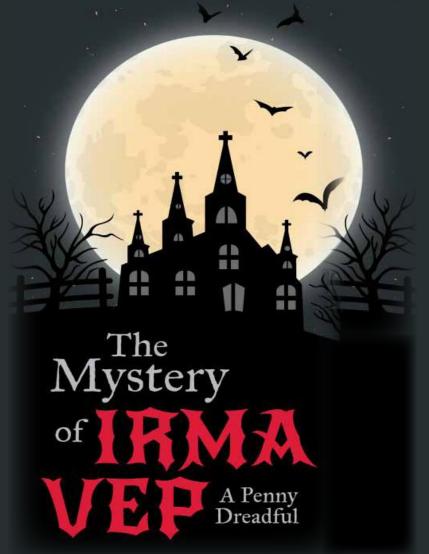
Main Street Players

presents



By Charles Ludlum

February 21 - March 4, 2018

A Message from the Artistic Director

Welcome to Main Street Players.

The Mystery of Irma Vep first appeared off-Broadway in 1984 and by 1991; it became the most produced play in the United States. This comic Victorian melodrama is filled with shades of Wuthering Heights, Alfred Hitchcock's Rebecca, and gothic horror.

Writer, Charles Ludlam, described his play as a "penny dreadful". This 19th–century genre was extremely popular with the British working class. Originally called "penny bloods", the booklets, typically 8 pages and sometimes longer, were sensational stories of adventure, murder and gothic horror. The one-penny weekly booklets included illustrations that reinforced the graphic nature of the stories. The most successful penny-blood series, *Mysteries of London*, written by G.W.M. Reynolds first appeared in 1844. His series lasted for over 12 years and included 4.5 million words.

Later many of the stories were based on true crimes ...especially murders. If none existed at the time.... the writers created them. The most popular of these is perhaps the story of Sweeney Todd. The 'Demon Barber' first appeared in a blood entitled *String of Pearls*, published in 1846. In fact, before the series conclusion, it was adapted for the stage thus setting the murderous barber on the road to world fame.

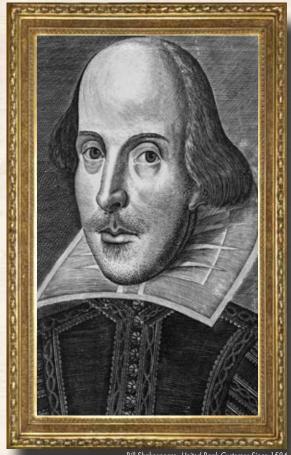
The name of the cheap booklets was changed to penny dreadful in the 1860s. Soon the stories focused on the pursuers and not the murders. In 1865, a 70 part penny dreadful, *The Boy Detective*, or *The Crimes of London* appeared.

By the 1890s, the popularity of the penny dreadful began to decline. Over time they evolved into British comic magazines.

Enjoy the show.

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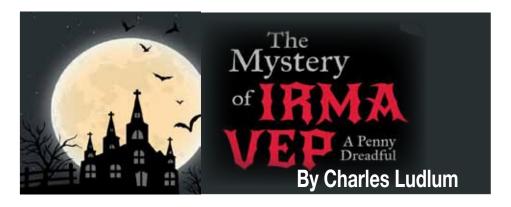
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Director	Norma Richardson
Set Design	BJ Hughes
Stage Manager	Elise Wright
Costume Design	Creative Costumes and Curtis Brown
Wig Design	Kay Bohan
Lighting Design	Curtis Brown and Jason Brown
Audio Design	Norma Richardson and Jason Brown
Audio Technician	Norma Richardson
Lighting Technician	Jason Brown
Dressers	Elise Wright, Mary Gresham, Emily Eason, and Taylor Blake
Ray	Janice Aiken, Shari Barron, Riley Barton, rmond Crossnine, Frank Dansby, BJ Hughes, phnson, Gracie Mitchell, and Karen Stanford
Publicity	Clark Douglas
Photography	Rick Blackshear
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Act I

Mandacrest Estate on the moors near Hamstead Heath

15-Minute Intermission

Act II:

Various places in Egypt and Mandarcrest Estate

The Players

Jane Twisden	Curtis Brown
Nicodemus Underwood	Walker Davis
Lady Enid Hillcrest	Walker Davis
Lord Edgar Hillcrest	Curtis Brown
An Intruder	Curtis Brown
Alcazar	Walker Davis
Pev Amri	Walker Davis
Irma Vep	That is the Mystery





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The Players



CURTIS BROWN (Jane Twisden, Lord Edgar Hillcrest, and Intruder) is a Main Street regular. He appeared earlier this season as Jake Laurents and Mr. Stewart in War of the Worlds, The Panic Broadcast. Other roles at MSP include Judge Mel Coffey in Inherit the Wind, multiple roles in Charlotte's Web (2016 and 2017), Neil Tilden in 1940s Radio Hour, the Centipede in James and the Giant Peach and Norman Bulansky in The Boys

Next Door. Curtis has worked with Main Street in some capacity almost every season since 2002. He is glad to be back on the stage again with Walker! It's been too long since they've been paired onstage together! Have a frightfully good laugh with us tonight!



WALKER DAVIS (Nicodemus Underwood, Lady Enid Hillcrest, Alcazar, and Pev Amri) has always had an affinity for all things artistic. Through the years, he has performed in a variety of theater companies with over 30 stage credits to his name. A few of his most notable roles are Mortimer Brewster in Arsenic and Old Lace, Scarecrow/ Hunk in The Wizard of Oz, Brad Majors in The Rocky Horror Show, Algernon Moncrieff in The

Importance of Being Earnest, Hysterium in A Funny Thing Happened On The Way to The Forum, Will Parker in Oklahoma!, and Alan Lefenfeld in This Is A Test. He has even played the role of The Governor in a Walking Dead themed experience with the Georgia Tour Company in Senoia, Georgia. In addition to his acting and musical theatre endeavors, Walker is also an artist and playwright. He received his Bachelor's of Fine Arts Degree in Painting from Armstrong State University in Savannah, Georgia. He is honored to grace the Main Street stage again and to play these colorful characters!

Artistic Staff and Crew



NORMA RICHARDSON (Director) has been involved with theatre for most of her life and has appeared on a number of Atlanta stages among others. With Main Street, her credits include: Nunset Blvd., Inherit the Wind, Titanic, The Musical, Tuesday's With Morrie, Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and Then Some), Mama Won't Fly, Our Town, and on stage productions include; Southern Comforts, Driving Miss Daisy, Love Letters, The

Little Foxes, The Guys, Steel Magnolias, Grace & Glorie, and Same Time Next Year. Her career in television began with Turner Broadcasting/CNN. After leaving Turner, she was an Executive Vice President with Primerica and General Manager for their corporate television production department for over 20 years. She is a native of Griffin, Georgia and is the Founding Artistic Director of Main Street Players.



BJ HUGHES (Scenic Designer) is enjoying his seventh season as resident scenic designer for Main Street Players. Favorite shows he designed include *Season's Greetings, Nunset Blvd., Inherit the Wind, 1940's Radio Hour, Titanic, the Musical*, and *Cotton Patch Gospel*. Favorite shows he has directed and designed include *39 Steps, The Odd Couple, Crimes of the Heart, A Trip to Bountiful, Deathtrap,*

and On Golden Pond. BJ has also produced and designed over 100 productions for Alliance Theatre Education as well as directing more than 80 of them. He has been a teaching artist there for 30 years. As an actor, BJ toured America for three years in classical productions of Shakespeare and Molière before settling in Atlanta where he has performed at the Theatrical Outfit, Horizon Theater, and Theatre in the Square and at the Alliance Theatre.



choreographed *Nunset Boulevard* for Main Street last year. She has appeared in productions of *War of the Worlds, the Panic Broadcast* (Lana Sherwood and Ora Nichols), *39 Steps* (as the understudy for Annabella, Margaret, and Pamela and did go on) and *1940's Radio Hour* (as Connie Miller). She has also performed with Studio D as Clio/Kira in *Xanadu*

Jr., The White Rabbit in Alice in Wonderland Jr., Jack's Mother in Into the Woods Jr., and Dorothy Brown in Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr. Additionally, she choreographed Spalding High School's production of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, where she appeared as Olive Ostrovsky, and Prom, where she appeared as Peggy. Elise is currently a company member of the Griffin Ballet Theatre and the Spalding High School Chorus.



JASON BROWN (Lighting Technician) is a Griffin native who has been involved in the local arts for a few years. His involvement has included everything from designing programs to being Music Director for a group of students attending Junior Theatre Festival. His passion is working behind the scenes, especially lighting and sound design. He is excited to be working with this talented group of hard working folks at Main Street once again!



KAY BOHAN (Wig Designer) is a Hairdresser/Salon owner in McDonough. She loves working on wigs for theater. Kay has also been acting in the Atlanta metro area in Community Theater for 20 years. She has been in *Christmas Belles, Dashing through the Snow* and *The Trip to Bountiful* with the Main Street Players. Enjoy this hilarious show!



TAYLOR BLAKE (Dresser) was last seen in *Season's Greetings* as Pattie. She is a 2017 Piedmont College graduate with a Bachelors degree in Theatre Arts and History. She has been a part of Piedmont College Theatre productions such as *Sweet Charity, Macbeth, White Christmas,* and *Six Characters in Search of an Author.* As part of her graduation requirements, Taylor directed and starred in a production of Ellen Bryon's *Graceland.*



EMILY EASON (Dresser) is an active member of the Spalding High School fine arts department. She has participated in both honor choir and chamber choir, and she has played many roles in Spalding High's theatre productions, including Knowledge in *Everyman* and Carl Schwartz in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Emily danced with the Griffin Ballet Theatre for ten years, and has been a part of several of their productions.



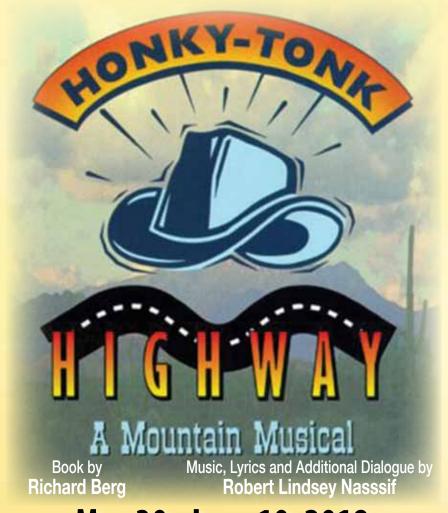
MARY GRESHAM (Dresser) is a life long Griffin resident. She works at a local building supply store and participates in many school sponsored 5k events. Recently, she played one of the party parents in the GBT production of *The Nutcracker*. Main Street Players is delighted she has joined our family too!

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Main Street Players



May 30 - June 10, 2018
Performances: Wednesday-Saturday, 7:30pm & Sundays 3:00pm

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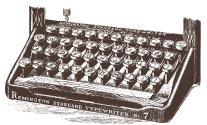
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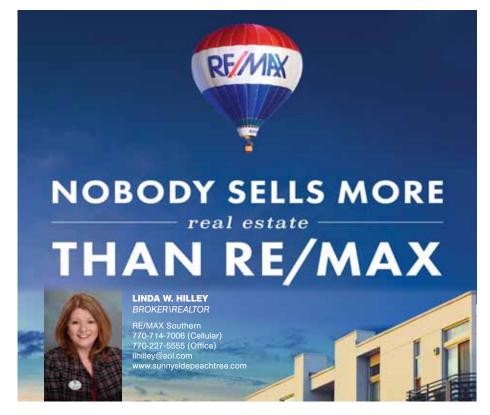


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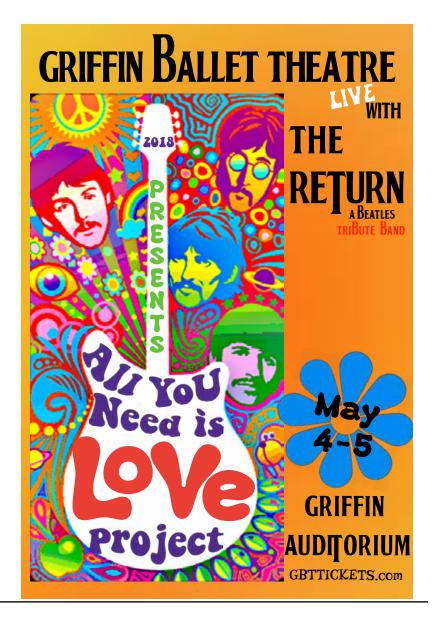
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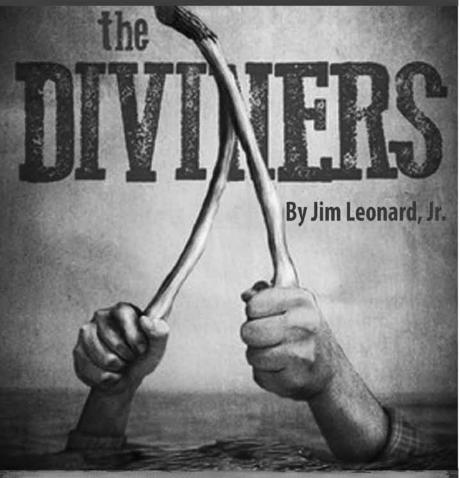




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