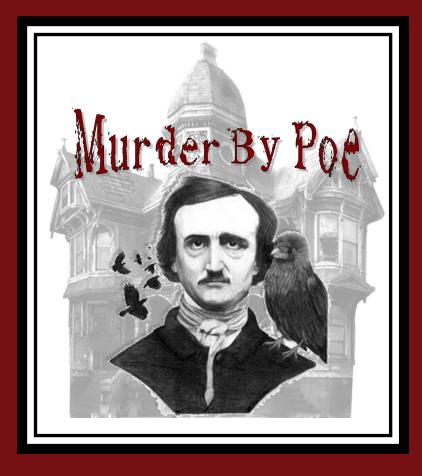
# ACTORS GUILD

OF PARKERSBURG PRESENTS

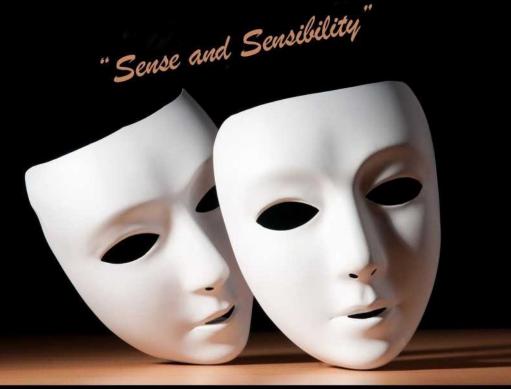


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# PROUD TO SUPPORT THE ACTORS GUILD OF PARKERSBURG



#### Actors Guild of Parkersburg Presents

# MURDER BY POE

by Jeffrey Hatcher adapted from the stories of Edgar Allan Poe

This play was commissioned and first produced by The Acting Company, Margot Harley, Producing Artistic Director.

MURDER BY POE is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

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

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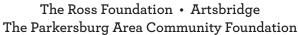
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# **SETTING**

An early nineteenth-century black room, lacquered, shiny. 1840s.

## CAST

| The Woman                         | Kalina Jones     |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Roderick Usher/Inspector/Ensemble | Isaac Eastwood   |
| Cat/Old Man/Ensemble              | George Faber     |
| Heart/Prefect/Ensemble            | TIM TUTEN        |
| Marie Roget/Pluto/Ensemble        | CHLOE ARNOLD     |
| C. Auguste Dupin                  | J. Andrew Clovis |
| Cat's Wife/The Queen/Ensemble     | SUSAN COURTNEY   |
| William Wilson/Minister/Ensemble  | DANNY BAYER      |

# STAFF & CREW

| Director               | David Rexroad                      |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                        |                                    |
|                        | Nathan Arnold                      |
| Assistant Director     |                                    |
| Costumer               | JEAN NEWTON                        |
| Production Assistant   |                                    |
| Stage Manager          |                                    |
| Props                  | Pam Salisbury Piggott, Jean Newton |
| Set Designer           | Bartolo Cannizzaro                 |
| Set Construction Crew  | Cast, Crew                         |
| Lighting Designer      | John Gradwohl                      |
| Sound Effects Designer | WILLIAM D. ROBERTS                 |
| Music Designer         | Brent Null                         |
| Stage Crew             |                                    |
| Advisor                | DEANNA SPRING                      |
|                        | Evan Pugh                          |
|                        | Brett Meade                        |
|                        |                                    |





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# President's Letter



elcome to the 64th Season at the Actors Guild of Parkersburg! It is an honor to address you as the newly elected President of the Guild's Board of Trustees.

My first exposure to this wonderful organization began back in early 1964 when my Hamilton Junior High School teacher, John Lee, invited me to see him performing as the Boy in "The Fantasticks." It was the Guild's first musical, and it was magical! Almost two years later, John,

now my Parkersburg High School Drama Teacher, encouraged several of his students to audition for the Guild's second musical, "The Boy Friend." What wonderful memories I have of being in that production. My first Guild show! It solidified my love of theatre and my love of the Guild.

Making memories is what this place is all about - whether it is appearing on stage, working backstage or simply sitting back and watching a show. We have a terrific season lined up for you this year. After "Murder by Poe" is the beloved Disney classic, "Mary Poppins," brought to life on stage. That's followed by our Guild Builders production, "Madagascar, Jr.," the crack-a-lackin' adventures from the animated film. Next is a playful adaptation of Jane Austen's well-loved novel "Sense and Sensibility." Mel Brooks' hilarious Broadway smash hit "The Producers" is up next, followed by a rollicking Southern comedy with the feisty females of Eden Falls, Georgia, called "The Hallelujah Girls." And finally "Rock of Ages," the fun rock 'n' roll tale of romance and stardom on the Sunset Strip in the 1980s. We hope you will attend and enjoy each and every show.

But also remember that the Guild always welcomes new volunteers. Why not take a chance and audition for a part in one of our shows, or come work on a costume, or help build the set, or paint, or make a prop. I can guarantee you that once you have been bitten by the bug and become a part of the Guild family you will be hooked. To find out more, send me a message at president@actors-guild.com. I'd love to hear from you. The Actors Guild is truly your community theatre. Come and join our family, and I know you, too, will start making wonderful memories!

DAVID REXROAD

President of the Board of Trustees



ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LC

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# Director's Note

dgar Allan Poe. The very name conjures up chills and visions of the macabre! My first introduction to Poe's tales came from my grandmother. I remember, as a young boy, lying in front of my grandparents' fireplace and listening to her read "The Black Cat" and "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Murders in the Rue Morgue". And I loved every minute of it!

Then came all those wonderful movies in the 1960s' starring Vincent Price – "The Pit and the Pendulum" and "The Fall of the House of Usher" and "The Masque of the Red Death". I didn't miss one of them!

So when the Guild decided to do "Death by Poe" which re-tells some of his most famous stories, I was intrigued. Then, after reading the script, when I found that it was intended to be performed in the style of "Grand Guignol" I was hooked.

The original Grand Guignol Theatre opened in Paris in the late 1800's, although the style goes back to Elizabethan times. Grisly scenes of horror – murder, torture, even decapitation were

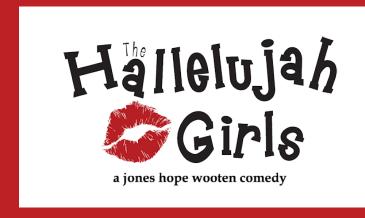


presented as entertainment. As the melodramas played out, screams came from both the stage and from the audience. It is said that more men than women fainted at the scenes that unfolded live on stage before them.

Well, we hope no one in the audience will actually faint tonight, but hope you will find a fright, a shudder, and perhaps a smile along the way. Poe has lasted for generations because people are fascinated by his tales of terror. His works influenced literature around the world. He is credited as writing the first detective fiction, which led the way to the Sherlock Holmes adventures and the modern detective stories. But it's his extraordinary visions of the ghastly, gruesome and ghoulish which remain in our minds and still give us nightmares!.

David Rexroad
Director, *Murder By Poe* 

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# 2019-2020 MEMBERS

To become an Actors Guild member, apply online or via email at membership@actors-guild.com. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7 pm. ★ LIFETIME MEMBERS

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- ★ Mike Dotson Sabrina Dye
- ★ Barbara Full
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- **★** Jean Newton Jeff Newton
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- Brent Null Paula Oliverio
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- David Rexroad ★ Teri Robert
- William Roberts ★ Susan Schuchts
- Rich Shaffer **★** Dixie Showalter
- ★ Linda Smith Gwen Sour J.T. Spivy
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# Who's Who in the Cast & Crew

CHLOE ARNOLD (Marie Roget/Pluto/Ensemble) is a senior attending Parkersburg High School. She is a member of the PHS A Cappella Choir, the Science Bowl team, Key Club, PHS Players, and Speech and Debate. She worked spotlight on *Carrie the Musical* this spring, and is now very excited to debut on the Actors Guild stage! She would like to thank her friends and family for encouraging her and always being supportive.

DANNY BAYER (William Wilson/Minister/Ensemble) is marking his 32nd show with The Actors Guild of Parkersburg. His first show was *Death of Salesman* is 1980. Recently he was in productions of *La Cage Aux Folles, The Games Afoot* and *Mamma Mia*. He spent 25 years in Cincinnati working with various theater companies and teaching elementary school. As a child, Danny watched scary movies with a sweater over his head. Needless to say this show has forced him to forego the sweater! Danny lives in Vienna with his dog, Lucy.

J. ANDREW CLOVIS (C. Auguste Dupin) is thrilled to step into the challenging role after an absence from the stage of many, many moons. An avid environmentalist, animal lover, and activist, he is dedicating this stage of his life to recognizing what metaphorical boards he should trod, and those he should avoid. He hopes, friends, that you enjoy the show.

SUSAN COURTNEY (Cat's Wife/ The Queen/Ensemble) was last seen in *The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays.* Some of the shows she has appeared in include: *Alone Together, The Red Velvet Cake War, The Dixie Swim Club, The Foreigner, Anne of Green Gables, Witness for the Prosecution,*  The Last Night of Ballyhoo, Lend Me A Tenor, Dearly Departed, Moon Over Buffalo, Crimes of the Heart, The Boys Next Door (twice) and Squabbles. She has assistant directed and has worked back stage on numerous productions. Susan is a switchboard operator at Camden Clark Medical Center.

ISAAC EASTWOOD (Roderick Usher/Inspector/Ensemble) makes his 6th appearance on a Guild stage (and 9th overall). He has done a handful of local movies, short films and commercials. He last performed on stage as John Proctor in MOVP's the Crucible. Ike hopes one day to win an Oscar. Aside from running the hottest nightclub in the MOV, The Locker Room Sports Bar in Marietta, he enjoys painting, CrossFit and spending time with his daughter. Follow him on insta @realisaaceastwood and remember, please have your pets spayed or neutered! #StayHumbleStayHungry

GEORGE FABER (Cat/Old Man/Ensemble) is a practicing pathologist and native of West Virginia. George is appearing in his third AGP production. Previous shows include *Fiddler* on the Roof and A Christmas Story. He recently started branching out from musicals in the MOVP spring offering - The Importance of Being Earnest. He would like to thank his wife, Cheryl, for her patience and support, and the production staff for giving him the opportunity to be part of such an adventure.

**KALINA JONES** (The Woman) most recently appeared on the Guild stage as Aggie in *The Game's Afoot* and is excited to be back for this show that marks her tenth theatre performance. Past credits include Mary Bailey in *It's* 

a Wonderful Life at Huntington Playhouse in Cleveland Ohio, Jan Warwick in Agatha Christie's The Unexpected Guest at West Virginia University at Parkersburg, and Chris Mundy in Dancing at Lughnasa, also at WVUP. She would like to thank everyone in the audience for continuing to support the arts in our community.

DAVID REXROAD (Director) has recently directed A Christmas Story, Peter and the Starcatcher, Big Fish, and Boeing Boeing and was an assistant director on The Addams Family and Shrek. David serves on Guild Builders, Play Reading, and as President of the Board. He made his Guild acting debut at age 15 playing Tony in *The Boy Friend* and more recently played Judge Turpin in Sweeney *Todd.* Other Guild work includes Billy Bigelow in Carousel, Rutledge in 1776, and directing Anything Goes and The Women. In New York, David played El Gallo in the original Off-Broadway production of *The Fantasticks*.

CHARLIE MATTHEWS (Assistant Director) has been active in the Guild for 45 years in many capacities both artistic and administrative. Having participated

in well over 100 productions his memorable directing experiences include Big River, Cabaret, Man of La Mancha, Into the Woods, The Civil War, Spamalot, Company, The Elephant Man, Children of a Lesser God, Noises Off, Lombardi and the award winning Tuesdays with Morrie. Memorable acting experiences include The Caine Mutiny Court Martial, To Kill a Mockingbird, 1776, Noises Off, A Few Good Men, Moon over Buffalo and A Walk in the Woods.

NATHAN ARNOLD (TD & Charge Artist) BFA, General Theater, Production Design and Technology, Class of 2019 - Ohio University. The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Scenic Designer, Paint Charge, & Carpenter) Ohio Valley Summer Theater, Ohio University: Sibyl (Scenic Designer), Holly Down in Heaven (Scenic Designer), The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (Scenic Designer & Carpenter), The Rover (Co-Assistant Scenic Designer). Other: Time to Think: A Short Play about Ignorance & Bliss (Playwright, Director, Designer, Projection Designer, & TD) Honors Tutorial College Thesis Project, A Little Night Music (Scenic Designer & Charge Artist) OHIO Opera Theater, Hairspray (Props Master).



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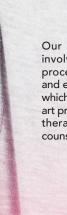






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