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**Carol Beauchamp, Kathy Gaona,
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OCT 4,5,6,7,11,12,13,14,18,19,20,21,25,26,27,28,29,30,31

DIRECTOR'S NOTES By Scott Palmer

IRA LEVIN is no stranger to murder, mayhem, terror, demons, the supernatural, or good old-fashioned blood and gore. In fact, Levin's career was largely based on scaring the pants off people, and his iconic play, *Deathtrap*, is perhaps his greatest achievement.

According to the UK's *Independent* newspaper, Ira Levin was "the king of the high-concept thriller." Although he produced more plays than he did novels (10 plays, 7 novels) in a writing career spanning over 50 years, three novels were massive bestsellers that were made into highly successful movies – *Rosemary's Baby* (1967), in which a woman suspects that a cult wants to take her baby for use in some kind of demonic ritual, *The Stepford Wives* (1972), in which a young mother begins to suspect that the ridiculously submissive housewives in her Connecticut neighborhood may in fact be robots, and *The Boys From Brazil* (1976), wherein Josef Mengele, alive and in hiding in South America, gathers together a group of former Nazis in an attempt to clone Adolf Hitler. Good old-fashioned family fun!

His debut novel, *A Kiss Before Dying*, published in 1953 when Levin was only 23, remains a masterpiece of crime fiction and won him his first Edgar Award. It was adapted twice for film, once in 1956 and again in 1991. The story focuses on a charming, highly intelligent young man who will stop at nothing to get what he wants; his problem is a young pregnant woman who loves him, and the solution, inevitably, will involve some desperate measures. *A Kiss Before Dying* really started Levin's career of exploring the depths of evil and sadism that lie underneath calm, normal, and often attractive exteriors.

By the time of the film release of *A Kiss Before Dying*, Levin had already turned

his attention successfully to Broadway. He adapted a now-forgotten book by Mac Hyman – *No Time For Sergeants* – and the 1955 play ran for over 700 performances on Broadway, launching the career of the lead actor, Andy Griffith. Levin stayed with theatre for the next 10 years, although less successfully. His work may not have been hugely impactful for the theatre, but it was for a number of Broadway stars. *Interlock* (1958) starring Maximilian Schell ran for four performances. *Critic's Choice* (1960) starring Henry Fonda fared better, running for three months. *General Seeger*, produced and directed by George C. Scott, lasted only two performances. A musical, *Drat! The Cat!*, that he spent 10 years on, ran for only one week in 1966 (although a song he had written for it later became a huge hit for Barbra Streisand, *He Touched Me*).

In 1978, Levin finally nailed the marriage of his two great passions (thrillers and theatre) with his Broadway hit *Deathtrap*. He won a second Edgar Award for it in 1980 and the play ran on Broadway for 1,793 performances, from 1978 to 1982, making it one of the most successful Broadway thrillers of all time.

The New York Times said of Levin in their obituary of him in 2007, "Combining elements of several genres — mystery, Gothic horror, science fiction and the techno-thriller — Mr. Levin's works conjured up a world full of quietly looming menace, in which anything could happen to anyone at any time. In short, the Ira Levin universe was a great deal like the real one, only more so: more starkly terrifying, more exquisitely mundane."

Deathtrap is the perfect example of Levin's fascination with the deadly, violent undercurrents of what appears, at first glance, to be the completely mundane: a successful, but declining playwright living in the relative comfort of polite,

upper crust New England convention; Ralph Lauren woolen sweaters, classical architecture, an attractive and supportive wife, influential neighbors, with just a hint of celebrity here and there; a fading career and the recognition that younger, more energetic talents may soon eclipse you. In so many ways, these characters are pretty commonplace.

But underneath all of that convention lurks the darkest of human impulses. Murder, betrayal, greed, violence, duplicity, infidelity, and slaughter....just there, right under the surface, waiting to explode.

The tension of the play is constant, and starts from the very first scene, but so much of that tension is never shown - it is only felt. When I think of the tension in this play, I often think of the movie *Jaws*. Everyone in the audience knows there is a giant man-eating shark waiting right below the surface, but the characters still go swimming. It is the **anticipation** of the violence that provides the audience with glee.

As a work of literature, *Deathtrap* is clever, self-aware, and very witty. The combination of excellent writing and a devilishly complex plot is simply irresistible to me. I've been wanting to try my hand at *Deathtrap* for a long, long time and now that we have The Vault, with its intimate closeness and technical magic, I figured it was time to try and scare the pants off our audiences, just as Ira Levin would have wanted it.

BOO.

Happy Halloween, and enjoy the show... if you dare....

Scott Palmer
Founding Artistic Director

ABOUT BAG&BAGGAGE

Bag&Baggage is committed to unique interpretations and novel stagings of plays by the world's best-known authors. We seek to rethink and reinvigorate the most celebrated titles, to challenge the public to experience them in new ways, and to connect our work to the lives and experiences of our audiences. Founded by a Hillsboro native, Bag&Baggage believes that cultural experiences like live theatre play an absolutely crucial role in the health of our community.



Bag&Baggage Productions presents

Deathtrap

by Ira Levin

CAST

Sidney Bruhl.....	Lawrence Siulagit
Clifford Anderson.....	Andrew Beck†
Myra Bruhl.....	Morgan Coxt
Helga ten Dorp.....	Mandana Khoshnevisant
Porter Milgrim.....	Eric St. Cyr†

CREW/PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....	Scott Palmer
Costume Designer.....	Melissa Heller
Lighting Designer & Technical Director.....	Jim Ricks-White
Scenic Designer.....	Tyler Buswell
Stage Manager.....	Ephriam Harnsberger
Master Carpenter & Master Electrician.....	Gabe Costales
Assistant Stage Manager & Props Master.....	Kai Hennig^
Sound Designer.....	Darwin Pringle^
Fight Choreographer.....	Signe Larsent

‡= member of the Bag&Baggage Resident Acting Company, generously sponsored by Linda Morrisson & Andrew Hoffmann

†= Bag&Baggage Associate Artist

^= Bag&Baggage Emerging Artist, generously sponsored by Brad & Linda Needham

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

This performance lasts 2 hours, including one 15-minute intermission.

Please remember: turn OFF your phone, do not text during the performance, and photography or recording of this performance are strictly prohibited.

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Ronni Lacroute

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Cassie Greer

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Arianne Jacques

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ACTOR & CREW BIOS

ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES



ANDREW BECK (CLIFFORD ANDERSON)

Andrew holds a Master of Fine Arts in Acting from the University of Nebraska- Lincoln and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Oregon. This is Andrew's fourth year as a member of Bag&Baggage's Resident Acting Company. You may have seen Mr. Beck in Bag&Baggage's *Blithe Spirit* (As Charles Condomine); *Spinning into Butter* (as Ross Collins); *Charles Dickens Writes A Christmas Carol* (as a bushel of characters); *Our Country's Good* (as Ralph Clark); *Dial "M" for Murder* (as Tony Wendice); and most recently in *As You Like It* (as Jaques). Other companies Andrew has worked for include the Oregon Contemporary Theatre (where he will be performing again later this year), The Great American Melodrama & Vaudeville, Willamette Stage Company, Nebraska Repertory Theatre, and The Ludlow Festival (England). Other favorite roles include: *The Great Gatsby* (as Jay Gatsby); *The Seagull* (as Trigorin); *In the Next Room* (as Dr. Givings); and *Frankenstein's Bride* (as The Monster). Andrew is a current member of No Filter Improv and Long Con Improv, and works as a Financial Advisor in his family's practice when he is not making loud noises in front of paying audiences. Andrew is lucky to have such great family, friends, and wife.



MORGAN COX (MYRA BRUHL)

Morgan holds an MFA in Acting from Temple University, and a BA in Theater Arts from Santa Clara University. She is a proud Bag&Baggage Associate Artist! Past roles with B&B include: *The Best of Everything* (as Amanda Farrow); *Coriolanus* (as Sicinius); *Brontë* (as Emily); *Spinning Into Butter* (as Dean Kenney); and *Charles Dickens Writes a Christmas Carol* (Multiple Roles). Morgan has performed locally in the JAW Festival, Fertile Ground Festival, The Hearth Collective, The Reformers, Stage Works Ink. She co-produced and performed in the Portland, Oregon premiere of Melissa Ross's *Of Good Stock* this past May with Lyon Theatre (and will embark on another one in 2019). Morgan also works in film, television, and voiceover and is represented by Dennis Troutman at Option Talent. She has participated in the acting apprentice programs and performed on stage at both The Williamstown Theatre Festival and Berkshire Theatre Festival (now Berkshire Theatre Group). When she's not performing, Morgan works as a Realtor with Inhabit Real Estate, specializing in residential home sales. She is a Portland native and so very proud to be a part of the Bag&Baggage family!



ERIC ST. CYR (PORTER MILGRIM)

Born and raised a short drive outside of the city of Boston, MA, Eric St. Cyr holds a Bachelors of Arts in Theatre Arts from Plymouth State University with a concentration in Acting and Dramatic Writing. Past B&B appearances include: *Richard III* (as Lord Hastings/Second Murderer); *Moby Dick*, *Rehearsed* (as Queequeg/Cynical Actor); *The Graduate* (as Benjamin Braddock); *Parfumerie* (as Arpad Novack); and *Romeo&Juliet/Layla&Majnun* (as Paris/Ibn Salam). New England theatre credits include work with such companies as New Hampshire Theatre Project (Portsmouth, NH), Seven Stages Shakespeare Company (Portsmouth, NH), Artists Collaborative Theatre of New England (Portsmouth, NH), Lost

Nation Theatre (Montpelier, VT), and The Players Ring (Portsmouth, NH). Offstage, Eric can be found hanging with his number one, Romy Mae St. Cyr, rooting for his hometown teams, and eating. Brenna Redmond - all my love!



MANDANA KHOSHNEVISAN (HELGATEN DORP)

Mandy studied literature, theater, and history at Stanford University, where she earned a B.A. and M.A. in English. At Bag&Baggage she has appeared in *Romeo & Juliet/Layla & Majnun* (as Lady Capulet) and *Death and the Maiden* (as Paulina), and is thrilled to be an Associate Artist. Favorite scripted roles elsewhere include: *Into the Woods* (as Baker's Wife); *My Fair Lady* (as Mrs. Eynesford-Hill); and here in Portland, *Tesla City Stories* (multiple roles); *The Rocky Horror Show* (as Eddie/Dr. Scott); *Reefer Madness* (as Mae Coleman); *Back to the Future: The Musical Parody* (as Biff); and *Die Hard: The Musical Parody* (as Mother Gruber/Inga). Mandy also works backstage as an electrician and designer, most recently costuming *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. Since moving to Portland in 2013, she has taught at Northwest Children's Theater, and improvised on the mainstage at the Brody Theater, Curious Comedy, and the Funhouse Lounge, where she is Director of Improv. Last year, she published her first book, *Managed Mischief*, about improv and creativity. At home, she maintains an excess of books, art supplies, and impractical musical instruments; she would like to thank her roommate/best friend Greg for being, in that way and countless others, a kindred spirit.



LAWRENCE SIULAGI (SIDNEY BRUHL)

Lawrence Siulagi performed in a variety of roles while pursuing a BA in Theatre Arts at San Diego State University before his path led to his debut role in last summer's Bag&Baggage production of *Romeo & Juliet/Layla & Majnun* (as The Sayyid). This is Lawrence's first year as an Associate Artist with Bag&Baggage. Other companies Mr. Siulagi has worked for include Milagro Theatre, LA Opera, Portland Opera, and Portland Actors Ensemble. Other favorite roles include: *Iphigenia in Aulis* (as King Agamemnon); *The Mikado* (as The Mikado); *Waiting for Godot* (as Pozzo); and *A Flea In Her Ear* (as Carlos Homénides). When he's not on stage, Mr. Siulagi is an accomplished sound designer, music composer, and projection designer. Most recently: Milagro's *Corre! Corre!* (music and sound) and Bag&Baggage's *As You Like It* (projection). As a playwright, Mr. Siulagi recently adapted a short story into a one-woman show titled *Sea/Sick*. After *Deathtrap* he will design projections for Bag&Baggage's *Bell, Book and Candle* and sound for Milagro's *Judge Torres*. He dedicates this performance to his daughters, Olivia and Alma.

CREW BIOGRAPHIES



TYLER BUSWELL (SCENIC DESIGNER)

Tyler Buswell is a set designer, actor, and drag performer based in Portland, Oregon. He has worked as a scenic painter and carpenter for Portland Center Stage, ART, Third Rail Repertory Theatre, and Oregon Children's Theatre. Recent design credits include *Death and the Maiden* and *Blithe Spirit* at Bag&Baggage, *Quietly with Corrib*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Rock of Ages*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Willy Wonka*, ...*Charlie Brown*, and *Grease* at Camp Manitou Maine,

Assistance with Theatre Vertigo (Broadwayworld Portland Nomination- Best Set Design), *Bomb-itty of Errors* with Post 5 Theatre (Broadwayworld Portland Nomination- Best Set Design), *Hawthorne and School Dance* with Action/Adventure Theatre, *Stupid Kids* with Post 5 Theatre, *Nesting* at The Shoebox and *Gruesome Playground Injuries* at Action/Adventure Theatre among others. Many thanks to his family, friends, and the incredible artists here that inspire him daily.



EPHRIAM HARNBERGER (STAGE MANAGER)

Ephriam completed his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Omaha, Nebraska at Creighton University. This is his fourth season with Bag&Baggage. Productions include: *As You Like It* (SM); *Blithe Spirit* (SM); *Death & The Maiden* (SM); *Charles Dickens... Christmas Carol* (SM); *Fardale... Checkmate Manor* (SM); *Spinning Into Butter* (SM); *Romeo & Juliet/Layla & Majnun* (SM); *Brontë* (SM); *Parfumerie* (SM); *The Drowning Girls* (SM); *The Graduate* (SM); *Coriolanus* (SM); *Emma* (ASM); *The Best of Everything* (ASM); *The Lady Aoi* (SM); *Othello* (SM); *The South Omaha Stories* (SM/AD); *The Spitfire Grill* (SM/AD); *The Tempest* (ASM); *Complete Works of William Shakespeare [abridged]* (ASM); *Titus Andronicus* (ASM); *Twelfth Night* (ASM); *Phantom* (AD); *Dames at Sea* (SM); *Almost, Maine* (SM); *Julius Caesar* (ASM); and *Comedy of Errors* (ASM). Although he is usually found backstage, he has also appeared onstage in *Cabaret* (as Emcee); *Noises Off!* (as Selsdon); and *Urinetown* (as Bobby). Ephriam is elated to work alongside the fierce cast and crew of *Deathtrap*. When he is not wandering about the stage, Ephriam also enjoys cooking, camping, hiking, and singing silly songs with his sisters. He would like to thank Bag&Baggage, Nik, Rosemary, and his parents.



MELISSA HELLER (COSTUME DESIGNER)

Melissa splits her time between heading the costume shop at Pacific University and designing for local area theater companies. She has designed for several production companies including Mt. Hood Community College, Broadway Rose Theater Company, St. Mary's Academy, Oregon Children's Theatre, and is also the Resident Costume Designer for Bag&Baggage Productions. She holds a B.S. in Apparel Design from Oregon State University, where her interest in costumes for theater began. She graduated in 2008 and moved to Portland to pursue her career in the apparel industry. She began work with Oregon Ballet Theater in 2010, where she helped to create costumes for their 2010/2011 season. Her recent works include *A Christmas Carol*, *As You Like It*, *Romeo & Juliet/Layla & Majnun* with Bag&Baggage Productions, *HIDE* with Pacific University, and *Pippin* with Lakewood Center for the Performing Arts. Melissa thanks Bag&Baggage Productions for this engaging partnership.



IRA LEVIN (PLAYWRIGHT)

Ira Levin was twenty-two when he wrote his first novel, the award-winning thriller *A Kiss Before Dying*, and twenty-five when, fresh from military service, he wrote his first play, the smash-hit adaptation of Mac Hyman's *No Time for Sergeants*. In the years since, he has continued to work both sides of the literary street. His plays include the comedy hit *Critics Choice*, the musical *Dra! The Cat!*, and the thrillers *Veronica's Room* and *Deathtrap*. Among his novels

ACTOR & CREW BIOS

are *Rosemary's Baby*, generally credited (or blamed) for having sparked the current revival of occultism, *The Stepford Wives*, and the international best-seller, *The Boys from Brazil*, all of which have been made into successful films. His later plays include *Footsteps* and *Cantorial*, which enjoyed runs both Off-Broadway and in Florida. His best-selling novel *Sliver* has been made into a film. A native-born New Yorker, Mr. Levin is an alumnus of New York University and has three sons. In addition to his other accomplishments, he is a four-time winner (retired) of the New York Magazine Competition. Mr. Levin's *Deathtrap* garnered a 1978 Tony Award nomination for Best Play and was awarded a special Edgar Award by Mystery Writers of America.



BETH LEWIS (MANAGING DIRECTOR)

Beth has over ten years of experience in theatre administration and management. She most recently served as Managing Director of Curious Comedy Theater, Portland's only nonprofit comedy theater. She moved back home to the Portland area in 2013, after being in Los Angeles for five years working at The Pasadena Playhouse, where she ended her tenure there as their Annual Giving Manager. Before that, she lived in New York City, where she served as the Director of Development for The Looking Glass Theatre, and the Associate of Special Events for Sonnet Repertory Theatre. In addition to her work at Bag&Baggage, she is currently the President of the Portland Area Theatre Alliance. She also holds

a BA in Theatre from Connecticut College and is a Core Company Member of the Original Practice Shakespeare Festival.



SCOTT PALMER (DIRECTOR & FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR)

Scott received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Oregon, his Master's Degree from Oregon State University, and completed his PhD Coursework in Theatre, Film, and Television studies at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. Over the past 20 years, Scott has developed an international reputation for his approach to classical dramatic literature, and more specifically his work with major literary adaptations of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. Scott was the Founding Artistic Director of the Glasgow Repertory Company, Scotland's only Shakespeare-dedicated theatre company, Bard in the Quad Outdoor Shakespeare summer event at Oregon State University, and Bag&Baggage Productions. Scott is a Hillsboro native and serves as a member of the Board of the Hillsboro Downtown Partnership, the Hillsboro Library Advisory Board, the National Theatre Conference, and is a member of Oregon State University's Beaver Caucus, the lobbying arm of the OSU Foundation. Scott lives in Hillsboro with his amazing and talented husband, Brian, and their equally amazing pets Agnes and Mac.



JIM RICKS-WHITE (LIGHTING DESIGNER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR)

With over 30 years in theatre, Jim is pleased to be part of the staff here at Bag&Baggage, adding Vault Facilities Manager to his duties as Technical Director and Lighting Designer. Jim has worked professionally as a Production Stage Manager and Stage Manager (Civic Light Opera Seattle, Spokane Interplayers, Stumptown Stages); Technical Director, Lighting and Set Designer (Innovation Theatreworks, Tower Theatre, Portland Actors Ensemble); Properties Artisan and all-around Theatre Tech (the list goes on and on...) — in venues as small as 99-seat black box theatres, and as large as the Olympic Stadium for the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics as well as lighting the World's Largest Building, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, for New Year's Eve 2018. Basically, he has yet to meet a theatre tech job he didn't like — or at least enjoy! Jim has also taught technical theatre at PCC Sylvania and has held numerous administrative positions in theatre during his career. In his free time, Jim loves to travel, explore great food, and enjoys working off steam swinging a German longsword or Military saber at his local HEMA gyms, Indes Western Martial Arts and NW Armizare. Jim looks forward to being able to help nail down some good storytelling and bring the 2018-2019 B&B season to light!



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Thanks to all of our donors who generously supported our Outreach & Education programs at our 2018 Gala.

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The names listed below are our very first ever Bag&Baggage Sustaining Supporters – and you can join them! You probably know the model from OPB: these are monthly donations, in smaller amounts, that provide a nonprofit like Bag&Baggage with ongoing, consistent, and predictable support year-round. Donations like this mean that we can plan better: they help eliminate cash-flow challenges, and they allow us to leverage larger donations and grants from trusts and foundations.

For more information, or to become a B&B Sustaining Supporter, email Associate Artistic Director Cassie Greer at cassie@bagnbaggage.org

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NEIL DIAMOND: STORYTELLERS	NOV 8 7:30 PM
STARS OF THE COPA	NOV 9 7:30 PM
AM GOLD SEVENTIES	NOV 10 7:30 PM
TONY STARLIGHT CHRISTMAS	DEC 12 7:30 PM

Tony Starlight AT THE VAULT THEATER & EVENT SPACE
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We invite you to consider

PLANNED GIVING

Kevin Hoover has been a passionate patron and supporter of Bag&Baggage for over a decade. As a volunteer usher, then board member, then Chair of the Board, Kevin has given his time, dedication, energy, and resources to help make B&B what we are today. As a way of ensuring that the theatre company he loves continues to thrive and grow, Kevin worked with his financial planner to leave Bag&Baggage a generous bequest in his will.



"As a long time supporter, volunteer & former board member, I gave a bequest to Bag&Baggage to ensure their long term success in presenting high-quality & unique professional theater. The legacy of Scott's dreams must continue for future generations of theater goers."

- Kevin

If you would like to learn more about how to leave Bag&Baggage a legacy in your will or trust, please contact

BETH LEWIS • MANAGING DIRECTOR
beth@bagnbaggage.org • 503 345 9590




BECOME A BAG&BAGGAGE SUSTAINING SUPPORTER TODAY!

Small monthly donations that, over time, add up to long-term, sustainable support for your favorite local non-profit arts organization... Bag&Baggage!

We are thrilled to announce a convenient and affordable way for ALL of our patrons to support our important work... and becoming a sustaining supporter couldn't be easier!

Just determine the amount you'd like to donate each month (\$2, \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, etc.) and contact Associate Artistic Director Cassie Greer to begin your contributions to us and our work!

CASSIE GREER
ASSOC. ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
cassie@bagnbaggage.org

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FUNHOUSE LOUNGE: CLUE: AN UNSCRIPTED MYSTERY	OCT 22 7:30 PM
FAKE RADIO: WAR OF THE WORLDS	OCT 23,24 7:30 PM
THEATER PLANNERS TOURS: FATHER, SON AND HOLY COACH	NOV 1,2 7:30 PM
B&B/NARCISSA PRODUCTIONS: CABARET VARIÉTÉ	NOV 5 7:30 PM
TONY STARLIGHT: THREE SHOW WEEKEND	NOV 8,9,10 7:30 PM
TONY STARLIGHT: IT'S A TONY STARLIGHT CHRISTMAS	DEC 12 7:30 PM
NORTHWEST CHILDREN'S THEATER: ELEPHANT & PIGGIE	JAN 9-13 2019

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