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Town and Country Players Doylestown, PA

# TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS PRESENTS

# AGATHA CHRISTIE'S NUR DER ON THE NILE AMYSTERY / THRILLER

# **OCTOBER 4 – 19**

DIRECTED BY DAVID SWARTZ PRODUCED BY KIM O'BYRNE



PRESENTS

# **MURDER ON THE NILE**

<sub>by</sub> Agatha Christie

with

Brittany Delaware Elaine Wallace Jeffrey Milstein Jen Feder

Brianna Lynn Brian Keller Peter Plante Barney Stone Paige Gardner Evan Creedon Jesse Roy

Set Designer Dave Sharper Producer Kim O'Byrne Sound Designer Jim Moore

Directed by David Swartz

Murder on the Nile is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., a Concord Theatricals Company | 229 West 28th Street New York, NY 10001

#### SETTING AND TIME

The scene is laid throughout in the observation saloon of the paddle steamer Lotus on the Nile between Shellal and Wadi Halfa.

#### ACT I

Scene One: At Shellal. Late afternoon.

Scene Two: By the Temple of Abu Simbel, three days later. Evening, after dinner.

#### ACT II

Scene One: The same. Five minutes later.

Scene Two: The same. The next morning.

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

#### **Director's Note**

What's in a mystery? Agatha Christie certainly knew. Her novels are credited with having sold roughly 2 BILLION copies, published in at least 103 languages - making her subordinate to only the Bible and the works of William Shakespeare, according to some. She created the well-known and loved personas of Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot, rivalling the fame of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes, and left a legacy of over 60 detective novels and 14 short story collections.

But what makes her works so compelling? Is it the excitement of our inner detective, assembling the pieces, sorting out the foibles of the suspects and closing the case? Perhaps. Maybe for most it is simply watching the misadventures of life and their resulting tragedies played out as we look on.

Christie certainly had the knack for painting us into her narrative, making us her suspects, her victims and her detectives. She built with the bricks and mortar of everyday life. Sad, complicated, believable.

Welcome aboard the palace steamer, Lotus. It is pre-war 1930's. The rich are playing, the poor starving, and Egypt emerging from Britain's rule. The entire Middle East is beginning a transformation and the world is heading for armed conflict. Welcome to Agatha Christie's world.

Welcome to, "Murder on the Nile".

# CAST

Beadseller/Assistant Steward Jen Feder
Steward Jeffrey E Milstein
liss ffoliot-ffoulkes Elaine Wallace
Christina Grant Paige Gardner
Smith Evan Creedon
ouise Jesse Roy
Dr. Bessner Barney Stone
Cay Mostyn Brianna Lynn
Simon Mostyn Brian Keller
Canon Pennefather Peter Plante
acqueline de Severac Brittany Delaware

# **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director	David Swartz
Producer	Kim O'Byrne
Set Designer	David Sharper
Properties Mistress	Jen Ahr
Sound Designer	Jim Moore
Carpenter	Joe Perignat
Costume, Makeup & Hair Design	Lynne Anne Donchez
Scenic Designer	Barb Emch
Running Crew	Sophie Toth
Master Carpenter	Jamie Bradley
Rehearsal Stage Manager	Victoria Schultheis
Rehearsal Stage Manager	Jim Moore
Production Stage Manager	Victoria Schultheis
Production Stage Manager	Fred Conover
Sound Technician	Paul Waldowski
Sound Technician	John Austin
Program	Jillian Ambs

# WHO'S WHO



#### Jen Feder

as Beadseller/Assistant Steward

Jen is excited to make her debut at Town and Country Players! She has previously performed with The Bucks County Gilbert & Sullivan Society, in The Pirates of Penzance and with Doylestown's State Street Players, in Misfits & Mayhem Abound.

# Jeffrey E Milstein

as Steward

For the past 10 years, Jeffrey has written novels, acted, directed and produced plays performed in NJ and NJ. He is a full-time accountant and have performed in student films and has written, directed and produced such plays as A Moment in Time, So You Think You're Godd and Fort Dicks. Thanks to my wife, Elyse, for putting up with my schedule. All of my performances are dedicated to my mom. www.jemproductions13.net



# **Elaine Wallace**

This is Elaine's second time on stage this year for T&C. She appeared earlier this year as Marabeth in the Premier of Cold Stun. Her resume covers almost 50 years of performances in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Thanks to all involved in this production and special love to her life partner, George.



# **Paige Gardner**

Paige is thrilled to return to the T&C Players stage after her debut in the One Acts Festival this summer. In 2017, she moved here from Pittsburgh to pursue a career in nonprofit. When not performing, Paige writes, and is excited to be published in the horror anthology "Creaky Stairs: A Book of Dark Truths," out Fall 2019. Big thanks to the cast and crew for all the support and laughs!

#### as Christina Grant

as Miss ffoliot-ffoulkes

# WHO'S WHO



# **Evan Creedon**

A graduate of CB East Patriot Players and Boston University Stage Troupe/On Broadway, Evan is returning to the stage for the first time in two years. Most recent credits include 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Barfeé, BUOB), Addams Family (Goméz Addams, BUST) and 12 Angry Men (Juror 10, BUST). Evan is thrilled to be welcomed into the Town and Country Players community for this wonderful production!



# Jesse Roy

Jesse has worn many hats at T&C including director, choreographer, producer and stage manager. She is thrilled to be back on stage with this fabulous cast. Much love to her family for their support.

as Dr. Bessner

as Kay Mostyn



### **Barney Stone**

After a long hiatus from acting and directing, Barney's recent roles include Death by Chocolate (John Stone), Larceny and Old Lace (Charlie), Ghost of a Chance (Chance), Noises Off (Selsdon), Scrooge, The Wizard of Oz, Inherit the Wind (Meeker)and The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (Muff Potter). He has a gallery and studio in Lambertville where he creates glass sculptures and kinetic contraptions.



# Brianna Lynn

Brianna is thrilled to be back on stage at Town and Country Players! Previous T&C roles include Appomattox Remix (Cecily) and 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Schwarzy). When not on stage, she's in character at conventions as NMR Cosplay (IG: @brianna.lynn.nmr). Brianna would like to dedicate today's performance to her Great Mom-Mom for always supporting her love of the arts. She hopes you enjoy the show!

as Smith

as Louise

# WHO'S WHO



# **Brian Keller**

#### as Simon Mostyn

First time with T&C, Brian has been acting for 8 years having performed at various venues, productions and with a mix of troupes. This has included The Crowded Kitchen Players, Pennsylvania Playhouse, Selkie Theatre, Star for a Day, Playcrafters and DCP. Along the way, he also has done many TV commercials and created a YouTube sketch series titled The CyniCyst.



# **Peter Plante**

as Canon Pennefather

Peter last appeared on the T&C stage in 2011 in Bye Bye Birdie. Peter would like to thank Dave for trusting him with this role and for guiding him to this performance, his kids Emily & Katharine for their encouragement, and Alana who pushed me to audition. His performance is dedicated to his parents who are currently rolling over in their graves at the thought of him playing a man of the cloth. For Nance.



# Brittany Delaware as Jacqueline de Severac

Brittany is a recent graduate of Savannah College of Art & Design where she studied Acting and Screenwriting. She finds all aspects of the arts exciting, making it difficult to choose a career, but she'll figure it out eventually! Murder on the Nile is her first performance in a Town and Country Players production and she would like to thank her family and friends for their support.

# **CREW WHO'S WHO**

# **David Swartz**

David is very happy to be back at the barn, having made at least one appearance in each of the past 6 decades – narrowly missing 7 and 8 (I have hopes). Career highlight, his Pappy, seeing him as Emil in South Pacific, "Your momma watched this one" - she having been an actor, singer, costume designer, seamstress and musician at T&C: The sum of which I will never match. Lots of favorite roles, but the beautiful folks I've met along the way and the joy of having entertained is what I'll always remember

# Kim O'Byrne

Kim has been a member of T&C since 2010. Most recently at T&C, Kim was wielding weapons on stage in Oklahoma! (Ensemble). Previous T&C shows include The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Choir), The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (Producer), Miracle on 34th Street (Producer), The Music Man (Mrs. Paroo), Lie, Cheat & Genuflect (Producer), Sweeney Todd (Ensemble), Bye Bye Birdie (Doris McAfee), and Carousel (Ensemble).

# **David Sharper**

David has been involved in over 100 shows at T&C since 1984. He designed and built the sets for this year's The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged and last season's Bonnie and Clyde, The Hunchback of Notre Dame and The Nutcracker. Last seen on stage in the 2018 T&C Holiday Show and in Unnecessary Farce (Agent Frank) at Village Players of Hatboro. Some of his favorite roles: A Streetcar Named Desire (Mitch), Laughter on the 23rd Floor (Brian), Clue the Play (Professor Plum), Don't Drink the Water (Krojack), and Don't Dress for Dinner (George).

# Jen Ahr

Jennifer was last seen at T&C onstage in Oklahoma! and The Hunchback of Notre Dame. She's thrilled to be part of this production to indulge her love of Egyptian antiquities and intrigue. Thanks to David and Kim for the chance to play and Bon Voyage!

#### Director

#### Producer

Set Designer

#### **Properties Mistress**

# **CREW WHO'S WHO**

# Jim Moore

Jim Moore hopes you enjoy his sound design debut during this terrific production. He couldn't have done it without the guidance of the incomparable Tommy Moore. Jim will make his Town and Country Players directorial debut next summer. He is the proud father of Evelyn Moore who is nearly two months old.

# Joe Perignat

I have always been partial to who-done-its, so building this set has been a joy. When not building sets, I enjoy performing on this wonderful T&C stage, most recently in Oklahoma! To the company of Murder on the Nile, BREAK LEGS!

# Lynne Anne Donchez

It is with great pleasure I was able to costume Murder on the Nile. Coordinating hair and makeup is an area in which I excel, so this was an enjoyable effort! Thank you to the director for allowing me to help on this production. Special thanks to Nancy Ridgeway, Sydney Delaware and Rob Rosiello. All are always willing to give time, knowledge and experience to our shows!

# **Barb Emch**

Barb 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 MOTN the very best.

# Sophie Toth

Sofie has been hanging out backstage with her mom since she was a baby. She is delighted to be involved with this production. When she is not backstage, she plays the piano and the stand-up bass.

#### Sound Designer

#### Carpenter

#### Scenic Designer

#### Running Crew

# e rengnat

Costume, Makeup & Hair Design

# **CREW WHO'S WHO**

# **Jamie Bradley**

#### Master Carpenter

Jamie has a long history with Town and Country Players having performed on stage and directed many productions over the years. We are grateful for his support.

# John Austin

Sound Technician

John is not new to community theater and has participated in various shows. He has performed as Ike Skidmore (Oklahoma) part of the singing sailor quartet in Anything Goes for Neshaminy Valley Music Theater. He has performed as Jacob and Potiphar in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Bert Harley the radio announcer in Annie, Reverend Shaw in Footloose and Mr Musnik in Little Shop of Horrors with Acting Naturally. He has recently moved into the community with his wife Maureen. John has three children an two grandchildren. I would like to thank Town and Country Theater for the opportunity to help in this production.

# SPECIAL THANKS

Scott Monsees Walter Hauck James Palmer Fred Conover Rob Rosiello Nancy Ridgeway

# PHOTOS

# TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS PRESENTS



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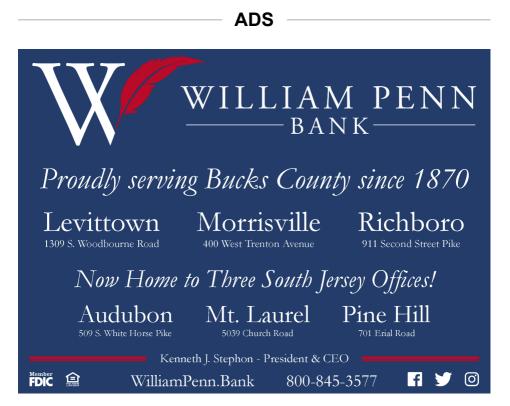
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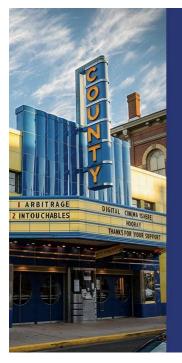






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# **T&C INSIGHTS...**

# T&C Raffle

Our raffle helps to support the Building Fund. We offer custom raffle options for each show. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or five tickets for \$20.00. Each raffle ticket is also eligible for our end of year prizes which include a trip to a Broadway show of your choice as well as other prizes (see the list in the Clubroom). We appreciate your support. Thank you!

# Volunteer to Earn a Free Ticket

Members and Non-Members may volunteer to usher, direct parking or sell raffle tickets for our shows and will receive a FREE SEAT for any show in our 2019 season. If you are interested in volunteering, you may sign up on our website or fill out "Volunteer Form" in the Clubroom.

# **Become a T&C Member**

We would love to have you as Member of our T&C family! Members have the right to participate in all meetings, parties and events, and vote for the slate of plays for our 72nd season in 2019, as well as vote for our Executive Board for the next year. Please feel free to pickup a Membership Application in our Clubroom.

Annual membership dues are: \$30.00 (Individual)

\$50.00 (Household) Any two Adults from one household

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# **T&C INSIGHTS...**

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# **T&C INSIGHTS...**

### Congratulations to our 2018 Season Award Winners!

#### 2018 Member Award Winners:

Service Award: Lisa Soren Lifetime Achievement Award: Jillian Ambs Rafters Award: Karen Abrams Jr. Rafters Award: Mason McClintic Marion Kolman Award (Female Acting): Roseann Enwright

#### 2018 Towny Award Winners:

**Best Actor in a Lead Role** Brady Love as Quasimodo in The Hunchback of Notre Dame

**Best Actress in a Lead Role** Jenny McNiven as Esmerelda in The Hunchback of Notre Dame

> **Best Actress in a Supporting Role** Caitlin Davies as Blanche in Bonnie and Clyde

Best Actor in a Supporting Role

#### Future Star Award

Makayla McClintic as Mary Tilford in The Children's Hour

# PLAYWRIGHT

Agatha Christie is known throughout the world as the Queen of Crime. Her books have sold over a billion copies in English with another billion in foreign languages.

She is the most widely published author of all time and, in many languages, outsold only by the Bible and Shakespeare. She is the author of 66 crime novels, 150 short story collections, over 20 plays, and six novels written under the name Mary Westmacott.

Her work includes Murder on the Orient Express, Death on the Nile, and the genredefining And Then There Were None. Agatha Christie's first novel, The Mysterious Affair at Styles, was written towards the end of the First World War, in which she served in the VAD. In it she created Hercule Poirot, the little Belgian detective who was destined to become the most popular detective in crime fiction since Sherlock Holmes. It was published by Bodley Head in 1920. In 1926, after averaging a book a year, Agatha Christie wrote her first masterpiece. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd was the first of her books to be published by Collins and marked the beginning of an author-publisher relationship that lasted for 50 years and well over 70 books. Ackroyd was also the first of Agatha Christie's books to be dramatized (under the title Alibi) and to have a successful run in London's West End. By 1930, Agatha had introduced a new character to act as detective.

When she created Miss Marple, Agatha did not expect her to become Poirot's rival, but with The Murder at the Vicarage, Miss Marple's first outing, it appeared she had produced another popular and enduring character. The Mousetrap, her most successful play of all, opened in 1952 and is the longest-running play in history. Agatha Christie was made a dame in 1971. She died in 1976.

Agatha Christie Limited (ACL) has been managing the literary and media rights to Agatha Christie's works around the world since 1955, working with the best talents in film, television, publishing, stage and on digital platforms to ensure that Christie's work continues to reach new audiences in innovative ways and to the highest standard.

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