There is a reason I own five versions of the board game “Clue” – I can’t get enough of mystery. More than anything Little Abbey dreamed of being a detective and a writer. There wasn’t a neighbor in my small town that my twelve-year-old self didn’t spy on and every license plate passing our minivan was recorded. The world of Hercule Poirot, Miss Marple, and Nancy Drew distracted me from many homework assignments. True crime is still a fascination of mine. It couldn’t be more fitting that Agatha Christie’s *The Mousetrap* is my directorial debut.

*The Mousetrap* has continuously run since it’s opening in London’s West End in November 1952, earning the record of “Longest Ever Initial Run” and “Longest Ever West End Production” - over 27,000 performances as of 2018. Christie’s works have been translated in 103 languages and she is considered the most translated author. Her work has been adapted for television, radio, video games, comics, and film.

In 1947, the BBC offered to produce a radio drama to commemorate Queen Mary’s 80th birthday. She personally requested Agatha Christie. Christie accepted and wrote a 30-minute radio drama called *Three Blind Mice*, inspired by the well-publicized death of a boy named Dennis O’Neill in 1945. She decided to adapt the script into a short story, which was then became a stage play. Because there was already a show in production titled *Three Blind Mice*, Christie was asked to rename hers *The Mousetrap*, a metaphorical suggestion offered by her son in reference to a key quote from Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*. There is no recording of the radio drama and the short story will not be published in the UK until *The Mousetrap* closes, per Christie’s request.

We read and produce her work because she is considered the Queen of Crime. Not only does her work reveal our innermost fears, but it challenges our stigmas, superstitions, and stereotypes. Justice is always served, redemption is felt, and we are always left wanting more.

To honor its radio-drama origins, we’ve chosen to use foley and live sound effects in our theatrical design. Finally, following *The Mousetrap* tradition, we ask that uphold its legacy and honor the following:

“Now you have seen *The Mousetrap* you are our partners in crime, and we ask you to preserve the tradition by keeping the secret of whodunit locked in your hearts.”

Happy hunting.

Signed,

Abbey Pitchford
Director
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CAST

Mollie .......................................................................................................................... Olivia Zimmermann
Giles............................................................................................................................. Owen Kannenberg
Christopher ............................................................................................................... Jonah McGinnis
Mrs. Boyle ............................................................................................................... Maria LaPlant
Major Metcalf ........................................................................................................... Marlia King
Miss Casewell ......................................................................................................... Vyectoria Smith
Mr. Paravicini .......................................................................................................... Ethan Boester
Trotter ....................................................................................................................... Asher Puls

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director ...................................................................................................................... Abbey Pitchford
Producer ................................................................................................................... Prof. Lori Woodall-Schaufler
Stage Manager ......................................................................................................... Catarina Erba
Asst. Stage Manager .............................................................................................. Theresa Meyer
Set Design and Construction .................................................................................. Alan Atwood, Mike Landers
Set Construction/Carpentry .................................................................................... Alan Atwood, Mike Landers, Dr. Brian Harries
Costume Design ....................................................................................................... Marie Wilke
Lighting Design ........................................................................................................ Mike Van Dreser
Sound Engineering .................................................................................................. Bradley Dunigan
Sound Design .......................................................................................................... Bradley Dunigan, Abbey Pitchford
Hair and Makeup Design ........................................................................................ Prof. Lori Woodall-Schaufler
Propmaster ............................................................................................................... Abbey Pitchford
Fight Choreography ............................................................................................... Kara Penrose
Lighting Tech ........................................................................................................... Hannah Arvis
Sound Tech ............................................................................................................... Christopher Dhuse
Acting Coach ............................................................................................................ Ryan Schaufler
Dialect Coach ........................................................................................................... Prof. Lori Woodall-Schaufler
Marketing .................................................................................................................. Jeff Bandurski, CUW Marketing, Footlights
House/Box Manager ............................................................................................... Courtney Richards
Photography ............................................................................................................. Terry Clark-Bauman
Social Media/Publicity/Graphic Design .................................................................... Cassidy Mertzig

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Terry Ronsman, Steve Hibbard and CUW Maintenance, Campus Safety, and anyone else
we’ve missed due to deadline!
CAST BIOGRAPHIES

MARIA LAPLANT (Mrs. Boyle) Maria is a senior nursing student from Green Bay, Wisconsin. This is her sixth performance at CUW. She would like to thank Andrew Luebke, Chris Pratt, Ron Swanson, Dwight Shrute, Troy Bolton, her roommates, and family for their support.

VYCTORIA SMITH (Ms. Casewell) This is Vykotria’s second show at Concordia, she previously played Lucy in The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe. She is a Sophomore majoring in Secondary Lutheran Education with a focus in Biology, as well as minoring in Theatre and Theology. She would like to thank the cast, crew, director, and all others who helped with the show, as well as her friends and family who support her. 1 Corinthians 5:17

ASHER PULS (Trotter) Asher Puls is back for his fourth performance at CUW. His previous roles include Mr. Beaver in The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, Rusty Charlie in Guys and Dolls, and Friar Tuck in Robin Hood. Asher would like to thank his family, his friends, and his fellow castmates. Isaiah 53:5

OLIVIA ZIMMERMANN (Mollie Ralston) Olivia is a freshman and is thrilled to be a part of her 3rd production here at CUW! She is from St Charles, Illinois, and is majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders with a minor in Theatre. Some of her favorite past shows include Beauty and the Beast (Belle), Mary Poppins (Mrs. Banks), Fools (Lenya Zubritsky), and Peter Pan (Wendy). When not on the stage, you can find Olivia playing her violin, singing in Selah, or planning her next vacation with her family. She would like to thank the cast and crew for being the wonderful humans that they are, and is incredibly proud of their accomplishments! She thanks you for coming, and hopes you enjoy the show! Psalm 28:7

OWEN KANNENBERG (Giles) Owen is proud to be part of such a wonderful cast and crew in this exciting show. Owen is a Junior studying Business Management and Marketing. This will be Owen’s 6th show here at Concordia University Wisconsin with some of his previous roles being Peter Quince in A Midsummer Nights Dream, King Richard in Robin Hood, and Constable Warren in Our Town. Owen would like to thank his fiancé, his family and ultimately God who has supported him.

MARLIA KING (Major Metcalf) Marlia is deathly excited and grateful to be allowed on the CUW stage once again for the third time as army Major Metcalf. She is a Freshman majoring in Occupational Therapy, and has been stationed Milwaukee, WI for the majority of her life. Past favorite roles include Marmee in Little Women, and Mitzi in Agatha Christie’s A Murder is Announced at Milwaukee Lutheran High School. Marlia also enjoys having movie nights with friends on campus and hanging out with cast members after practice. She’d like to thank the director for giving her the opportunity to showcase her talents once again, the cast and crew for becoming her new drama family, and her family for their constant encouragement. A special thanks to God for giving her the opportunity to share her talents and live her dream. 1 Corinthians 10:31
JONAH MCGINNIS (Christopher) Jonah is a Senior Psychology student and this is Jonah’s 4th show with Concordia. He is excited to be a part of this new production. He would like to thank his family for supporting his love for theater. Psalms 23.

ETHAN BOESTER (Mr. Paravicini) Ethan is excited to perform in The Mousetrap for the CUW Theatre where he will be playing Mr. Paravicini. He is a Sophomore majoring in Biblical Languages for Missions and Translation with a minor in Chemistry. Nashville, IL is where he calls home. Previous roles he has had the pleasure of acting out are Little John in Robin Hood and Lt. Brannigan in Guys and Dolls. Youth Ministry plays a large part in his time here at school as well as cooking meals and desserts for friends. He would like to thank the director, the cast, crew, and all those who work backstage to make this show work. He gives thanks for his family and friends who support him in his endeavors and as always, all glory goes to God. 1 Peter 5:7

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

ABBYE PITCHFORD (Director, Props Master) Abbey is proud to be making her directing debut here at CUW. Abbey earned a BA in Theatre Studies with an emphasis in Stage Management from UW-Milwaukee. She has worked since 2012 as a stage manager, technician, and actress with local Milwaukee-area theatre companies, including Milwaukee Fringe Festival, Concordia University, Acacia Theatre, Lake Country Playhouse, A Fool’s Enigma Productions, Cooperative Performance MKE, Musical Masquers, and Company of Strangers Theatre. She is a teaching artist with the Milwaukee Repertory Theater and was privileged to be their 2017/2018 Education Emerging Professional Resident (EPR). Abbey believes her true directing debut was at age ten where, in a tiny St. Louis living room, she demanded that her sisters, cousins, and dad rehearse and perform a rendition of the Pitchford-family classic The Legend of Falling Rock. This production is dedicated to that imaginative little girl she hopes returns in full fury. Yes, it’s Abbey, with an “e.”

PROF. LORI WOODALL-SCHAUFLER (Producer/Dialect Coach) Prof. Woodall serves as the Director of CUW Theatre and has taught Theatre at CUW since 2006. Her 25+ year career consists of being an actor, director, choreographer, writer and producer in Theatre, TV and Film. At CUW, some of her favorite plays directed include last Fall’s Guys and Dolls, A Raisin in the Sun, Sense and Sensibility, Hairspray, The Women of Lockerbie, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and Macbeth (outdoor). She’d like to thank God and her family for their love and support always.

CATARINA ERBA (Stage Manager) Catarina is thrilled to be returning to Concordia University to stage manage once again! She worked as one of the assistant stage managers for this past summer’s production of Long Day’s Journey Into Night, and last
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PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

Fall’s *Guys and Dolls*. Other credits she has as an ASM, stage manager, and deck chief include West Bend Theatre Company (*Much Ado About Nothing*), Acacia Theatre Company (*The Hiding Place*), In Tandem Theatre (*All the Great Books (Abridged), Carnival, and Time Stands Still*), and Optimist Theatre (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream, A Winter’s Tale*). She'd like to thank her parents and mentors for supporting her and helping her get here every step of the way.

**THERESA MEYER (Asst. Stage Manager)**
Theresa is a Freshman majoring in Elementary Education and English from St. Louis, Missouri. She is very excited that this is her first show at Concordia as an Assistant Stage Manager. She also worked on the crew of Guys and Dolls and Robin Hood. She has loved being a part of this show, and hopes you love it, too! Hebrews 11:1

**BRADLEY DUNIGAN (Sound)**
Bradley is excited and honored to be working once again with the CUW Players as a sound engineer. He has been working with the theatre program since 2015 providing Audio support for both Musicals and Plays at night while during the days working as an Audio and Video support Technician for Potawatomi Hotel and Casino in Milwaukee. Bradley has also worked in the Past with Acacia Theatre as both a sound designer and engineer. Bradley always enjoys coming back to work with the Theatre department at CUW as he is an Alum of the program and loves seeing the hard work all of the students put into the shows. To the Cast and Crew he would just like to say Break a leg!

**MARIE WILKE (Costume Design)**
Marie Wilke is privileged to once again costume for the Concordia University Wisconsin Drama department. She costumed the recent Lion, Witch and Wardrobe production and Our Town. She has been a costumer for Acacia Theatre for several years as well as Morningstar Production for over 20 years. She thanks God for this opportunity.

**MIKE VAN DRESER (Lighting Designer)**
Mike Van Dreser is a graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater with a BA degree in Music and a Minor in Theatre Technology. After graduation, Mike started his career with a small production company named Badger Sound and Lighting. In August 2005, Mike was hired by David Cescarini to be the Master Electrician and Board Operator of Next Act Theatre. In 2011 he became the Resident Technical Director for Next Act Theatre. One of his first duties was to help construct and put into process the moving of a theatre company from one home into a temporary rental home and then into Next Act’s current home at 255 South Water Street. Since the move to Next Act’s new home, Mike has taken on even more responsibilities. Mike is still the Resident Technical Director, but also is now the Facilities Manager and Event Coordinator. When Mike is not working for Next Act, he enjoys working on his own Lighting Design and Sound Design company where he provides design work and consulting for both professional and non-professional theatre in and around southeastern Wisconsin. Mike also enjoys spending time with his family, including a wife and two wonderful kids. Mike is looking forward to many more show at Concordia University.

**ALAN ATWOOD (Set Design and Construction)**
Alan is currently on loan from Morning Star Productions, where he serves as Artistic Director. This is his fourth set design for CUW, having designed for Macbeth, Always a Bridesmaid and 12 Angry Jurors. When not producing shows at MSP or performing his one-man plays in prisons across Wisconsin he enjoys spending time with his wife, Mary Ellen, his four kids and three grandchildren.

**MICHAEL LANDERS (Set Design and Construction)**
Michael has worked professionally as an actor since 1980. Since that time, he has also performed Stunt
work theatrically and on camera. Michael has worked as a coordinator for stunts and stage combat. Other accomplished pursuits include directing and producing plays, tv and film. At CUW, he has directed Gift of the Magi, The Lion, the Witch and Wardrobe, and Aesop’s Fables. Most recently, he designed this past winter’s Robin Hood. His hope is to serve the Lord through writing plays and screenplays that he can someday direct and produce as well. Through all of these venues, He welcomes the opportunity to teach and share what he has learned.

DR. BRIAN HARRIES (Set Construction/ Carpentry) Brian Harries is an Associate Professor of English at Concordia University, specializing in Shakespeare and early modern English drama. He served as dramaturge for Macbeth (2015) and assistant directed Midsummer Night’s Dream last summer. He also frequently contributes his carpentry efforts to Concordia Players productions.

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