

Thank You!

Friends and Family
Mary and Everett Beaulne
Jason Dewinetz
Sarah Foss
Sonja Hesse
Eszter Keler
Felix the Cat
Tiana Langdyk
Rebecca Letun
Stuart Maguire
Barry Pyett
Athena Robertson
Karen Rosendal
Ann Marie Ruether
Arts and Foundational Programs
Budget Blinds Kelowna
Crossing Creek Community Theatre
Dawson Creek Kiwanis Community Band
Diploma in Writing and Publishing
Kelowna Campus Security
OC College Relations
The Overlander Restaurant
ReStore West Kelowna

Auditions

In October of 2024, the Red Dot Players are presenting a musical revue by Michael Minions called *The Society for the Prevention of Rock and Roll (SPRR)*. Set in Southeast Kelowna in 1958, *The Society for the Prevention of Rock and Roll* is about musical acts auditioning for a talent show—and the local reverend's efforts to thwart the rise of rock and roll!

Auditions for *The Society for the Prevention of Rock and Roll* will take place in early August. Follow the Red Dot Players on Facebook and Instagram for more information!



The Red Dot Players are a theatre company made up of Okanagan College students, alumni, and employees, and community volunteers. Our mission is to produce plays that entertain, challenge, and educate audiences; to provide Okanagan College students and employees with an opportunity for creative self-expression; and to contribute to the arts in the Okanagan Valley.

The Red Dot Players respectfully acknowledge that we create theatre on the traditional unceded territories of the Okanagan Syilx people.

A poster for the play "Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express". The background is a dark blue night sky with a large, full moon and small white stars. At the bottom, a black steam locomotive with red smoke coming out of its chimney is pulling several black passenger cars with yellow windows. The title "AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS" is written in large, stylized white and yellow letters. Below the title, it says "Adapted for the stage by KEN LUDWIG" and "Directed by Jeremy Beaulne". The performance schedule is listed in the middle: Thursday, March 14th, 7 PM; Friday, March 15th, 7 PM; Saturday, March 16th, 7 PM; Sunday, March 17th, 2 PM; Saturday, March 23rd, 7 PM; Sunday, March 24th, 2 PM. The location is "Okanagan College Theatre, 1000 K.L.O. Road, Kelowna" and the admission prices are "General Admission: \$28 Students and Seniors: \$23". At the bottom, there are five arched windows showing a view of a forest. The Red Dot Players logo is in the bottom right corner, and the OC logo is in the bottom left corner.

The Red Dot Players present
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
MURDER
ON THE
ORIENT EXPRESS
Adapted for the stage by **KEN LUDWIG**
Directed by **Jeremy Beaulne**

Thursday, March 14th, 7 PM Friday, March 15th, 7 PM
Saturday, March 16th, 7 PM Sunday, March 17th, 2 PM
Saturday, March 23rd, 7 PM Sunday, March 24th, 2 PM

Okanagan College Theatre, 1000 K.L.O. Road, Kelowna
General Admission: \$28 Students and Seniors: \$23

Tickets available at www.reddotplayers.com and at the door.

OC
"Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com
RED DOT PLAYERS

The Red Dot Players present
Agatha Christie's
**MURDER on the
ORIENT EXPRESS**

Adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig

From the Director

Although I've always enjoyed Agatha Christie novels, I became a fan of Hercule Poirot, her most famous literary creation, during the pandemic, when I binge-watched all thirteen seasons of the ITV *Poirot* television series on YouTube. As portrayed by David Suchet, Poirot is a paragon of order in a world filled with chaos, deftly extracting the truth from a morass of lies and misdirection.

The most compelling Poirot stories, whether on the page or on the screen, are the ones in which the little Belgian detective's innate need for order is in conflict with his sense of justice. Perhaps the best example of this conflict can be found in *Murder on the Orient Express*, his most famous mystery. While investigating a horrific crime that occurs aboard an Orient Express train trapped by snow in the Yugoslavian mountains, Poirot faces the ultimate test both of his ingenuity and his morality. Ken Ludwig's clever adaptation of Christie's novel beautifully captures Poirot's dilemma as he comes closer and closer to solving the crime.

Working on this production, the Red Dot Players' first mystery, has been a tremendous amount of fun. I feel privileged to get to collaborate with such talented theatre artists.

Enjoy the show and *bon voyage*!

Jeremy Beaulne
Artistic Director
Red Dot Players



Dame Agatha Christie (1890-1976) poses with her oeuvre. Throughout her life, Christie wrote seventy-four novels, most of which were mysteries, and one hundred and sixty-four short stories.

MUSIC

Act I

"I Want to Go Back to Michigan"

Written by Irving Berlin

Performed by National Promenade Band, 1914

Mahler: Symphony No. 1 in D Major "Titan": Id. Vorwärts drangend

Performed by New York Philharmonic Orchestra – Leonard Bernstein

Released in 1967

Mahler: Symphony No. 1, 2nd Movement

Performed by Los Angeles Philharmonic – Gustavo Dudamel

Live from Walt Disney Concert Hall, 2009

Rimsky-Korsakov: "Flight of the Bumblebee"

Arrangement for cello orchestra by Richard Birchall

Performed by the London Cello Orchestra – Geoffrey Simon

Performed at Busan Citizen's Hall, June 28, 2013

"Alexander's Ragtime Band"

Written by Irving Berlin, March 1911

Performed by Ella Fitzgerald with Paul Weston and his orchestra, March 19, 1958

"The Original Charleston"

Written by James P. Johnson lyrics by Cecil Mack, 1923

Performed by Isham Jones Orchestra, 1925

Rossini: Overture "La Gazza Ladra"

Performed by Mannheimer Philharmoniker – Boian Videnoff

Performed at Rosengarten Mannheim, June 2012

Act II

"Alexander's Ragtime Band"

Written by Irving Berlin

Performed by the Boswell Sisters, New York, May 23, 1934

Mahler: Symphony No. 1 in D Major – 4. Sturmisch bewegt

Performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Sir George Solti

Released in 1984

Bach: Cello Suite No. 2 in D Minor BWV 1008

Performed by Eva Lymenstull

Performed June 19, 2019

Bach: Suite for Solo Cello No. 5 in C Minor BWV 1011

Performed by Steven Isserlis

Performed at 92nd Street Y on April 28, 2018

Haydn: String Quartet in D Op. 76 No. 2

Performed by the Castalian Quartet

Performed Live at Wigmore Hall, 2018

Curtain Call

"The Original Charleston"

Written by James P. Johnson, lyrics by Cecil Mack

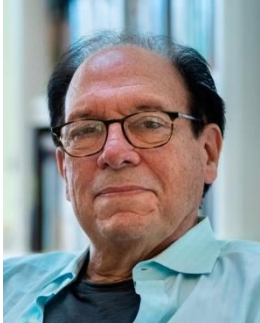
Performed by Michael Law's Piccadilly Dance Orchestra, 2020

Cala Records



Michelle Tillack – SOUND OPERATOR

Michelle is no stranger to the creative works of Agatha Christie, having appeared both on stage and behind the scenes in several of her productions, including *The Mousetrap* (Mrs. Casewell), *Black Coffee* (Miss. Treadwell), and *And Then There Were None* (Stage Manager). Alongside working on *Orient Express*, Michelle is preparing for the Black Cat Cabaret, where she has the honor of being one of the playwright finalists and directing her own play.



Ken Ludwig - PLAYWRIGHT

Ken Ludwig may well be the most performed playwright of his generation. He has had six productions on Broadway and eight in London's West End. His 34 plays and musicals are staged throughout the United States and around the world every night of the year. They have been produced in over 20 languages in more than 30 countries, and many have become standards of the American repertoire.

His first play, *Lend Me a Tenor*, was produced on Broadway and in London by Andrew Lloyd Webber. It won two Tony Awards and was called "one of the classic comedies of the 20th century" by *The Washington Post*. *Crazy For You* was on Broadway for five years, on the West End for three, and won the Tony and Olivier Awards for Best Musical. It has been revived twice in the West End and is currently touring Japan. Since its European premiere at Chichester Festival Theatre in 2022, Ludwig's adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* has had hundreds of international productions.

In addition, he has won the Edwin Forrest Award for Contributions to the American Theatre, two Laurence Olivier Awards, two Helen Hayes Awards, the Charles MacArthur Award, and the Edgar Award for Best Mystery of the Year. He was also nominated for an Emmy Award for writing the Kennedy Center Honors. His other plays include *Moon Over Buffalo*; *Leading Ladies*; *Baskerville*; *Sherwood*; *Twentieth Century*; *Dear Jack*, *Dear Louise*; *A Fox on the Fairway*; *A Comedy of Tenors*; *The Game's Afoot*; *Shakespeare in Hollywood*; and *Moriarty*. They have starred, among others, Alec Baldwin, Carol Burnett, Tony Shaloub, Joan Collins, and Kristin Bell.

His book *How to Teach Your Children Shakespeare*, published by Penguin Random House, has been a bestseller and is out this year in a new, expanded edition. It won the Falstaff Award for Best Shakespeare Book of the Year. His essays on theatre are published in the *Yale Review*, and he gives the Annual Ken Ludwig Playwriting Scholarship at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.

His first opera, *Tenor Overboard*, opened at the Glimmerglass Festival in July 2022. His most recent world premieres were *Lend Me A Soprano* and *Moriarty*, and his newest plays and musicals include *Pride and Prejudice Part 2: Napoleon at Pemberley*, *Lady Molly of Scotland Yard*, *Beginner's Luck*, and *Easter Parade*.

He has been commissioned to write plays by Agatha Christie Limited, the Royal Shakespeare Company, The Old Globe Theatre, and the Bristol Old Vic.

For more information visit www.KenLudwig.com.

The play is set in Istanbul and the mountains of Yugoslavia in 1934.

There are two acts; there will be a twenty-minute intermission between acts.

Please be advised that the production includes gun shots, flashing lights, and water-based fog.

CAST

HERCULE POIROT - Jason Pyett
MONSIEUR BOUC - Graham Daley
MARY DEBENHAM - Cassidy Janzen
HECTOR MACQUEEN - Riegar Marks
MICHEL THE CONDUCTOR - Harsh Hundal
PRINCESS DRAGOMIROFF - Lindsay Farrugia
GRETA OHLSSON - Holly Rance
COUNTESS ANDRENYI - Elizabeth Flowers
HELEN HUBBARD - Corinne Marks
COLONEL ARBUTHNOT - Brandon Benner
SAMUEL RATCHETT - Brenden Ross
HEAD WAITER - Harry Grossmith
DAISY ARMSTRONG - Lennon Scott

CREW

DIRECTOR - Jeremy Beaulne
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/STAGE MANAGER - Kendra Holly Grant
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER - Taylor Millett
SET CHANGE CREW - Patricia Asaka, John Erridge, Tina Theberge
COSTUME CREW - Patricia Asaka, Corinne Marks, Elizabeth Flowers, Eclair Liu
LIGHTING DESIGNER - Mike Minions
PROPERTIES CREW - Elizabeth Flowers, Jason Pyett, Lorreine Stanley
SET BUILDER - Bill Haidei
SET DECORATORS - Carol Fisher, Nancy Somerville
SET CREW - Jason Pyett, Chea Elton, Tina Theberge, Jeremy Beaulne, Elizabeth Flowers, Lorreine Stanley
SOUND DESIGNER - Jason Pyett
SOUND OPERATOR - Michelle Tillack
FRONT OF HOUSE - Elizabeth Flowers
PHOTOGRAPHER - Taylor Millett
POSTER DESIGNER - Kennedy McDonald-Beasse
PUBLICITY - April King
TRAILERS - Jason Pyett



Patricia Asaka – COSTUME CREW

Patricia is a true believer in the power of storytelling both in and out of the theatre. Since high school, she learned firsthand the behind-the-scenes magic that brings a production to life and understands the intricate workings of every aspect of theatre. From running crew to costumes, every element plays a vital role in transporting and connecting with others. When she's not in the theatre, you'll find her lost in books, painting, or glued to the latest binge-worthy TV series.



Brenden Ross – SAMUEL RATCHETT

Brenden is excited to be working with the Red Dot Players again, but this time on stage instead of behind the scenes. His previous roles include Silvius in Shakespeare Kelowna's *As You Like It* and the ghost in *The Haunting of Hill House*. He's excited to work alongside this wonderful cast and crew to bring Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* to the stage.



Jeremy Beaulne - DIRECTOR

A fan of Hercule Poirot, Jeremy is excited to bring the eccentric Belgian detective's most famous case to the Okanagan College stage. Jeremy has directed several productions for the Red Dot Players, including his plays *AKA Fangirl*, *Wonder of the Age*, and *The Beast of Blackthorn Manor*. When he has time between rehearsals, he teaches English literature and composition at Okanagan College.



Lennon Scott – DAISY ARMSTRONG

Lennon is a Grade 8 at Rutland Middle School. She's been in productions such as *Newsies* as Specs and *The Jungle Book* as Shere Khan at Kelowna Actors Studio. Lennon writes the newsletter for her school and is on the yearbook. She is very excited for her first show with the Red Dot Players!



Brandon Benner – COLONEL ARBUTHNOT

After taking a break from acting following high school, Brandon has returned to the stage in recent years, appearing in New Vintage Theatre's *Dead Serious*, Subterfuge Theatre's *Emmy & Jess & Leo Watch TV*, Theatre Kelowna Society's *Sleeping Beauty*, and the Red Dot Players' *Vanity Fair* and *Wonder of the Age*. When he is not acting, Brandon enjoys hiking in the Okanagan and sharing a good laugh with friends.



Nancy Somerville – SET DECORATOR

Nancy joined the theatre world four years ago and discovered that she loves making a fool of herself in public, playing everything from Countess Leonata to Nerdy the Dwarf for Crossing Creek Community Theatre. Her first time painting sets was early this year for *CLUE*, and now helping Red Dot with their ingenious designs. Theatre people are the best family, they really are!



Graham Daley – MONSIEUR BOUC

Graham is an actor, writer and director who has been working steadily for over ten years! This is his third production with the Red Dot Players, and he is thrilled to be part of another Agatha Christie show! You may recognize Graham because he has served you breakfast, or you've seen him perform in one of the multiple productions he has acted in with various theatre companies over the years, including, most recently, *The Haunting of Hill House* (Red Dot Players), *As You Like It* (Shakespeare Kelowna), and *The Fighting Season* (Trident Players). Graham would like to thank the cast and crew of *M.O.T.O.E.* for the incredible journey of fun, love, and laughter they embarked on to create this entertaining show for you! Heads up, he is not the killer... Or is he? Enjoy the show!



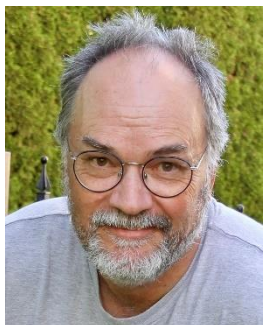
Tina Theberge – SET CREW

Tina Theberge is a relative newcomer to Kelowna from California. She has over twenty years of acting in film, television, and commercials in Canada and Los Angeles. She did some theatre at the start of her career and is excited to be involved in theatre again. She taught cold reading for a number of years to assist actors in the auditioning process and hopes to offer private classes to young actors in Kelowna. She has years of training in numerous classes in Montreal, New York, and Los Angeles. Some of these include Stella Adler School of Acting, Candy Herman (cold reading), and Milton Katselas, founder of the Beverly Hills Playhouse. Tina hopes to become a part of Kelowna's vibrant theatre and film world.



Taylor Millett – ASST. STAGE MANAGER

Taylor Millett has been a theatre enthusiast since childhood. Primarily starring in musicals, such as *West Side Story* (Anybodys), *Back to the 80's* (Eileen), and *Lady in the Dark* (Liza Elliot), she had her breakthrough in Kelowna theatre in 2023 when she was cast as the leading “Woman” in the Virago Collective’s *Five Times in One Night* and Theodora in the Red Dot Players’ *The Haunting of Hill House*. Taylor is delighted to take on the roles of assistant stage manager and photographer for *Murder on the Orient Express*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Michael Minions – LIGHTING DESIGNER

Mike Minions has been involved with Red Dot Players since the first show in 2011. Mostly he just does the lighting, but he directed and acted in *The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon* in 2015 and directed *Folk Tales: Grimm and Otherwise* in 2022. He is happily retired from Okanagan College after fifteen years as the Educational Technology Coordinator.



Jason Pyett – HERCULE POIROT

Jason Pyett is thrilled to make his community theatre debut in *Murder on the Orient Express* as the iconic lead, Hercule Poirot. “It’s a joy and honor for me to step into the shoes of such a beloved character.” Jason also serves as the sound designer for the show, creating all the sound design to enhance the audience’s experience.

Born and raised in Kelowna, Jason has been drawn to the arts from an early age, finding solace and inspiration in storytelling and performance. As a voice actor, coach and producer in his hometown, he’s honed his skills and cultivated a deep appreciation for theatre’s transformative power. When not immersed in theatre, Jason finds joy in music, staying active, and adventuring to new places.



Holly Rance – GRETA OHLSSON

This is Holly Rance’s first stage performance. Her journey into the world of theatre marks a shift from her usual online presence alongside her blue puppet friend Boggle. With a lifelong love for storytelling, Holly is sure that her parents are thrilled that the fantastical tales she made them watch and listen to are finally paying off.



John Erridge – SET CREW

Audiences might recognize John from his performances in *Eurydice* (The Virago Collective), *The Beast of Blackthorn Manor* (Red Dot Players), and *CLUE* (Crossing Creek Community Theatre). This is John’s first time working backstage, and he takes full responsibility for any awkward scene changes. John would also like to thank everyone for their support of local theatre.



Lindsay Farrugia – PRINCESS DRAGOMIROFF

Lindsay Farrugia has enjoyed the Kelowna arts and events scene since moving here from Ontario in 2010. Typically found behind the scenes, Lindsay has coordinated and stage-managed events for UBCO’s Creative Studies Department and is currently the Managing Director for the Inspired Word Café. Having previously acted in or done tech for shows with the Creekside Players and the Tempest Theatre, this is her first show with the Red Dot Players. Outside of the theatre, Lindsay is an avid reader, restaurant recommender, and D&D enthusiast.



Carol Fisher – SET DECORATOR

A long-standing interest in set design led to the opportunity to work on sets for the production of *CLUE* with Crossing Creek Community Theatre. The experience proved to be a great creative outlet and Carol is thrilled that it led to the chance to work on the beautifully constructed intricate sets of *Murder on the Orient Express* with Red Dot Players.



Elizabeth Flowers – COUNTESS ANDRENYI

Elizabeth is thrilled to be bringing the role of Countess Andrenyi to life for Kelowna audiences. You may recognize her from previous local theatre productions with New Vintage Theatre, Crossing Creek Theatre, Red Dot Players, and Subterfuge Theatre, as well as various award-winning local film and audio productions. Along with playing Countess Andrenyi, Elizabeth has taken on various behind-the-scenes roles with this production. In addition to being the props master and organizing the front of house, she assisted with costumes and sets. You can catch Elizabeth this summer playing Ursula in Shakespeare Kelowna’s production of *Much Ado about Nothing*, her first Shakespeare play. She hopes you enjoy the ride!



Kendra Holly Grant – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Kendra Holly has always enjoyed acting. Stepping behind the scenes for this production, Kendra is excited to apply her skills as the assistant director. Kendra has been a part of Red Dot Players for many years now, having worked on numerous shows, including *Wonder of the Age*, *Neverwhere*, and *Pride and Prejudice*. Kendra Holly has been working hard to get ready for the Black Cat Cabaret where she will be acting in two shows, as well as directing her first show. When not on the stage, Kendra can be found at home cuddling her two cats.



Harry Grossmith – HEAD WAITER

Having appeared in several productions of the Red Dot Players—including *The Government Inspector*, *The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon*, *AKA Fangirl*, *Neverwhere*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Wonder of the Age*—Harry plays the role of a snooty head waiter with no name. Such are the vagaries of fame.



Bill Haidei – SET BUILDER

Bill got involved in the world of theatre in 1995, when he discovered the Vancouver Fringe Festival. He built his first set in 2008. Since then, he has constructed sets for Fred Skeleton Theatre, Shakespeare Kelowna, Kelowna Actors Studio, New Vintage Theatre, Studio 9, Okanagan Mission Secondary, Aberdeen Hall Preparatory School, Mission Dance, and Ballet Kelowna. Bill's most recent project was building the titular haunted mansion for the Red Dot Players' production of *The Haunting of Hill House*.



Harsh Hundal – MICHEL THE CONDUCTOR

Harsh first appeared on stage as a cult leader in New Vintage Theatre's *Dead Serious* in September 2020 during the height of COVID. Since then, he has performed in over a dozen productions and at least five short films with Red Dot Players, New Vintage Theatre, Kelowna Fringe Festival, 100P Studios, CATO, and UBCO. When not performing, he can be found with pencil in hand scribbling in his notebook short award-winning plays or going for long walks with his wife, M. In a rather meta piece of casting, Harsh's next role will be as frustrated playwright Sidney Bruhl in New Vintage Theatre's *Deathtrap*.



Cassidy Janzen – MARY DEBENHAM

Introducing Cassidy Janzen as Mary Debenham in the classic whodunit *Murder on the Orient Express*. With a lifelong passion for theatre ignited at the age of ten, Cassidy honed her craft at the prestigious American Musical Dramatic Academy in NYC. Transitioning from the vibrant world of musical theatre to the mysterious realm of Agatha Christie, she brings depth and intrigue to the role of an enigmatic British governess. As the plot thickens and suspicions mount aboard the iconic train journey from Istanbul to Paris, audiences will be captivated by Cassidy's portrayal, reminding us all that in the world of mysteries, no one is above suspicion.



Eclair Liu – COSTUME CREW

Eclair's passion for costumes started in childhood, fueled by her grandmother's sewing prowess. In high school, she discovered her love for theatrical costume design, igniting a journey into the world of theater production. Beyond the stage, Eclair enjoys gaming with friends, doing art, and crafting costumes for conventions. Eclair dreams of one day contributing to the costume department of larger productions in the future.



Corrine Marks – HELEN HUBBARD

This is Corinne's second show with Red Dot and as usual Corinne has thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Whether it be acting, teaching or costuming, the theater has always brought joy and fulfillment. This show is extra special because Corinne gets to act with her son. It turns out that Mrs. Hubbard has been one of her favorite characters. No matter if she is on or offstage, she has always had a passion for theater and has enjoyed many roles! She hopes you enjoy the show.



Riegar Marks – HECTOR MACQUEEN

Riegar has been involved in the theater since he was a wee lad. Everything he learned, he learned from his wonderful and talented mother. Riegar worships his mother and hopes that one day he will have a fraction of her talent. He looks up to her not only in the theater but in every aspect of life. He strives to be just like her. He admires her comedy, talent, energy and most of all her awesomeness. Riegar knows that you will enjoy his mother's performance, but he also hopes that you will enjoy the entire show.