

Transcription of Podcast Episode 383:

Performing Arts Club – *Deathtrap*

SPEAKERS

Don Savage, Laurie De Gonzalez, Bob Firing, Linda Bostjanick

Note: This transcription was computer-generated and may contain typographical errors.

Bob Firing 00:00

Good afternoon Shadow Hills. This is Bob Firing coming to you on a beautiful October afternoon. For the snowbirds, it is time to return. And my guest today are the people from the Performing Arts Club. The play this fall is called *Deathtrap*. And the director is Linda Bostjanick. Linda, welcome to the podcast and please tell us about it.

Linda Bostjanick 00:30

Oh, thank you very much Bob. First thing we want to talk about is our new system that we have, which is Eventbrite for selling tickets. And we want to thank all the residents because we've had a tremendously good acceptance of the new system. In fact, we have sold approximately 450 tickets in the first week, which is a record for us. And we did this because we knew our old system was very dated. And it was long for us to handle and very long for you, the customer to get your tickets stand in line at certain times. So this has given you the convenience to go online anytime. And it's a very easy thing to do. So we're encouraging all of you who haven't gotten your tickets yet to hurry up and get them. There's still good seats available for each performance. The play runs November 16, 17, and 18, at seven o'clock, and Sunday, the 19th at two o'clock matinee.

Bob Firing 01:34

Why don't you tell us a bit about the play and introduce the characters.

Linda Bostjanick 01:38

The play was written by Ira Levin, who is a very famous playwright among all of our mystery genre. He wrote *Rosemary's Baby*, *Stepford Wives*, *The Perfect Storm*, *Boys from Brazil*, among many other things that became both movies and plays. So he's a very well known playwright. The play is set in 1978, in Connecticut, and it deals with Sydney, who is a playwright who has been having about an 18 year slump, and is very anxious to have another hit. There are five characters in it. And first of all, we'll talk about Sydney, who is one of our two leading men. Sydney, would you like to tell us a little bit about your part?

Don Savage 02:35

Yes, well, Sydney is a very self possessing playwright. He holds himself in very high esteem. But as Linda said, he has fallen upon a real dry spell, an 18 year dry spell, and is very anxious to have another hit. And he finds himself with the opportunity to have another hit, although it's a very unexpected opportunity. And that's one of the wonderful plot points of the show. His wife, Myra, played by the lovely Laurie is his loving wife. And I'll let you talk to Lori and ask her what her character is about.

Laurie De Gonzalez 03:21

I am a very loving and devoted wife. However, I have much more depth than that. To the surprise, I think of my husband, which he doesn't recognize, I don't think all my attributes. Myra has been married to Sydney for 11 years. And when they got married, she was very happy to be living off of his success, and perhaps vicariously living through him. When he continued to have a dry spell, she supported him, both emotionally and financially,

Don Savage 04:04

Which grates on him a little bit. He doesn't like the fact that he's living off his wife, nor does he like the fact that all of their friends know that he's living off of his wife. So there's a lot going on with Sydney. He's, I don't want to say he's having a midlife crisis, but he is actually in some sort of a crisis within his own mind about exactly what shape his professional life is going to take going forward.

Linda Bostjanick 04:30

In addition to Myra, Sydney we have three other characters that are super talented in the show to also. Helga Van Horn is a psychic that is staying at the cottage next to Sydney's, and she does pop in and she is feeling a little bit of action in that house. So it's a quite an interesting time to watch her or as she walks through Sydney's house. Then we have his attorney Porter, who also pays a visit to Sydney in the second act. And he is as, as Sydney describes him, doll with smart. And then we have the other leading man. Clifford. Clifford is a young writer who has met Sydney in the seminary held at one of the colleges. And Clifford is very, very anxious to write and have his first play produced. So he has snapped up an opportunity to talk to Sydney about his play and see what ideas Sydney may have to make it better. So that's the plan because we have Sydney who wants to play, we have Clifford who has a play in the works, are in the writing. And we have Myra who is caught in the middle of all of this. And I we're the writer takes this in many, many dark comedic moments and many twists and turns. Stephen King has called him the master of plot twists over all other writers. So you won't want to miss this. Laurie, did you have something to add?

Laurie De Gonzalez 06:28

I wanted to say this reiterate the twist in this play are unbelievable. Listen carefully to every single word, you might be able to figure it out. But you'd have to be very, very strategic in your approach. And it's all there folks, you could do you might be able to do it. So hold, hold on to your seats. You're on for your you're in for a great ride.

Don Savage 07:00

Well, I the only other thing I would say is that it's really a real it's an honor and so much fun to be able to do something and create something that the residents of Shadow Hills, I know are going to like. And so that's really part of the juice for us because it ain't the money.

Linda Bostjanick 07:28

No, we are an all volunteer club and we have lots of positions for everybody on and off the stage. I think in closing, I would just say if we told you more of the plot, we'd have to kill you...

Bob Firing 07:42

Okay, well, thank you for coming in. And just to remind the audiences was a long running comedy on Broadway. And dates are November 16, 17th, and 18th, at seven o'clock, and there's a matinee performance on at two o'clock on November 19. So get your tickets on Eventbrite and we'll see you at the play. Until then, bye-bye.