Nora. Their daughter Mary was born in 1948.

Although passionate about his work, Frank did have other interests. He knew and liked a good deal of classical music, the result of attending concerts during his army days. He was a keen Tottenham Hotspur F.C. supporter, and went to most of their home matches often accompanied by his elder brother.

Sometime during 1952 Frank bought a car which, in the context of the times, must be seen as a major acquisition. This 1939 model, believed to be a Morris was purchased from none other than Leo Marks!

By the late 1960's Frank was running the business virtually single handed, Ben Marks having died and Mark Cohen by this time an old and frail man.

Frank Doel died on December 22, 1968. Such was the high regard in which he was held almost the whole of the London antiquarian book trade attended his funeral on a bitterly cold New Year's Day 1969.



Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

7:30pm Performances:

December 8, 9, 14, 15 & 16 and
January 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, & 27, 2007

3pm Performances: (Special Family Matinees)

December 10 & 17 and
January 14, 21 & 28 2007

Reservations are recommended & can be made beginning Nov. 7 for Season Ticket Holders & Nov. 14 for the General Public. We regret children 5 years and under can only be admitted to "Special Family Matinees." Non-U.S. Military ID cardholders MUST provide access roster information for admittance by the SUNDAY prior to the performance.



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Roadside Theater

Bldg. 109, Patton Bks;

Tue - Fri, 12 - 5pm

373-5020; 06221-17- 5020

www.roadside theater.com