

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

OCTOBER 22-24 & 29-31
2021

Deathtrap

by Ira Levin

THE PLAYERS

Sidney Bruhl: **Kevin Dahle**
Myra Bruhl: **Alyssa Bauer**
Clifford Anderson: **Ben Pelegano**
Helga ten Dorp: **Kate Southwick**
Porter Milgrim: **Larry Tolle**

THE SETTING

Sidney Bruhl's Study
Westport, Connecticut

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

Please be aware this show contains scenes depicting violence that may be disturbing to some. There will also be two loud, simulated gunshots during the course of this production.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: **Susan Carlson**
Stage Manager: **Dean Lamp**
Producer: **Brenda Kragseth**
Set Designer: **Rolf Kragseth**
Costumer: **Birch Carlson**
Fight Choreographer: **Matthew Humason**
Fight Captain: **Ben Pelegano**
Lighting Designer: **Brian Bjorklund**
Master Builder: **Dan Peterson**
Light and Sound Board Op: **Greg Bauer**
Set Painting: **Susan Carlson and Anna Olson**
Promotional Photographer: **Joe Miller Photography**
Headshot Photographer: **Tania Legvold**
Archival Photographer: **Elin Odegaard**

Set Construction and Decor: Locke Perkins, Steve Lawler, Alyssa Bauer, Calvin Kragseth, Dean Lamp, Kate Southwick, Andy Thompson

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Kevin Dahle (Sydney Bruhl) has been involved in High School and community theater for over 45 years. He directed High School plays for over 20 years and has appeared in numerous Guild productions. His most recent acting credits include the Guild's *SOLOS Monologue Festival*, *Mansfield Park*, and *The Miracle Worker*. After serving two terms in the Minnesota Senate, he has returned to teaching HS social studies full time in Northfield. He enjoys genealogy, travel, and spending time with his wife, Beth, and his three children.



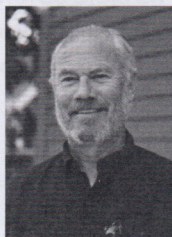
Alyssa Bauer (Myra Bruhl) has enjoyed the opportunity to return to the stage. She previously performed in *Population 485* at the Guild in September 2018. She thanks her husband and children for being so supportive, her mom for being her biggest cheerleader, and Susan for giving her a chance to fill her cup. Thank you to the cast and crew for making *Deathtrap* a safe escape from reality.



Ben Pelegano (Clifford Anderson) grew up in Glastonbury, CT and attended St. Olaf College. During the day he works as an Assistant Dean of Admissions at St. Olaf and, occasionally, at night he works for the Minnesota Timberwolves. He is excited to be acting in his fourth Guild production and is thrilled to be working with Susan and this amazing cast on *Deathtrap*!



Kate Southwick (Helga ten Dorp) After a 4 year hiatus, Kate is excited and grateful to be back on the Guild stage with a great cast, director, stage crew, and awesome tech peeps who make it all happen. Off stage, she works full-time at Metropolitan State University, lives with two cats and a husband, and juggles multiple hobbies like motorcycle riding, camping, belly dancing, and adulting.

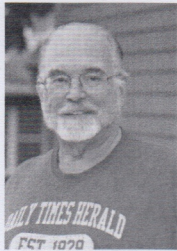


Larry Tolle (Porter Milgrim) has previously had the privilege of performing in Guild productions of: *The Tempest*, *Secret Garden*, *The Odyssey*, *The Northfield Experience*, and Lab project *Father of Lies*. In real life he is Co-Owner of 502 Studio and Gallery. His favorite roles are husband, father, grandfather, friend, neighbor, citizen and struggling writer. Favorite plays: *Spoon River Anthology* & *These Shining Lives*.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM



Susan Carlson (Director) has been involved with the Arts Guild Theater since 1994, first as an actor, then over the years as a stage manager, designer, and director. She helped inaugurate the summer Theater in the Park in 2000, and loves helping to make theater happen in that outdoor space. Some favorite experiences include playing Abby Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, directing *Macbeth* in the Park, costuming *Steel Magnolias*, stage managing *Oliver!* and designing the stage for *The Tempest* in the park. Susan retired last December after 33 years at St. Olaf College.



Dean Lamp (Stage Manager) has appeared in several shows at the Guild Theater including his favorites as Ben in *Secret Garden* and as Santa in *A Christmas Story*. He recently retired after a 40 year career as a musician, conductor and teacher in Iowa. He and his ever-so-patient wife Lynne moved to Northfield in May of 2018 to take advantage of the arts opportunities offered by their new community.

Birch Carlson (Costumer) *Deathtrap* is the first show Birch has costumed, although she has served as costume manager for the Guild theater's costume shop and was costume assistant for *The Odyssey* (in which she also played the role of Penelope). She is excited to take on this new backstage adventure after spending much time on the Guild stage!

Rolf Kragseth (Set Designer) is very active with the Guild, serving on the board of directors and volunteering in many capacities. He has found something of a niche in set design, as it does not involve the rigors of memorizing or dancing. Besides, with a good builder, painter and lighting designer on the team, he knows that his set will look fabulous!

Brenda Kragseth (Producer) has appeared in *Lysistrata*, *Twelfth Night*, and other Guild productions. This is her second time serving as Producer and she enjoys this role. She recently left her job and became a full time student to finish what she started over 30 years ago! She has lived in Northfield for 16 years with her very active husband and wonderful son.

THE
GUILD

SPECIAL THANKS

Bauer Family • Todd Carlson • St. Olaf Theater Department • Front of House
Volunteers • Paula Granquist of ArtZany Radio at KYMN 95.1 The One • Used-
A-Bit Shoppe • Greg Muth • Brent Kivell and Kivell Design •
The Northfield Arts Guild Theater Committee • Northern Edge Armory

PLEASE BE ADVISED

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AUDITIONS

Audition for *Bright Star*

Inspired by a true story and featuring the Tony®-nominated score by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, Broadway's *Bright Star* tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and '40s.

Directed by Mishia Edwards
Musical Direction by Kristin Kivell

Auditions

Sunday, Nov. 7, 4:00-7:00 pm and
Monday, Nov. 8, 6:30-9:00 pm

Show runs March 4-20, 2022

Learn more and sign up for an audition time
www.northfieldartsguild.org



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I'd like to start off by saying how delightful it has been these past few months to return to creating live theater at the Guild. Being able to build characters and situations in a physical space, and hearing voices unmediated by electronic connections, has been a grand pleasure.



I appreciate the steps that the Guild has taken to make the safest possible environment for actors, crew, and audiences.

First staged in 1978, *Deathtrap* holds the record for longest-running comedy-thriller on Broadway. It was nominated for four Tony Awards, including Best Play. Playwright Ira Levin won his second Edgar Award for the play. But is it a thriller in the fine tradition of *Dial M for Murder*, *The Mousetrap* and other one-set whodunits, or is it a comic sendup of the same?

Ira Levin might be better known for his novels that became movies, including *Rosemary's Baby*, *The Stepford Wives*, and *A Kiss Before Dying* (which was his first Edgar Award). Stephen King described Levin as "the Swiss watchmaker of suspense novels," and his every novel "a marvel of plotting." However, his earlier play, *No Time for Sergeants*, established some comedy credentials as well. So, it's not terribly surprising that the dialogue in *Deathtrap* is tightly written and witty, while he also knows how to surprise and misdirect.

Levin also has a lot of fun referencing other plays of the thriller genre and the formulas and expectations that they rely on - doing "meta" a decade or so before that term shows up in other contexts.

Keep your eyes and ears open - and enjoy! We're so glad you're here with us!

~Susan Carlson