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The Unexpected Guest

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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TheatreGoer

Otterbein Summer Theatre presents...

THE UNEXPECTED GUEST

BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

Directed by and Featuring Equity Guest Artist
R. Sebastian Russ

Scenic Designer **Rob Johnson**

Lighting Designer **Fred Thayer**

Costume Designer **John R. Gutknecht**

Technical Director **Rob Johnson**

Production Manager **Diana Blazer**



The Unexpected Guest is produced through special arrangement with
Samuel French Inc., 45 West 25th Street, New York 10010.

July 26, 27, 28, 29, 30; August 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1989

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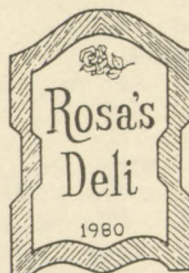
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Otterbein Summer Theatre Company



Zele Avradopoulos (Stage Management Apprentice) is a junior BA theatre/English major from Columbus, Ohio. Her credits include Sarah in *Children of A Lesser God*, assistant stage manager for *Romeo and Juliet*, Jane in *'Dentity Crisis*, and Abigail in *Approaching Lavender*. She has also appeared in the MGM/UA film *Teachers* and the 20th Century Fox film *Mischief*. This is Zele's first season at Otterbein.



Craig David Barnes (Scene Shop Assistant) is a junior BFA performance major from Hudson, Ohio. This is his first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. Previously, at Otterbein, Craig has appeared as the Frog Footman in *Alice in Wonderland*, the Page in *Romeo and Juliet*, and as a chorus member in *Sweeney Todd*. Next year Craig is hoping to delve into stage management as well as pursue acting.

Matthew J. Bartholomew (Acting Company) is a junior BFA performance major from Mt. Gilead, Ohio. This is his first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. Matthew's previous roles at Otterbein include Mr. Fran-



klin in *Children of A Lesser God*, Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Sgt. Michael Kelly in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, and the Target Master in *Robin Hood*.



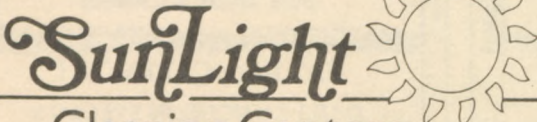
Keith Berkes (Acting Company) is a junior BFA performance major from North Royalton, Ohio. His previous roles at Otterbein include Lord Montague in *Romeo and Juliet* and Histrangra in *A Flea in Her*

Ear. Keith is making his first appearance for OST in the comedy *Biloxi Blues*.



Diana Blazer (Production Manager) is a senior BFA performance/stage management major from Mechanicsburg, Ohio. This past year she served as production stage manager for *Alice in Wonderland*

and stage manager for *Quilters*. On stage, Diana has appeared in *A Flea in Her Ear* and *To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday*. This is Diana's third year with OST.



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Pamela L. Bloom (Costume Shop Assistant) is a junior design/technology and visual arts major from Johnstown, Ohio. Pamela has served as assistant stage manager for *Sweeney Todd*, properties mistress for

Romeo and Juliet, scenic artist for *Alice in Wonderland*, and wardrobe mistress for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. Last year she was a stitcher for Otterbein Summer Theatre's production of *Camille*. This is Pamela's first full season with the company.



Katy Bowers (Acting Company) is a sophomore musical theatre major from Oxford, Ohio. In addition to appearing in *Quilters* last winter, Katy's other Otterbein credits include Elsa in the workshop

production of *Hopscotch*. Katy is also a member of Opus Zero and the Otterbein Chorale and this season she joins OST to reprise her role in *Quilters*.

Amanda Brockett (Assistant to the Managing Director) has just graduated from Otterbein College with a BA in theatre arts management. This past year she has served as the Box Office Manager and has house managed and worked on publicity for various productions.



This is Amanda's third season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. This fall she will be interning at Players Theatre Columbus. Amanda is from Urbana, Ohio.

Patricia Cockburn (Acting Company) is a senior BFA performance major from Gahanna, Ohio. At Otterbein she has appeared as Bernice in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, Cindy in *To Gillian on Her*

37th Birthday, and Jenny in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. This summer she joins OST to reprise her role in *Quilters*. This fall Patty will be interning in New York City.



Timothy Ryan Deak (Acting Company) is a senior BFA performance major from Brunswick, Ohio. This past season Tim appeared as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, James Leeds in *Children of A Lesser God* and the Mad Hatter in *Alice in Wonderland*. This fall Tim will intern at Simon & Kumin Casting in New York City.



Cheryl Gaysunas (Acting Company) is senior BFA performance major from Columbus, Ohio. She has appeared this year as Helsa in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* and Edna Klein in *Children of A Lesser God*. This is Cheryl's second season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. This winter Cheryl is looking forward to an internship in New York City.

Kristen L. Gregerson (Box Office Reservationist) is a senior BA theatre arts management major from Hilliard, Ohio. Her credits include properties mistress for *A Flea in Her Ear* and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* and house manager for *Sweeney Todd*. This is Kristen's first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.



Kristen L. Gregerson (Box Office Reservationist) is a senior BA theatre arts management major from Hilliard, Ohio. Her credits include properties mistress for *A Flea in Her Ear* and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* and house manager for *Sweeney Todd*. This is Kristen's first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.

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John R. Gutknecht (Costume Shop Foreman) is a senior BFA design/technology major from Barrington, Illinois. This is John's third season with Otterbein Summer Theatre, where previously he has been

scene shop foreman and production stage manager. As well as designing set for the original production of *Quilters* this past winter, he also designed costumes for *Sweeney Todd*.



Laura Hagan (Acting Company) is a junior BFA performance major from Newark, Ohio. She has been seen at Otterbein as Tweedle Dee in *Alice in Wonderland* and in the chorus of *Sweeney Todd*. Laura

joins OST this summer to appear as Dana in *Quilters*.



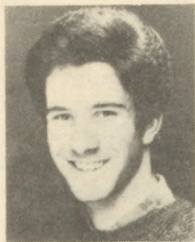
Gretchen Hall (Properties Supervisor) is a junior BFA musical theatre major from Bay Village, Ohio. She has appeared as Tweedle Dum in *Alice in Wonderland* and as a chorus member in *Sweeney Todd*. She also

understudied the roles of Lady Capulet and Lady Montague for *Romeo and Juliet*. This is Gretchen's first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.



Rachael Harris (Acting Company) is a senior BFA performance major from Worthington, Ohio. Her credits include Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, Lucienne in *A Flea in Her Ear*, Ginny in *Is There Life After High*

School?, and Madge in *The Dresser*. This is Rachael's second season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.



Ron Maurer (Apprentice/Acting Company) is a sophomore BFA musical theatre major from Findlay, Ohio. He has most recently appeared in *Sweeney Todd*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. Ron is also

a member of Opus Zero and the Otterbein Concert Choir. This is Ron's first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.

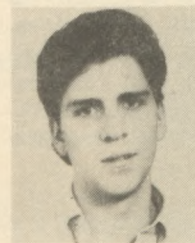


Gregory Owen-Houck (Scene Shop Assistant) is a junior design/technology major from Youngstown, Ohio. He was master electrician for last year's dance concert. This is Greg's first season with OST,



Colby Anne Paul (Acting Company) is a junior BFA musical theatre major from Worthington, Ohio. She has appeared as Sheila in *A Chorus Line* and has also been seen in *Robin Hood*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *Alice in*

Wonderland, and *Sweeney Todd*. Colby has also appeared in productions at Players Theatre Columbus, CATCO, and Columbus Light Opera. This is Colby's first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.



Dennis Rapp (Acting Company) is a junior BFA musical theatre major from Delaware, Ohio. He has appeared as Eddie McCuen in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, Salieri in the opera theatre produc-

tion of *Mozart and Salieri*, and as a chorus member and understudy in *Sweeney Todd*. Last summer Dennis appeared in *Camille* and in *Something's Afoot*. This is his first full summer with Otterbein Summer Theatre.



Lisa Jo Snodgrass (Master Electrician) is a junior BFA design/technology major from Barnesville, Ohio. This is her second season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. Last summer she worked as the sound engineer.

This past year Lisa Jo served as the stage manager for *Sweeney Todd*, and properties mistress and assistant lighting designer for the winter production of *Quilters*.

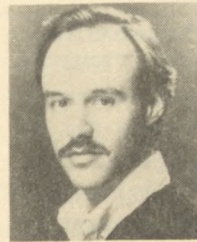


Carolyn Valentine (Properties Supervisor) is a junior BFA performance major from Sidney, Ohio. Her past technical credits include light board operator for *Children of A Lesser God*, paint crew for *Romeo and Juliet*, and costume crew for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. On stage, Carolyn has appeared in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and the workshop production of *Life Under Water*.



Lisa Walton (Acting Company) is a senior BFA musical theatre major from Stowe, Ohio. She last appeared as Johanna in *Sweeney Todd*. This summer she returns to reprise her role as Jenny in *Quilters*.

Other previous roles include Hope in *Something's Afoot* and Maggie in *A Chorus Line*. Lisa will be interning in New York City this fall.



Joshua Alan Wank (Acting Company) is a senior BFA performance major from St. Joseph, Michigan. This is his second season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. Joshua has appeared in many Otterbein productions including: *Noises Off*, *To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday*, *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Nerd and Something's Afoot*. Joshua will be interning in New York City next year.



Chris Wojcieszyn (Electrician/Sound) is a sophomore BFA design/technology major originally from Buffalo, New York. His past credits include sound engineer for *Children of A Lesser God* and various other

crews throughout the year. This is Chris' first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre.



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Equity Guest Artist



R. Sebastian Russ, a native of New Orleans, returns to Otterbein for *The Unexpected Guest* after appearing as Friar Laurence in *Romeo and Juliet* this past winter. He currently resides in New

York where he recently directed *Sauny the Scot* (a Restoration adaptation of *The Taming of the Shrew*) and *The Revenger's Tragedy* for Riverside Shakespeare Festival's Bard-a-thon '89. He has performed in many regional theatres, including Three Rivers Shakespeare Festival, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Atlanta Municipal Theatre and Clarence Brown Repertory, as John of Gaunt in *Richard II*, Feste in *Twelfth Night*, Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Corvino in *Volpone*, and Gonzalo in *The Tempest*.

Off-Broadway he has alternated in English and Spanish in the Puerto Rican classic *La Carreta (The Oxcart)*. He has toured Europe in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Several of his voices have been heard in principal roles in the television cartoon series *Star Blazers*, and he has appeared with John Raitt as Reverend Byrd in *Shenandoah* and as the Padre in *Man of La Mancha*. He will return to Europe this fall as Brabantio in *Othello*, in a production that will tour Sweden, Finland, Belgium, Austria and West Germany.

Sebastian has sung in many operas, operettas and musicals, in roles ranging from Ko-Ko in *The Mikado* to the Witch in *Hansel and Gretel*. His directing credits include the acclaimed American premiere of Lully's *Acis Et Galathee*. When not directing, acting or teaching, Sebastian is a contributing editor and opera critic for Digital Audio's *CD Review*.

Director's Note

It is a particular pleasure to direct a play by Agatha Christie, as I have always been an ardent fan of her novels. *The Unexpected Guest*, furthermore, is a cut above many of her scripts. Things are truly seldom what they seem — and a play that seemed at first a straightforward thriller in the manner of *Night Must Fall* turns out to possess wheels within wheels in a most intriguing manner. In this play the subtext is of the greatest importance; there is remarkably little that can be taken at face value, and one really cannot believe anything anyone says. Thus the characters take on a three-dimensional

quality not apparent on immediate acquaintance, and the work becomes particularly challenging to direct. Indeed, perhaps the greatest mystery is not the identity of the murderer, but the real nature of each of the residents of Llangelert House. Some of the "types" common to many of the Christie novels are present, of course; but others are created with far greater individuality and depth than was her wont.

Oh yes — the murderer. Detecting this one is a surprisingly difficult feat. I wish you luck in your investigations!

—R. Sebastian Russ

Cast

(In order of appearance)

Richard Warwick	Gregory Owen-Houck
Laura Warwick	Cheryl Gaysunas
Michael Starkwedder	Joshua Alan Wank
Miss Bennett	Colby Anne Paul
Jan Warwick	Timothy Ryan Deak
Mrs. Warwick	Rachael Harris
Henry Angell	Matthew J. Bartholomew
Sergeant Cadwallader	Ron Maurer
Inspector Thomas	R. Sebastian Russ
Julian Farrar	Dennis Rapp
Constable Jones	Craig David Barnes

Time: Autumn, 1935

Place: South Wales

Act I

Scene 1 - Richard Warwick's study. About 11:30 p.m.

Scene 2 - The same. The following morning about 11 o'clock.

Act II

The same. Late afternoon the same day.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Acknowledgements

Otterbein Summer Theatre would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their gracious donations of time, talent, and objects during our '89 season.

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Ed Vaughan, Otterbein Theatre faculty member, serves as artistic director for Otterbein Summer Theatre for the seventh consecutive season.

Tod Wilson, a 1986 Otterbein graduate and Otterbein Theatre staff member joins Otterbein Summer Theatre for his fifth consecutive season. This is his third season as managing director. Prior to last summer, Tod completed work on his Master of Arts degree in Arts Management at The University of Akron.

Rob Johnson, Otterbein Theatre faculty member and resident scenic designer holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in design from The Ohio State University in addition to a Master of Arts degree in design/technology from West Virginia University. His recent designs include set for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, and set and lights for *Romeo and Juliet* and *Sweeney Todd*. Rob has also designed for Gallery Players, Columbus Light Opera, The Ohio State University, Bowling Green State University and several dance companies.

Katie Robbins, Otterbein costume designer, returns to OST for her third consecutive season having designed costumes for *Harvey* and *The Nerd* last summer. This season she will design costumes for *Quilters*. Recent winter theatre designs include *Children of A Lesser God*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. Ms. Robbins earned a BA from San Jose State University and an MFA in design from Humboldt State University. In the past she has designed for Sacramento Music Circus, Actor's Repertory Theatre in San Jose, Tulane Center Stage in New Orleans, and the Empty Space in Seattle.

Fred J. Thayer, interim chairman for the Department of Theatre and Dance and coordinator of design/technology joins Otterbein Summer Theatre to design lighting for *The Unexpected Guest*. Last summer Mr. Thayer served as technical and properties supervisor. His most recent lighting designs include *Alice in Wonderland*, *Harvey*, and *A Flea in Her Ear*.

John R. Gutknecht (Costume Shop Foreman/Designer) is a senior BFA design/technology major from Barrington, Illinois. This is John's third season with Otterbein Summer Theatre, where previously he served as scene shop foreman and production stage manager. As well as designing set and lights for the original production of *Quilters* this past winter, he also designed costumes for *Sweeney Todd*. This season, in addition to his work on *Quilters*, John will design costumes for *Biloxi Blues* and *The Unexpected Guest*, and he will also design the set for *I'm Not Rappaport*.

Michael Border, Otterbein technical director joins OST for his first season to design lights for *I'm Not Rappaport*. This past season, Michael served as technical director for all the winter theatre productions and he also designed lights for *Children of A Lesser God*. Prior to joining the Otterbein staff Mr. Border held positions at Ashland College and Mercer College in Atlanta. He has also worked for the Actor's Theatre of Louisville, the Bowling Green State University College of Music, and the Ohio Ballet in Akron. Michael earned his MA degree from Bowling Green State University and has extensive experience as a professional technical director and scenic and lighting designer.

Pamela Hill, director and 1975 alumna of Otterbein College returns to Otterbein this summer to direct *Quilters*. Ms. Hill is a freelance director, actor, writer and teacher whose previous directing projects include *Snowangel* for Actors Repertory Theatre; *Tomfoolery* and *The Club* for The Contemporary American Theatre Company; and *The Robber Bridegroom* for Little Theatre Off Broadway. Last year she served as assistant to the director for the New York production of Ed Graczyk's *A Murder of Crows*. As an actress she has portrayed Lavinia in Little Theatre Off Broadway's production of *Whodunnit*, Lily St. Regis in *Annie* for Gallery Players, and Joanna in the Players Theatre Columbus production of *Present Laughter*. After *Quilters* opens she will be directing at Timber Lake Playhouse in Illinois and attending The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in England.

Jeffrey Pappas holds degrees from The University of Illinois and Northern Kentucky University. Currently he is an instructor of choral and vocal music at Otterbein College where he conducts both the Otterbein Chorale and the Women's Chamber Singers, as well as directing the show choir, Opus Zero. His previous music directing duties have included: *Working*, *Carousel*, *The Fantasticks*, *Wonderful Town*, *Dear World*, and *Sweeney Todd*. He has also co-written a musical revue *Lights Up!* and will conduct the world premiere performance of *The Beast* to be seen in Northern Kentucky University's 1989 Y.E.S. Festival of New Plays. Mr. Pappas will serve as music director for *Quilters*.

Tom Baker, a native of Zanesville, Ohio, graduated from Otterbein College in 1987 with a BA in art. He has since been studying scene design and finds himself now in his second season with OST as scene shop foreman. In the past year Tom has worked as a freelance set designer and scenic artist in

Columbus theatre and television productions, notably at the Contemporary American Theatre Company for *A Trio of Ghost Stories* and *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You* and Otterbein's *Sweeney Todd*. Tom has been offered a full tuition fellowship and scholarship to the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he will begin graduate study and professional training in scenic design this fall.

Beth Burrier, assistant music director, is a graduating senior music education major from Zanesville, Ohio. This is Ms. Burrier's fourth season with Otterbein Summer Theatre. Her previous credits include music director for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, assistant music director for *Something's Afoot* and pianist for numerous Otterbein Theatre productions.

Christopher G. Clapp, a 1989 graduate of Otterbein College returns to Otterbein Summer Theatre to design lighting for *Biloxi Blues*. Recently, Christopher was the scenic designer for Otterbein's production of *Children of a Lesser God*. In addition, he directed the workshop production of *Waiting for Godot* this past winter. Christopher is from Allegany, New York.

Linda Vaughan joins OST as costume designer for *I'm Not Rappaport*. Equally at home behind stage or acting, Ms. Vaughan has appeared in *Women of My Father's House* at CATCO, *Whose Life Is It Anyway?*, and *Rainbow Dancing* at Players Theatre Columbus. An active singer/actor in the Ohio Village Singers, she has performed in *East Lynn*, *Under the Gaslight*, and *An Evening with the Brownings*, which she wrote. A graduate of Otterbein College and The Ohio State University, Ms. Vaughan currently teaches acting at Ft. Hayes Arts and Academic High School and Theatre Education at Otterbein and Ohio State.



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Restrooms and Telephones: The restrooms and telephones are located upstairs opposite the main entrance of the Campus Center.

Cameras and Recording Devices: The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs during a performance are strictly prohibited.

Latecomers' Policy: The House Manager may seat latecomers only during times which minimize disruption of the play. The management accepts no responsibility for inconvenience to latecomers and can make no adjustment because of it.

Fire Notice: The exit indicated by a red light nearest to your seat is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please do not run - walk to that exit.

Box Office Hours: Weekdays and Saturdays: 12:30 to 9:00 p.m., Sundays: 12:30 to 3:00 p.m., phone (614) 898-1109.

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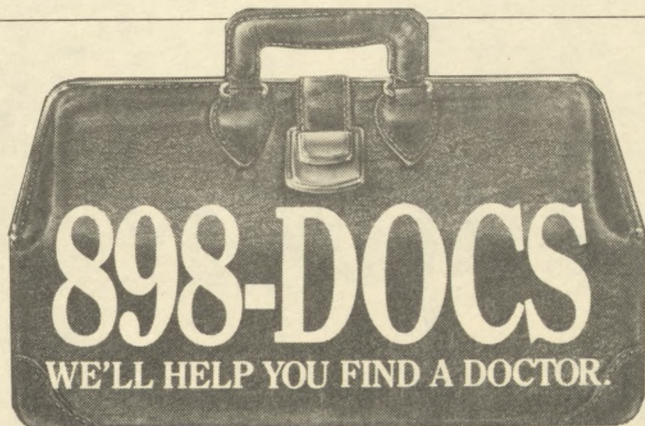
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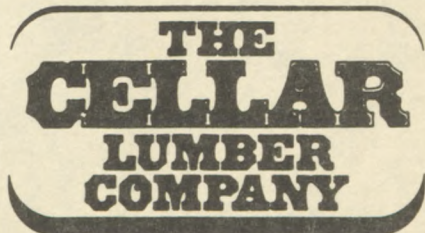


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