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Doylestown, PA

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS

# death TRAP

~~by Sidney Bruhl~~

~~by Clifford Anderson~~

by Ina Levin

**SEPTEMBER 10 - 18**

A COMEDY THRILLER

Directed by SUSAN GALLI

Produced by ALANA CARACCIO

DEATHTRAP is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.



**RESERVE TICKETS**

Tickets \$20  
[townandcountryplayers.org](http://townandcountryplayers.org)

**LOCATION**

Town and Country Players  
4158 York Road  
Buckingham, PA 18912

**SHOWTIMES**

September 10, 11, 16, 17, 18  
at 8PM  
September 11, 12, 18 at 2PM

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS is a 501 (C) (3) Not-For-Profit Organization

**Town and Country Players**

PRESENTS

# **DEATHTRAP**

by  
**Ira Levin**

with

Sarah LeClair  
Liz Wurtz

James Morris

Shan Williams II  
Stephen Behnfeldt

Stage Manager  
Sharon Rill-Soester

Scenic Design  
Jonathan Knapp

Lighting Design  
Matthew Schultheis

Sound Tech/Design  
Tabitha Shaw

Lighting Technician  
Fred Conover

Scenic Artist  
Barbara Emch

**Directed by  
Susan Galli**

**Produced by  
Alana Caraccio**

Content Advisory: This production contains adult language, simulated gun shots and strobe lighting.

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## DIRECTORS NOTE

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Isn't it great to be sitting in a theater watching a live show! Thank you very much for coming to see *Deathtrap*, and supporting this wonderful theater. The cast, crew, production team and I have had a great time putting *Deathtrap* together, and we hope you enjoy it.

*Deathtrap* was written by Ira Levin who is a prolific author, playwright and screenwriter. He has an amazing talent for creating great stories with well-developed characters, solid story lines and juicy plot twists. His books include *A Kiss Before Dying*, *Rosemary's Baby*, *The Stepford Wives*, *The Boys from Brazil* and *Sliver*. All of these books were made into major motion pictures. He also wrote the book and lyrics for the musical *DraT! The Cat*. The musical includes the iconic Barbara Streisand song *He Touched Me*.

*Deathtrap* still holds the record for longest-running comedy thriller on Broadway. *Deathtrap* the movie starred Michael Caine (what movie wasn't this man in), Christopher Reeve (his first movie role after Superman) and Dyan Cannon (nominated for 3 Academy Awards and was married to Cary Grant).

Levin has won numerous awards including: The Bram Stoker Award, was nominated for a Tony Award for *Deathtrap*, and also won the Edgar Allan Poe Award. Levin received Lifetime Achievement Awards from both the Mystery Writers of America and Horror Writers United.

Susan Galli

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# CAST MEMBERS

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## In Order of Appearance

SIDNEY BRUHL .....	James Morris
MYRA BRUHL .....	Sarah LeClair
CLIFFORD ANDERSON .....	Shan Williams II
HELGA Ten DORP .....	Liz Wurtz
PORTER MILGRIM .....	Stephen Behnfeldt

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action takes place in Sidney Bruhl's study, in the Bruhl home in Westport, Connecticut.

### ACT I

Scene 1: An afternoon in October of 1978

Scene 2: That evening

Scene 3: Two hours later

### ACT II

Scene 1: Two weeks later, morning

Scene 2: A week later, night

Scene 3: A week later, afternoon



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# PRODUCTION TEAM

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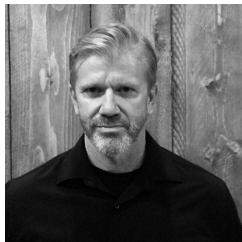
## Production Staff & Crew

DIRECTOR	Susan Galli
PRODUCER	Alana Caraccio
STAGE MANAGER	Sharon Rill-Soester
SCENIC DESIGNER	Jonathan Knapp
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Matthew Schultheis
SOUND/TECH DESIGNER	Tabitha Shaw
SCENIC ARTIST	Barbara Emch
ASST. MASTER CARPENTER	Joseph Perignat
PROPERTIES COORDINATOR	Kim O'Byrne
LIGHTING TECHNICIAN	Fred Conover
MS LECLAIR'S HAIR & MAKEUP	Lynne Anne Donchez
POSTER DESIGN	Brad DeLeon
PROGRAM	Kim O'Byrne

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# WHO'S WHO

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## James Morris

as *SIDNEY BRUHL*

James is thrilled to be making his debut with the Town and Country Players in this classic thriller. He most recently appeared at the Kelsey Theater as Orgon in *Tartuffe* (Pinnworth Productions), Ernst in *Cabaret* (Theater2go) and John in *Calendar Girls* (Pennington Players). Other roles include *Spring Awakening* (Adult Men), *The Tempest* (Caliban), *Footloose* (Rev. Shaw Moore) and *Zorro* (Don Alejandro).



## Sarah LeClair

as *MYRA BRUHL*

Sarah was in her first show at T&C in 1998, and has made it her home since! She currently serves as VP of Membership and the Chair of the D&I Committee for this theater. Past roles on this stage include Suzanne in *Dearly Departed*, the Duchess of Berwick in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, and Lotty Wilton in *Enchanted April*. Check out Sarah's upcoming work this fall with New Feathers' Productions, reading series, ComedySportz Philadelphia's *Murder Manor*, and *Radium Girls* (Director) at Central Bucks High School South. This one is for Jeanne, the original *Deathtrap* fan.



## Shan Williams II

as *CLIFFORD ANDERSON*

Shan is very happy to join Town and Country Players onstage for the first time in *Deathtrap*. Favorite roles include Tom Robinson in *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Holmdel Theatre Company), Flick in *Violet* (Summit Playhouse), Victor in *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Somerset Valley Players) Mereb in *Aida* (Music Mountain Theatre), and Richie in *A Chorus Line* (Music Mountain Theatre). Thank you to the fabulous cast and crew for their hard work! I would like to thank my family for their ultimate support!

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# WHO'S WHO

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## Liz Wurtz

as *HELGA Ten DORP*

Liz is predicting the fun she will have playing Helga Ten Dorp. In her past life (before the pandemic) she was seen on the Town and Country stage as Emma Parker in *Bonnie and Clyde*. Liz is Actress, Director and Vice President of Yardley Players. Her most memorable parts are Scuttle in *The Little Mermaid*, Martha in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and the Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*. She has been in community theatre so long her hair has turned gray. Liz would like to give Liebe and der Danke to her husband Brian for all the support.



## Stephen Behnfeldt

as *PORTER MILGRIM*

Stephen has dreamed of performing on stage ever since Monday. This is his first play with Town and Country players, or indeed with anyone, anywhere. When not acting, he works as a software engineer. He would like to thank his wife, whom he adores, and his children, whom he cherishes, and their pets, whom he has learned to tolerate.

# PRODUCTION TEAM WHO'S WHO



## Susan Galli

**DIRECTOR**

Susan is very happy to be back at Town and Country Players and doing live theater again. This is Susan's third time Directing at T&C. Just before the pandemic she directed a production of *Calendar Girls* at The Kelsey Theater in N.J. It has been an absolute pleasure working with everyone on this show. Special thanks to David Galli for his assistance with the handcuffs, guns, knives, hatchets, and the crossbow.



## Alana Caraccio

**PRODUCER**

Alana is no stranger to Town and Country. She has acted (*Everybody Loves Opal* won First T&C Best Lead Actress Award) and has directed (*The Haunting of Hill House*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*), and has produced (*Cold Stun*). She served as VP of Fundraising on the Board for 7 years. She is thrilled to be producing *Deathtrap*, the first production to re-open our theater at the end of the Covid Pandemic. Thanks to the Production Team, Cast, and those at T&C who work to help make this production a success. Thanks to Joseph, whose patience is literally unlimited.



## Sharon Rill-Soester

**STAGE MANAGER**

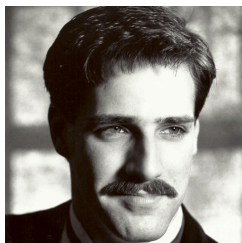
Sharon has been producing and costuming shows at T&C since 2009 and was certified as a director at T&C in 2014. She has been Costume Designer for numerous shows such as *Moon over Buffalo*, *The Secret Garden* and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. In August 2021, she was Costume Mistress for *South Pacific* at Bucks County Theater for Performing Arts at DeVal University. She served on the T&C Board of Directors as President from 2010 thru 2014. It has been a pleasure working with this talented cast. All my love to my husband, Keith.

# PRODUCTION TEAM WHO'S WHO

## Matthew Schultheis

**LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Matthew is pleased to be designing lights for T&C's return to the stage. Previous lighting design credits at T&C include: *Holes*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Good People*, and *Bonnie and Clyde*. He has also stage managed many shows, including *Oklahoma!* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Matthew has also had the privilege of serving as the President of Town and Country Players since 2020 and is excited to welcome our patrons back. Love to Vicky and Alexander.



## Jonathan Knapp

**SCENIC DESIGNER**

In his 50-something years, Jon has worked onstage and backstage both professionally and just for fun. He studied Communication and Theatre at West Chester University and has held arts management positions at Long Wharf and McCarter Theatres. Jon even worked as an animal handler dealing with tigers, leopards and lions in a Vegas-style magic show. He's very grateful to have a family that allows him to feed his passion. Jon dreams of one day finding an old theater and turning it into a barn.



## Joseph Perignat

**ASST. MASTER CARPENTER**

When not on stage, Joseph enjoys set design and set building. Has designed and built sets for *Wonders Of the World*, *Annie*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Best wishes to the cast and crew team of this wonderful production. Break legs!

## Barbara Emch

**SCENIC ARTIST**

Barbara has been a member of the T&C family for many years having done set decorations and artistic canvases for most of the shows that bring our audiences joy during our season. She is highly creative, having majored in the arts, and finds that the creativity she produces for each individual play fulfills the artist within. She wishes the cast and crew of *Deathtrap* the very best.

# PRODUCTION TEAM WHO'S WHO



## Kim O'Byrne

*PROPERTIES COORDINATOR*

Kim has been a member of T&C since 2010. In addition to performing, Kim has also been involved as a producer, properties master, seamstress, Board Member and serves on various committees at T&C. Previous T&C favourites include *Oklahoma!* (ensemble), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Choir), *The Music Man* (Mrs. Paroo), *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble), *Our Town* (Ensemble), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Doris McAfee) and *Carousel* (Ensemble).



## Fred Conover

*LIGHTING TECHNICIAN*

Fred's excited to be back at the barn! One of his passions is working with the elderly, and he's often seen directing free shows for them at local senior centers. He is grateful for another opportunity to work backstage, especially with such a talented cast! All of my love to Kirsten, to Freddy (and his lovely wife, Allyson), to Gabe (and his amazing girlfriend, Olivia), and to Ledger, the best grandson known to all of mankind! To the cast and crew: "Break legs!"

## Tabitha Shaw

*SOUND/TECH DESIGNER*

Tabitha is thrilled to work on the production of *Deathtrap*. It'll be her 4th production with Town and Country Players. After high school, Tabitha is going into professional theater production and pursuing a career in production. Have fun at the show!



## Lynne Anne Donchez

*MS LECLAIR'S HAIR & MAKEUP*

It has been my pleasure to work in this show. I am excited for T&C to have a live audience. A salute to the board—it has been a rough year for all! Years of experience are coming in handy on this show!

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY SPECIAL THANKS TO

**DAVID GALLI**, without whom we could not escape from Houdini's handcuffs as Houdini planned; and who re-structured the dagger so we would not need to bring in new actors for each performance.

**JENNIFER AND PAUL AHR**, for the loan of their pot-bellied stove.

**ALEXANDER SCHULTHEIS**, for his special assistance with lighting.

And to the following members:

**JESSICA BRIGGS**

**JUSTIN GIACHETTI**

**SCOTT MONSEES**

**MICHAEL SHIUMO**

**VICTORIA SCHULTHEIS**

**ADAM ZUCAL**



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[dnurney@shelly-law.com](mailto:dnurney@shelly-law.com) • [swood@shelly-law.com](mailto:swood@shelly-law.com)

ADS

# Jessica Briggs

PHOTOGRAPHY

Award Winning Photographer

Headshots

Artistic Portraiture



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# T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW.....

## A NOTE FROM T&C'S PRESIDENT

Welcome to the official return of live theater to Town and Country Players' stage. We've missed you this past year and a half. While worthwhile and entertaining, neither online performances nor outdoor theater provide the intimacy of performances in our barn. Performing on the stage gives us the opportunity present to you the full experience of seeing our actors, costumes, sets, props, sounds, and lighting while in the comfort of indoor seating and air conditioning, and without concerns about the weather.

I became President of Town and Country Players in January of 2020. While the challenges of leading a community theater during the past 18 months have been vastly different than what I expected at that time, I am proud of what Town and Country Players has been able to accomplish. While our stage was dark during these months, it was far from a year and a half without any activity.

With generous donations from our patrons, and hard work by our membership, we were able to produce eleven different Zoom productions, participate in food drives, hold youth workshops, and sing to and send cards to senior citizens and other homebound individuals in the Central Bucks area.

We have also continued to prepare for our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season in 2022. The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season will feature productions of *Guys and Dolls*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Sound of Music*, *Clue*, and *A Christmas Carol*, alongside several special events.

I would like to close by thanking our patrons and membership for their donations to, and support of, Town and Country Players this past year and am pleased to be able see everyone in person again.

Matthew Schultheis  
President  
Town and Country Players

# T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW.....

## Become a Friend of Town and Country Players

Town and Country Players is celebrating its 74<sup>th</sup> Season in 2021. Our theatre is run by volunteers and we rely on your generous, tax deductible financial support to help defray the cost of our lovely, new modern facility. Please add your name to our "Circle of Friends" so that we can continue to provide you with high quality productions and theatre workshops for many years to come.

Your donation will be acknowledged on our "Circle of Friends" page this season.

We are deeply grateful for your generous support.

Please enclose the form below with your check or money order and mail to:

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Doylestown, PA 18901

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*President*

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**David Sharper**

*Treasurer*

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**Scott Monsees**

*Vice President of Tech Ops*

[tandctech.ops@gmail.com](mailto:tandctech.ops@gmail.com)

**Roseann Enwright**

*Vice President of Fundraising*

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*Vice President of Buildings & Grounds*

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*Vice President of Productions*

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**Lynne Anne Donchez**

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