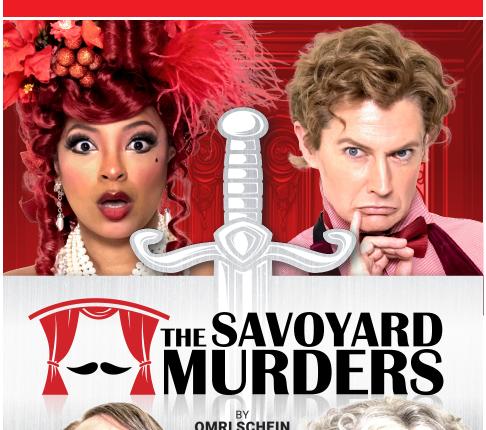
roustabouts theatre 9





SEPTEMBER 7 – 30, 2023

NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

the roustabouts theatre so

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS

I have always been a fan of mysteries. As a child, I devoured the novels of Agatha Christie, completing her entire canon before I was twelve. Through my adulthood I explored the works of Dorothy Sayers, Ngaio Marsh, Cyril Hare, Edmund Crispin, Ellery Queen, John Dickson Carr, as well as numerous others. I loved the Golden Age of Murder Mystery.

Another guilty pleasure of mine has always been the bizarre B movies of Vincent Price. While watching "Theatre of Blood" one evening, enjoying a deliciously understated Vincent Price killing theatre critics in the style of Shakespearean works, I pondered to myself: "wouldn't it be fun to write a play in this style? What hasn't been done before? The ten plagues? Been done. 'The Ten Commandments'? Been done. The seven deadly sins? Been done."

Then I remembered that Gilbert and Sullivan had written over a dozen comic operas. Why not use those as a basis for a silly murder mystery? And that's exactly what it is- a silly murder mystery. A fictitious account of theatrical gorgons coming together to solve a ridiculous mystery as a homage to the genre I love or should I say genres?

For anyone who is actually reading this, I recommend Anthony Berkeley's "The Poisoned Chocolate Case" which too inspired this play. Sometimes theatre is just meant to delight and entertain. I hope this play manages to at least do one of those.



Omri Schein Author

The Roustabouts Theatre Co. (Artistic Director & Founder, Phil Johnson)

presents

A MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION



BY OMRI SCHEIN

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY **DANIEL M. LINCOLN**DIRECTED BY **PHIL JOHNSON & OMRI SCHEIN**

The Savoyard Murders is gratefully sponsored by Laurie Gore & Julie Osman, Pam Wagner & Hans Tegebo, Barbara Sue Barnes, and Alan Campbell.

CAST (in alphabetical order)

Ezra Dibble/Inspector Berkeley	Eliott Goretsky	
Rowena Rawlings	-	
Tiberius Spriggs	Phil Johnson*	
Grizzle/Victims/Peregrine Scattergood/Albert Mogg/Euphoria Barrick/		
Primrose Cabbage/Millicent Maggot	David McBean*	
Cyrus Schock	Durwood Murray	
Balthazar Bellwood	Daren Scott	
Desdemona Chatfield-Snarr	Wendy Waddell	

PRODUCTION				
Stage Manager Maya Aizenman	Assistant Stage Manager Josie Gerk	Musical Director David McBean	Musical Staging Jill Gorrie	
Scenic Designer Yi-Chien Lee	Costume Designer Jennifer Brawn Gittings	Lighting Designer Michelle Miles	Sound Designer Paul Durso	
Props Designer Brandon Ross	Hair and Wigs Designer Peter Herman	Dramaturg Tim Botsko	Lead Carpenter Paul Morgavo	
	Production Manager Maya Aizenman	Associate Producer Cristyn Chandler		

Place: A posh London flat in the late 1920's. Opening song music by Daniel M. Lincoln. The Savoyard Murders is performed in two acts with one 15 minute intermission.





Tickets: 619.337.1525



www.cygnettheatre.org

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS

Omri Schein's *The Savoyard Murders* was first seen by The Roustabouts team a couple of years ago in a reading. I think everybody knew that it was a hilarious and stylish piece of fun that brought smiles to everyone who saw it. Who could have known at that time, after the pandemic in America, what would be needed were pieces that could specifically evoke feelings of lightness, possibility, and a reconnection to our own humor—things that we would all require four years later?

This play has been done with the very best talent in San Diego in terms of acting and comedy, set design, costumes, hair and tech. Omri Schein is a rising star in local theater with this and other newly written pieces just coming out, as well as last seasons *The Remarkable Mister Holmes* at North Coast Repertory. This is something The Roustabouts would like to give to people to enjoy themselves and find their humor again.

As a proud purveyor of comedy in San Diego and believers in the light and energy it can bring us all, we are very excited to present this stylish and well written piece of entertainment to everyone who shares it with us.

And The Roustabouts Theatre Company would like to thank Scripps Ranch Theatre for their kindness in letting us work with them and present here, until we get our own space.



Phil JohnsonTRTC Artistic Director
and Producer

Phil Johnson

roustabouts theatre on

G.R.I.T.

GUTS, RESILIENCE, INDEPENDENCE & TENACITY

NOV 5 - DEC 3, 2023

MAN AND MOON

BY SIENA MARILYN LEDGER DIRECTED BY DESIREÉ CLARKE MILLER

FRESH FROM A ROLLING WORLD-PREMIERE

FEB 4 - MAR 10, 2024

CLYDE'S

BY LYNN NOTTAGE

DIRECTED BY DELICIA TURNER SONNENBERG

TONY AWARD® NOMINATED BEST NEW PLA

MAY 5 - JUN 2, 2024

NOTES ON KILLING SEVEN OVERSIGHT, MANAGEMENT, AND ECONOMIC STABILITY BOARD MEMBERS

BY MARA VÉLEZ MELÉNDEZ

DIRECTED BY ANDRÉA AGOSTO

WEST COAST PREMIER

CO-PRODUCTION WITH DIVERSIONARY THEATRE

MAY 9 - JUNE 2, 2024

*TL;DR: THELMA LOUISE; DYKE REMIX

BY ELLAROSE CHARY & BRANDON JAMES GWINN

DIRECTED BY SHERRI EDEN BARBER

WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICAL

CO-PRODUCTION WITH DIVERSIONARY THEATR

2023/2024 SEASON 19

MOXIE Theatre



*Note: All performances of TL;DR will take place at Diversionary Theatre. Show not included in MOXIE's Season 19 Subscription Packages. Special add-on ticket price will be available for MOXIE Subscribers.

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With deep appreciation, we celebrate your vital role in our success.

Anonymous

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COMING UP NEXT...



watch on the RHINE

Staged Reading

By Lillian Hellman
Directed by Phil Johnson

Watch on the Rhine is set in late spring 1940 in Washington, D.C. War, fascism, and espionage are all exposed in this three-act drama that evolves into an intense thriller.





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Staged Reading

By **Joan Didion**Directed by **Phil Johnson**

An uplifting, arresting and powerful drama that explores the question: how does the soul process grief and loss?

STONES IN HIS POCKETS

Staged Reading

By **Marie Jones**Directed by **Phil Johnson**

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By Robert Askins Directed by Phil Johnson

From reading to production, The Roustabout Theatre Co. is bringing the blazing comedic explosion, Hand to God to its main stage! See the Sunday School hand puppet come to life and take over a shy student and wreak havoc on his world.





of NEW WRITERS

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Staged Reading

By Oscar Wilde
Directed by Phil Johnson

This play holds the perfect amount of timeless wit and charm, but is the setting 1900's London or The Real Housewives of Atlanta? This version will have you addicted!

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THE SAVOYARD MURDERS



OMRI SCHEIN (Playwright/ Co-Director) is a

Co-Director) is a performer/lyricist/ playwright/director. As a writer: The

Remarkable Mister Holmes at NCRT, Making Melrose at Slippery Rock University, The Princess Probllama and Fintastic Finn at Cape Fear Regional Theatre. Mambo Italiano at Westchester Broadway Theatre, Withering Heights with The Roustabouts Theatre Co, Gary Goldfarb: Master Escapist (2013 NYMF Award Best Lyrics) and the upcoming musicals The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate, an adaptation of the young adult novel and Grecian Burns a Greek mythology reality T.V show dating musical. Omri recently directed Anything Goes for San Diego Musical Theatre. As a performer: Murder On The Links (world premiere) Baskerville, Babette's Feast, All In The Timing. A Funny Thing...Forum, Persuasion, Noises Off, The Explorer's Club, Beau Jest, Laughter On the 23rd Floor, The Underpants, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Five Course Love, When Pigs Fly, Disney's Beauty and The Beast, Dear World, The People vs. Mona (Off-Broadway/Cast Recording), Hell's Belles, Henry V, Grease (tour) and When You're in Love. The Whole World Is Jewish directed by Jason Alexander, Member of AFA. omri-schein.com.



ELIOTT GORETSKY

(Ezra Dibble/Inspector Berkeley) Recent credits: Moonface Martin in Anything Goes, and Mr. Mushnik

in Little Shop of Horrors at San Diego Musical Theatre. Other favorite roles include Toddy in Victor/Victoria, Uncle Louie in Lost in Yonkers, Feste in Twelfth Night, The Doctor in Andorra, Sidney Lipton in God's Favorite, Roy Cohn in Angels in America, Rabbi in Fiddler on the Roof, and Hysterium in A Funny Thing Happened... He has numerous television and voice-over credits from the L.A. days. Thank you to the amazing Roustabouts creative team and crew! Enjoy the show!



TAYLOR HENDERSON

(Rowena Rawlings) is delighted to be working with The Roustabouts again

since her first reading with them in 2017 for Mrs. Bob Crachit's Wild Christmas Binge! Taylor is a multihyphenate artist and performer that has been working professionally for upwards of 10 years; this year alone you may have seen her in the world premiere of BottleShock! The Musical (CCAE), Xanadu (SDMT) and the American premiere of The High Table (Diversionary). In her downtime she enjoys singing karaoke and playing Dungeons & Dragons. Thank you for supporting live theatre. Inspire. Aspire! IG @tay.renee.onstage.

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS



PHIL JOHNSON*
(Tiberius Spriggs/
Co-Director) is
Artistic Director
and founder of
The Roustabouts

Theatre Co. He's directed for The Roustabouts, Scripps Ranch Theatre, Playwrights Project, and started the new Great Jewish American Playwright Series/ JPlays at the JCC. He's appeared at most all San Diego theaters and in numerous original solo shows including A Jewish Joke which opened Off-Broadway in NYC 2019. As actor, he's played in Les Misérables on Broadway and on tour: Canadian production of Sunset Boulevard: and the 1st National Co. of Miss Saigon. He is a two-time winner of the SD Critics Circle Craig Noel Award for acting. and is a founder of the San Diego Theatre Alliance. He last appeared in TRTC's gUnTOPIA by Will Cooper this spring, and with David McBean in last season's The Remarkable Mister Holmes by Omri Schein & David Ellenstein at North Coast Repertory Theatre.



DAVID MCBEAN* (Grizzle/Victims: Peregrine Scattergood, Albert Mogg, Euphoria Barrick, Primrose

Cabbage, and Millicent Maggot) is a native San Diegan and graduate

of the SD School for Creative and Performing Arts. Credits include: Fully Committed (Craig Noel Award). La Cage aux Folles, Pageant, The Legend of Georgia McBride, Christmas Carol, Little Shop of Horrors at Cygnet Theater. The Remarkable Mister Holmes, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, Travels With My Aunt, Charley's Aunt, School For Lies, at North Coast Rep. 86-ed, The Mystery of Irma Vep, Twist, The Rocky Horror Show, and Psycho Beach Party at Diversionary Theatre. He is the Vocal Arts Instructor/Music Director for the Coronado School of the Arts. Musical Theatre/Drama Conservatory and music director for the Kensington Community Church.



DURWOOD MURRAY (Cyrus Schock) is so happy to be working once again with The Roustabouts, previously appearing

in Book of Leaves. He has also appeared in Handbagged and Our Lady of Kibeho at Moxie Theatre, at New Village Arts in The Servant of 2 Masters and 1222 Oceanfront, at Diversionary Theatre in The High Table, Well and One in Two, and Intrepid Theatre Company in Father Comes Home from the Wars Parts I, II, and III. Durwood would like to thank The Usual Suspects, Wondrous Strange, and all The Partners for their love and support.

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS



DAREN SCOTT
(Balthazar Bellwood)
was last seen in
New Village Arts
critically acclaimed

and completely sold

out run of *The Ferryman* playing Father Horrigan, prior to that he was Van in Backyard Renaissance Theatre's world premiere of Witchland. He was Dance Teacher Pat in Moxie Theatre's West Coast Premiere of Dance Nation. Other credits include The North Plan and The Normal Heart at Ion Theatre. ART at Intrepid Theatre. He has also performed in several plays at Diversionary Theatre, and a few for Cyanet Theatre. He is a founding member of New Village Arts, where he has worked as actor, director and photographer since 2003.



WENDY WADDELL

(Desdemona Chatfield-Snarr) was last seen at The Roustabouts in For Whom the Southern

Bell Tolls. She has a BFA in Acting from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Select San Diego theatre credits: Fiddler on the Roof (San Diego Critics Circle nominee, Welk); 9 to 5, Anything Goes, Xanadu (SDMT); Carrie, Admissions (OnStage Playhouse); Sunday in the Park with George (ion); Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Communicating Doors (SRT); All My Sons, Hamlet,

King John (Intrepid); American Hero, The Full Monty, Three Sisters (New Village Arts); Brave Smiles, Bunbury (Diversionary); Bluebonnet Court (Moxie/Diversionary); The Diary of Anne Frank, The Butcher of Baraboo (MOXIE); The Miser, The Car Plays (La Jolla Playhouse); Company (Cygnet). WendyWaddellActor.com



MAYA AIZENMAN

(Production Stage Manager) is excited to return to The Roustabouts team for another show. After

graduating San Diego State University in 2022 with a B.A. in Theatre Arts and a second B.A. in Linguistics. she spends the school year as Mesa College's staff production manager. When she is not at Mesa. Maya is a freelance stage manager, working around San Diego on shows such as Hay Fever (Coronado Playhouse, Stage Manager), (un) Documents (Diversionary Theatre, Stage Manager), gUnTOPIA (The Roustabouts Theatre Co., Stage Manager), and Eighty-Sixed (Diversionary Theatre, Assistant Stage Manager). In her precious free time she is an avid fan of campy sci-fi, professional wrestling, and pour over coffee.



JOSIE E. GERK (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled

to rejoin The
Roustabouts Theatre

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS

Co. for this production. Stage Management credits include: Finding Avi (La Jolla Playhouse WoW Festival); Dido & Aeneas (Bodhi Tree Concerts); Something Blue (Diversionary Theatre). Assistant Stage Management: gUnTOPIA (The Roustabouts Theatre Co.); Cabaret (Ion Theatre); Father Comes Home from the Wars; Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story (Intrepid Theatre).



YI-CHIEN LEE (Set Design) is a San Diego-based set designer working in theatre and film. She

recently received the Craig Noel Award 2022 for Outstanding Scenic Design for her work on The October Night of Johnny Zero for Backvard Renaissance Theatre. Credits include: On This Side Of The World (East West Players), Sharon, El Huracán, Life Sucks, Water by the Spoonful, The Great Leap (Cygnet), The Secret Garden (Music Theatre Heritage) God of Carnage (Backyard Renaissance), The Future is Female (Flint REP), King of the Yees (Sierra Madre Playhouse), The Great Khan (SD REP), Monsters of the American Cinema, The High Table, Eighty-Sixed, Girlfriend, A Kind of Weather (Diversionary), Mother of the Maid. The Pleasure Trials (Moxie), The Winter's Tale-globe for all (Old Globe).



MICHELLE MILES

(Lighting Design) has served San Diego local theatre for over a decade, having started her career as

a Master Electrician and ASM. Past design favorites include: gUnTOPIA, Iron (Roustabouts); Spelling Bee, In The Heights, Young Frankenstein (SDMT): Cotton Patch Gospel, An American Christmas (LPT); Steel Magnolias (Backyard Renaissance); Sunday in the Park With George, Once (CCAE). When she's not tinkering with electronics, scaling the walls and vigorously tapping keys on the light board she can be found somewhere in the wilderness- searching for that moment where the world feels big and she feels small. Unending love and respect to her Family, the Longfellow Clan, the Peirsons and her Motley Crew.



PAUL DURSO

(Sound Design) is a musician, composer, artist, and creative engineer across many mediums. He

lectures and teaches on aesthetics, theme park design, and spiritual initiatory systems. He performs music nationwide with the band Sigil of Dragon and as a solo artist, and serves as Deputy Master for a local body of Ordo Templi Orientis. His latest album, Field of Constant Intensity, is out now on Meaning

CAST AND PRODUCTION TEAM

the roustabouts theatre co

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS

Through Form Records. Theatrical credits include: The Polar Express Train Ride, Ain't Misbehavin', Iron, Henry V, Catch Me If You Can, Eurydice, Sense and Sensibility, Disney's Freaky Friday, In The Car. meaningthroughform.com



JENNIFER BRAWN GITTINGS (Costume Design) holds an MFA in both Costume Design and Scenic Design from the

Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University and a BA in Theatre Arts from UCLA. Over the last 20 years, Ms. Gittings has designed more than 130 productions, including plays, musicals, dance, and world premieres. Her costume designs have graced the stages of regional theatres such as the La Jolla Playhouse, Old Globe Theatre, San Diego REPertory Theatre, A Noise Within, The Western Stage, Crossroads Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, The Lycian Centre, and The Luna Stage.



TIM BOTSKO

(Dramaturg) This is Tim's second production with The Roustabouts, after gUnTOPIA. Tim

prepared to become a dramaturg by bouncing through myriad jobs

- from amusement park cleanup to plumber, theater technical director, paralegal, industrial photographer, Information Governance Professional, and numerous other odd stops along the way. Additional preparation included being more interested in reading than eating and having a dustbin of a memory that can hold and then disgorge the most obscure but oddly relevant information. Many thanks to the founders of The Roustabouts for giving me this opportunity to be part of such an inventive company.



PETER HERMAN (Hair & Wig Design) Cygnet Theatre: Costumes and Wig / Makeun Design

Wig/Makeup Design for Shakespeare's R&J, Hedwig and the Angry

Inch. Wigs/Makeup Design for The Virgin Trial, Rock of Ages, Pride and Prejudice, Angels in America, Marie and Rosetta, HIR, Spamalot, The Last Wife, Shockheaded Peter, On the 20th Century, Bad Jews, Seven Guitars, King Hedley II, Gypsy, Stupid F**king Bird, The Rocky Horror Show, When the Rain Stops Falling, Hay Fever, The Vortex, The Glass Menagerie, Little Shop of Horrors, Our Town, Cabaret, The Norman Conquests, Private Lives, Sweeney Todd. Elsewhere: Peter has designed hair and wigs for over 300 productions, including the La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego Rep, San Diego Opera and Disneyland. Peter currently teaches wig and makeup at SDSU.



* The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States | Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-ClO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks

THE SAVOYARD MURDERS

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