

JULY 22 - AUGUST 7, 2022

STAGEWORKS
Theatre



the
Mousetrap
by Agatha Christie



281.587.6100
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STAGEWORKSTX.ORG

DIRECTED BY **DEBRA SCHULTZ**

THE MOUSETRAP IS PRESENTED
THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS.

Whodunnit?

Win two tickets to
The Addams Family A New Musical!
Playing October 1 - 30 at Stageworks.

One lucky winner will be drawn from all who properly guess the killer in today's production of *The Mousetrap*.
(One winner per show!)

HOW TO VOTE

At intermission, vote for who you think is the killer by placing raffle tickets in the character's jar. The winner will be selected by the cast on stage at the end of the show.

**RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR
MINIMUM DONATION OF \$5 EACH**

or

THREE BLIND MICE PACK \$20

One of your choice
4 raffle tickets

STAGEWORKS THEATRE PRESENTS

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP

Director
Debra Schultz

Artistic Director
Michael Montgomery

Technical Director
Josh Harbour

Production Manager
Laura Price

Scenic Designer
Debra Schultz

Stage Manager
Ava Butler

*Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap is presented special arrangement
with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com*



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STAGEWORKS THEATRE

Stageworks Theatre is a not-for-profit performing arts and educational organization with a passion for entertaining, enlightening and engaging audiences in Texas. Recent winner in seven categories for the Broadway World Houston Awards, we've also been named Houston's "Best Gem of a Theater" by the Houston Press and "Best Arts and Entertainment" by the "Best of the Northwest" Readers' Choice awards. We are a proud winner of the prestigious, national American Association of Community Theatre Twink Lynch Organizational Award. Stageworks produces a broad mix of classics, comedies, dramas, musicals and new works.

Through its award-winning Acting Academy, Stageworks Theatre offers acting and singing classes, and provides performance opportunities for all ages. To purchase tickets, sign up for auditions or classes, or for more information, please visit stageworkstx.org or call Stageworks at (281) 587-6100.

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Fun - Integrity - Diversity - Excellence - Respect

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I can think of nothing more appropriate to close out the 2021/2022 Season than a classic thriller from the “Grande Dame” of mystery theatre, Agatha Christie.

Looking back over the last 12 months, we’ve gone to the far reaches of time and theatre genre to bring you what is winding up to be a massively successful season, especially considering ongoing health conditions.

We frolicked with a massively depressed King, bumbling knights, and Vegas Show Girls through the bright side of life with Monty Python’s *Spamalot*. We shared some of our best holiday memories in a down home *Holiday Follies*. We peeked into extreme dysfunctional parenting in the Broadway award winner, *God of Carnage* and learned that sometimes the best recipe is letting people love who they want to love in *The Cake*. We didn’t have to go to Disney to see the wacky world of upside-down Potter in *Puffs* and took a high energy trip down to the French Riviera for some hijinks and dancing in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. You might have been lucky enough to score tickets to our After Dark installment of the high stepping, absurd world of Frank N. Furter with loads of toilet paper, squirt guns and Aliens in *The Rocky Horror Show--I am not sure Northwest Harris County has recovered yet!* And finally, we bring you back to a classic summer chills in *The Mousetrap* by Agatha Christie.

I am excited to announce our upcoming 17th season full of more thrills, dancing and zany characters, including *The Addams Family*, *A New Musical*, *Holiday Follies 2022*, *Misery* (made famous by Kathy Bates and James Caan), the sublime musical, *Urinetown*, the Audrey Hepburn film noir thriller *Wait Until Dark*, and winding up our 17th season with Roald Dahl’s *Matilda* at the Berry Center large stage!

I want to personally thank you for buying a ticket tonight in support of our theatre and thank our wonderful sponsors, our Board, the actors who work so hard to bring you these shows, our staff who make the experience come alive and our wonderful creative artists who are master storytellers.

Enjoy the show!

Michael Montgomery

Michael Montgomery

Artistic Director





FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Mousetrap is a play that is on one hand like all plays from the mid-20th Century and on the other hand stands very much alone. It is classic in its cast size, structure, and sensibilities. But looking at the play 70 years after its premiere, *The Mousetrap* still resonates for audiences unlike many of its contemporaries. *The Mousetrap* doesn't work because it is a perfect play—although it is pretty

good. It doesn't intrigue because it's revolutionary for twists and turns—it isn't. *The Mousetrap* resonates because it's about how people handle their pasts....and that is something that hasn't changed.

Memory is an interesting thing. It can seem sharp and focused. It can be fuzzy or vague. Rarely, if ever, will it be "the truth." We remember what is important to us—that is why you might remember a present you got when you were 3, but remember what you ate for lunch yesterday. We misremember events how we wished things had happened—that is why two people can have memories of the same event that do not match. We forget those things that are difficult to deal with. We lock away traumatic memories. We close ourselves off to memories that cause pain. It is this world of "our memory can lie to us" in which *The Mousetrap* exists.

As a cast and crew, we hope that you will remember this experience as something important....and tell others they should experience it as well. But please, let that memory lie and not reveal the secrets you are about to uncover.

Debra Schultz

Director



ACADEMY FALL REGISTRATION

Get registered today for fall classes and productions. (Ages 6 - 18)

Classes start September 6!

The Drowsy Chaperone

Elf Jr.

Homeschool Classes

Acting Classes

Musical Theatre Dance Classes

Stageworks Live!

CAST

Mollie Ralston.....	Amanda Vennebush
Giles Ralston.....	Jody Koster
Christopher Wren.....	Matt Elliott
Mrs. Boyle.....	Nora Hahn
Major Metcalf.....	Richard Hahn
Miss Casewell.....	Kalin Coates
Mr. Paravicini.....	Justin Finch
Detective Sergeant Trotter.....	Sam Martinez

Setting: Great Hall of Monkswell Manor, 1952

Run Time: 2 hours, 20 minutes

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

MEET THE CAST

(In alphabetical order)



Kalin Coates (Miss Casewell) is very excited to be doing another show at Stageworks. She was last seen with Cone Man Running in *God of Carnage* (Annette). She has done many shows with Stageworks Theatre including *Harvey* (Veta), *Crimes of the Heart* (Meg), and *The Elephant Man* (Mrs. Kendal). She has a background in musical theater with a degree from Roosevelt University. Kalin is a voice actor and a script writer for Sentai Filmworks, and can be heard in many Animes including *Made in Abyss*, which just aired on Cartoon Network. Kalin has two remarkable children and a loving husband. Kalin would like to thank Deb Shulrz for making her acting life so exciting. She would also like to thank her husband for his flexibility so she can continue her passion for theatre.



Matt Elliott (Christopher Wren) Matt is a veteran actor seen in various productions across Houston. His most recent productions were *The Picture Of Dorian Gray* (Alan Campbell) at Haven Arts Theater, *Harvey* (Mr. Wilson), and *A Few Good Men* (Corporal Howard) at Stageworks theater. Matt is also a film critic writing for <https://horrornews.net/author/matt-elliott/>.



Justin Finch (Mr. Paravicini) is appearing in his thirteenth production here at Stageworks! Offstage, Justin is a middle school theatre teacher in CFISD. Some of his acting credits include *Hairspray* at TUTS and *Panto Cinderella* at Stages Repertory. Stageworks audiences may remember him from *Spamalot* (Galahad/Black Knight/Swamp King), *Lend Me A Tenor* (Tito), *The Secret Garden* (Archibald), *The Odd Couple* (Roy/Jesus), and *1776* (Jefferson). Tremendous love to his friends and family, but most importantly to his son, Seth.



Nora Hahn (Mrs. Boyle) is deadly serious about her excitement over being cast in the Stageworks Theatre production of Agatha Christie's hit play *The Mousetrap*. Nora has appeared in more than 30 plays in and around Houston, many at Stageworks including *Steel Magnolias*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Noises Off*. She has also acted in several film and television roles, including the award-winning film musical *Bully*. She thanks her director and castmates for this incredible experience, especially Major Metcalf.

MEET THE CAST

(In alphabetical order)



Richard Hahn (Major Metcalf) is glad to be back at Stageworks with his brilliant wife and this talented team. Favorite credits include: *It's a Wonderful Life Radio Play* (Foley Artist), *A Christmas Story* (Jean Shepherd), *Lend Me A Tenor* (Henry Saunders), *Big River* (Pap), *Driving Miss Daisy* (Boolie), and more. Drums/Perc: *Nunsense*, *Sympathy Jones*, *Beehive!*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Cabaret*, and *Holiday Follies*. Grateful for a very talented and supportive family. In memory of Dixie Hahn.



Jody Koster (Giles Ralston) is proud to be making his debut at Stageworks with one of his favorite shows of all time. He would like to thank Deb for giving him this opportunity, his fellow castmates for being so cool and welcoming, and Michael and the entire staff at Stageworks for running such an amazing theatre. Previous Agatha Christie credits include *Death on the Nile* (William) and *The Hollow* (Edward). Other past credits include *Three Days of Rain* (Pip/Theo), *Titus Andronicus* (Quintus), *Death of a Salesman* (Bernard), and *Amadeus* (Count Orsini-Rosenberg). He would like to thank his wife, Morgan, for her continuing love and support, and would like to dedicate his performance to the memory of Vi Threatt, a woman he would have been proud to call Mawmaw.



Sam Martinez (Detective Sergeant Trotter) is happy to be once again on stage at Stageworks. In 2020, he directed *The Little Hut* and *The Wisdom of Eve*. Most recently, Sam was seen at Creative Movement Practice's Innagural production of *Macbeth*. He has appeared at Theatre Southwest in *The Pillowman*, and *A Doll's House* just to name a few. A few of his other acting credits include *A Few Good Men* (Jessep), *The Woman in Black* (Kipps), *The Foreigner* (Charlie), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Mushnick), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Atticus), *True West* (Austin), *Hedda Gabler* (Tessman), *Oedipus Rex* (Creon), *Lend Me a Tenor* (Max), *Seascape* (Leslie), *Avenue Q* (Trekkie Monster), *The Boys Next Door* (Barry), *Same Time, Next Year* (George), and *Children of a Lesser God* (James Leeds). Sam completed his actor training at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York before returning here to Houston. Sam made his full-length directorial debut in 2010 with *Daddy's Dyin', Whose Got the Will?* and has continued to balance directing and acting since that time. During what little downtime he has, Sam works on crafting cosplay and theatrical costume pieces, and specialty props through S&D Custom Props and Costumes. If you can think it up, they can build it and put LEDs on it. Sam would like to dedicate this show to his brother and mentor, Joe. You will be missed, big brother.



Amanda Vennebush (Mollie Ralston) is THIRLLED to be making her Stageworks debut in *The Mousetrap*. Elsewhere, she has appeared on stage at Theatre Southwest, Old West Melodrama as well as several of LSC-North Harris Theatre productions; her favorites being Miss Maudie in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Rebekah Muldoon in *Anatomy of Gray*, and May in Samuel Beckett's *Footfalls*. When not on stage, Amanda enjoys cooking and really is "not such a very bad cook." She would like to give a special thanks to Stageworks for giving her this wonderful opportunity to share the stage with such a talented cast and crew. Amanda would also like to thank her family and friends for their continued love, support, and encouragement. She hopes you all enjoy the show and may you never forget your pie!



Special Thanks To:

Houston Community College Drama Program, Dave Lafferty,
Bryan Maynard, & Barbara Terry

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....	Debra Schultz
Artistic Director.....	Michael Montgomery
Technical Director.....	Josh Harbour
Scenic Design.....	Debra Schultz
Costume Design.....	Julie Montgomery
Light Design.....	John Wind
Sound Design.....	David Dean, Debra Schultz
Stage Manager.....	Ava Butler
Properties Manager.....	Debra Schultz
Scenic Artists.....	Ava Butler, Kiki Cummings
Production Manager.....	Laura Price
Scenic Construction Team.....	Aaron Beggs, Greg Boggs
Light & Sound Technicians.....	Spencer Kavanaugh, Peyton Wilkinson

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

(In alphabetical order)

Ava Butler (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be working on *The Mousetrap* with such a talented group. She graduated from Cypress Creek High School where she stage managed *Clue* and *Eurydice*. Ava is very grateful to have been given this opportunity!

David Dean (Sound Designer) is an IT consultant and experienced musician who plays guitar/bass at Cypress Bible Church. Winner of the 2015 Houston BroadwayWorld award for Sound Design on *A Christmas Carol*, his recent credits include *Mama Mia*, *Spamalot*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Rocky Horror Show*, *A Christmas Story*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Producers*, *Footloose*, *Into The Woods* and *Bonnie & Clyde*!

Josh Harbour (Technical Director/Light Design) has performed professionally onstage with such notable stars as Debbie Reynolds, Robert Goulet, Tommy Tune and Carol Lawrence with some of his favorite productions including the world premiere of Kopit & Yeston's *Phantom* at Theatre Under the Stars where he originated the role of the young Phantom, and playing Patrick/Peter in the international tour of the Broadway musical *Mame*, starring Juliet Prowse. A graduate of DePaul university (BA in Theatre and Education) and Regent University (MA in Theatre), Josh has also worked as a Stage Manager, Lighting Designer, and Technical Director for various educational, regional and professional theatres including Theatre Under the Stars, Six Flags Theme Parks, The Actors Workshop, Ovations, and Bayou City Concert Musicals. He has shared his passion for Theatre with students as a Performing Arts educator for more than 20 years, having taught previously at the Theatre Under the Stars Humphreys School of Musical Theatre, chairing the Fine Arts Department at The Emery/ Weiner School and now as the Fine Arts and Upper School Director for The Banff School.

Julie Montgomery (Costume Design) is President of the Board of Directors at Stageworks and the Director of Talent Acquisition for Aviatix. She spends nights and weekends volunteering for Stageworks Theatre. Julie has served in many volunteer leadership roles at Stageworks Theatre in Houston since 2010 - Board member, President of the Board, Creative Director, Costumer, Assistant Director, Marketing Director, Marketing Committee Chair, Casting, and many other informal roles. Costuming credits include *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Christmas Story*, *Bonnie & Clyde*, *A Few Good Men*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *A Christmas Carol the Musical*, *Mama Mia!*, *Cabaret* and *Greetings*. Love to MKM, KAM, MEM

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

(In alphabetical order)

Michael Montgomery (Director/Artistic Director) has been associated with Stageworks since 2011 and has been a part of 40+ shows. Past direction credits include *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Cabaret*, *The Three Musketeers* (Broadway World Award Best Direction), *Damn Yankees*, *Oliver*, *Bonnie & Clyde The Musical*, *Christmas Carol the Musical*, and *Little Women*. Thank you to the cast, production team, our board, and staff. Special love to his beautiful family JJM, MEM, KAM - whose energy and life continue to be a source of his inspiration and character.

Laura Price (Production Manager) graduated cum laude from the University of Houston–Downtown in May 2018 with a BA in Theatre. Laura has performed in *The Elephant Man* (Princess Alexandra) and *A Christmas Carol* (Mrs. Mops) at Stageworks. Laura loves working on stage & behind the scenes. Thanks to Deb Schultz for this opportunity.

Debra Schultz (Director/Scenic Design) has both directing and scenic credits here at Stageworks—*Mama's Boy*, *Greetings*, *Harvey*, and *A Few Good Men* (directing/scenic), *The Elephant Man* (directing), *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *Cabaret*, *Crimes of the Heart* (scenic). A few other credits include *God of Carnage* and *Give/Take* (ConeMan Running Prod.), True West (Country Playhouse), and *Cinderella* (StageRight). She is a full-time college drama professor where she both directs and designs.



THANK YOU STAGWORKS THEATRE PARTNERS

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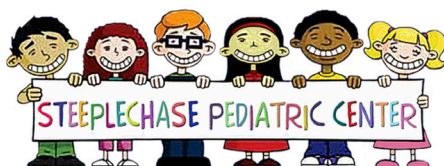
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STAGEWORKS
Theatre

OCTOBER 1 - 30, 2022



The Addams Family



Texas
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on the Arts



BOOK BY **MARSHALL BRICKMAN &
RICK ELICE**

MUSIC & LYRICS **ANDREW LIPPA**

BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY **CHARLES ADDAMS**

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DIRECTED BY **RYAN SCARLATA**

"The Addams Family - A New Musical" is presented
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STAGEWORKS *Theatre*

2022 - 2023

MAIN STAGE SEASON

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Four Musical Events
Two Classic Plays

The Addams Family

October 7 - 30, 2022

Holiday Follies

December 9 - 18, 2022

Wait Until Dark

January 13 - 29, 2023

Urinetown

March 31 - April 23, 2023

Misery

June 16 - July 2, 2023

Road Dahl's Matilda

The Musical

July 21 - July 30, 2023
at The Berry Center



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