



— Est. 1944 —

## BREMERTON COMMUNITY THEATRE

*presents in the Robert Montgomery Auditorium  
on the C. Keith Birkenfeld Stage*

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S

# MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

DIRECTED BY JEFFREY BASSETT

June 2 – 25, 2023

Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30PM

Presented by special arrangement with  
**Concord Theatricals**

The videotaping and/or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

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All aboard! Welcome to our production of *Murder on the Orient Express*. Originally titled “Murder in the Calais Coach”, Agatha Christie wrote her novel upon which this play is based in 1934. She was no doubt inspired by the infamous Lindbergh baby case of 1932: the first-born child of a world-famous air pilot and his then-pregnant wife is kidnapped and held for ransom, only to be found dead in the woods nearby, days after the ransom was paid; a housemaid suspected of involvement commits suicide after a harsh police interrogation.

Ms. Christie also borrowed from her experience on the Orient Express in 1929, wherein the train was halted by a blizzard for six days while traveling through Turkey. Combining the two, she created a taut “whodunnit” that has us suspecting everyone of the deadly deed.

The novel—and, by relation, the play—places Hercule Poirot in crisis. As a former police officer, Poirot is faced with balancing the cries for justice against the rule of law. Must he compromise his beliefs? Is revenge ever an acceptable course of action?

Bringing the novel to the stage has been no easy feat. The effort to recreate two train carriages involved many hours of labor by our set designer and his team, and by a number of volunteers who are both actors in the show and extended family and friends. Many thanks to the cast, crew, and our production staff, with special thanks to Teresa Rodriguez and Second Street Players of Milford, DE ([secondstreetplayers.com](http://secondstreetplayers.com)) for the loan of their opening video for the play and to Kevin Matthew for preparing sound for the production. This is the “community” of community theatre that helped bring this production to you today.

— Jeffrey Bassett, Director



The play is in two acts and takes place aboard the Orient Express over a two-day period as it travels from Istanbul to Western Europe in the winter of 1934.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.



Assisted listening devices are available in the box office.

Please ensure that all cellphones, pagers, and other potentially disruptive devices are turned off during the performance.





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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

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HERCULE POIROT .....	<b>ADRIAN DEGROOT</b>
HELEN HUBBARD .....	<b>KRISTI ANN JACOBSON</b>
CONSTANTINE BOUC .....	<b>MATTHEW BRADBERRY</b>
PRINCESS NATALYA DRAGOMIROFF .....	<b>DONNA MOZINGO</b>
GRETA OHLSSON .....	<b>ANNE BIGLOW</b>
COUNTESS ELENA ANDRENYI.....	<b>JOSI TWIGT</b>
MARY DEBENHAM .....	<b>ALYSSA HERSEY</b>
COL. JAMES ARBUTHNOT .....	<b>KRISTOPHER JONES</b>
SAMUEL RATCHETT.....	<b>MIAH CAMPBELL</b>
HECTOR MACQUEEN .....	<b>RILEY ABEL</b>
PIERRE MICHEL (Conductor) .....	<b>TED SCHROEDER</b>
HEAD WAITER.....	<b>TRAVIS JOHNSON</b>



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## PRODUCTION STAFF

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Director.....	<b>JEFFREY BASSETT</b>
Assistant Director .....	<b>CATHERINE BENNETT</b>
Stage Manager .....	<b>TA'MARA BALE</b>
Set Design .....	<b>GARY FETTERPLACE</b>
Lighting Design .....	<b>DALE BORER</b>
Costumes.....	<b>KRISTIN BRADBERRY</b>
Crew/Bartender.....	<b>RICHARD MOZINGO</b>
Vocal Recordings .....	<b>MATT HAVER</b>
Set Construction .....	<b>GARY FETTERPLACE, JOHN WOLFE, DALE WYNESS, JOHN JURGENS, MJ JORDAN, CAST &amp; CREW</b>
Scenic Artists .....	<b>CASSY FARRELL, AMY EICHSTAEDT, CAST &amp; CREW</b>

## WHO'S WHO

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**ADRIAN DEGROOT** (Hercule Poirot) – Adrian (he/him) is delighted to be able to be a part of another Agatha Christie mystery, especially with such an exceptional cast! When not on stage, he enjoys spending time with family, especially when board games are involved. Thanks to Jen and the kids for their endless patience and support!

**MATTHEW BRADBERRY** (Monsieur Constantine Bouc) – Matthew is excited to bring the role of Constantine Bouc to life. This is his fifth show on stage at BCT. As a retired US Navy Submariner, he is happy to finally have more time to dedicate to theater, both on-stage and behind! He and his squirrel roommate, Sasha are thrilled to have the lovely Kristin Bradberry involved in this show as well!

**ALYSSA HERSEY** (Mary Debenham) – Alyssa (she/her) relishes bringing this classic thriller alive alongside an exceptional cast and creative team! Her roles this year include Laura in *The Glass Menagerie* at WWCA and Irina in *Three Sisters* here at BCT. Outside of her career in office management, Alyssa also enjoys singing, playing the violin, reading, and exploring the outdoors with those she loves.

**RILEY ABEL** (Hector MacQueen) – Riley (he/him) is back on stage after more than a decade. He started at PAG, spent time at WWCA, Changing Scene Theatre, and BCT and is excited to be back for one of the greatest mystery plays of all time. In real life he teaches at Olympic College and tries to find the world's best fidget spinner.

**TED SCHROEDER** (Pierre Michel, the Conductor) – This is Ted's first production in Washington, after years of performing in Oregon. Theater is an act of love, but nothing compared to my wife and kids. Moved up here for the love of nature and to save on taxes!

**DONNA MOZINGO** (Princess Natalya Dragomiroff) – Donna (she/her) has appeared in many productions over the years and you may have seen her last as Ida in *The Cemetery Club*. She was also the stage manager for the musical *Something Rotten*. She currently serves as Vice President on BCT's Board of Trustees. For her "day job" she is a legal billing specialist for the law firm of Foster Garvey in Seattle. As always, she would like to thank Richard and her family and friends for their love and support.

**ANNE BIGLOW** (Greta Ohlsson) – Anne is delighted to have performed with BCT for 30 years, in shows like *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Waiting in the Wings*. Working with this glorious group of people again—on and off the stage—has been positively wonderful. And she loves Greta

**JOSI TWIGT** (Countess Elena Andrenyi) – is excited to be performing on the BCT stage for the first time and is grateful to be working with such an extraordinary collection of artists! *Veel kusjes* to Arne for all the solo dinner and bedtime duties during rehearsals.

## WHO'S WHO

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**KRISTI ANN JACOBSON** (Helen Hubbard) – Kristi Ann (she/her) directs and acts throughout Kitsap. Last seen at BCT as Mrs. Peacock in *Clue* and at WWCA as Amanda Wingfield in *The Glass Menagerie*, her passions are classical theatre, physical comedy, and a nice pair of socks; one can never have too many socks. Much love to Gary for supporting her crazy pursuit of THEATER.

**MIAH THOREAU CAMPBELL** (Samuel Rachett *aka* Bruno Cassetti) – Miah(they/them) is an avid theater performer. Their recent roles include Lord Henry Wotton in *The Picture of Dorian Gray* with Amateurs at Large, and Happy Lowman and Wadsworth in *Death of a Salesman* and *Clue*, respectively, at BCT. They are also a passable piano player, a semi-functioning artist, and an occasional director.

**KRISTOPHER JONES** (Col. James Arbuthnot) – is excited and grateful to be on stage once again after a long hiatus, and with a stellar cast and crew to boot! He sends a big thanks to his Mum and his friends for all of their love, support, and encouragement. Enjoy the show!

**TRAVIS JOHNSON** (Head Waiter) – This is Travis' triumphant return to theater after 13 years, last performing at Bremerton High School while a student. He is excited to entertain the wonderful community of Bremerton. He is a self-described computer nerd and says “those that know me say I'm the most dramatic person they've ever met.”

**JEFFREY BASSETT** has been involved with community theater over the past 50 years, mostly as an actor. He has also designed sets and costumes, and stage managed. From 2015 on, he has mostly directed plays throughout the Kitsap area, having last directed *The Cemetery Club* at BCT. His next directorial effort will be BCT's 2023-2024 season opener, *Sleuth*. Jeffrey is on the Board of Directors for the ARC of the Peninsulas, is an adoptive father of three teenaged boys (all of whom helped with our set), and is a Kitsap County Superior Court Judge during the day.



*Break a leg, cast and crew of “Murder on the Orient Express”, from Michael Willis and sons, Ryan, Kaden and Kolton.*