

Lend Me Your Ear Productions
Presents
**Agatha Christie's
The Mysterious Affair
at Styles**



The First Hercule Poirot Mystery

7pm on Friday, July 8
&
7pm on Saturday, July 9
2022

Church of the Word

-Act 1-

Scene 1 Styles Village, July 1, 1917

Scene 2 Styles Court, July 1

Scene 3 Styles Court, July 7

Scene 4 Styles Court, July 17

Scene 5 Styles Court, July 17 & 18

Scene 6 Styles Court, July 18

Scene 7 Styles Court, July 18

Scene 8 The Inquest, July 20

-Act 2-

Scene 1 Styles Court, July 20

Scene 2 Styles Court, July 23

Scene 3 Styles Court, late August

Scene 4 Styles Court, late August

Who We Are

Lend Me Your Ear Productions is a Christian, St. Louis-based community theater company. Since 2013, we have been producing full-length stage productions. We seek to honor God through the art of storytelling. Our vision is to provide a creative outlet for Christians in the fine arts community to practice and hone their craft while encouraging one another and building friendships.

Creative Team & Crew

**Production Coordinator
& Ticket & House Manager.** *Sarah Dilworth*

Stage Manager *Sofia Lange*

**Assistant Stage Manager,
Donations Coordinator,
& -Props Creator.** *Josephine Wimmer-Brown*

**Assistant Stage Manager
& Rehearsal Photographer** *Kat Poddo*

**Costume, Hair,
& Makeup Designer.** *Paige Baldwin*

Original Music Composer. *Christopher Poetz*

Sound Designer & Operator. *Steven Ericson*

Lighting Designer & Operator *Bill McDonald*

Running Crew *Joshua Poddo
& cast members*

Set Construction *Mike Poddo*

Set Painting *Isabel Kennebeck
Josephine Wimmer-Brown
Sofia Lange*

Playbill Designer *Kayla Ross*

Costumes and Props Team *the Cast*

**Marketing
& Promotions** *Josephine Wimmer-Brown
Sarah Dilworth
Katelyn Ericson*

**Director
Producer
& Writer** *Katelyn Ericson*

Casting Directors *Eliana Steele
Sarah Dilworth*

~Special thanks to **Church of the Word** for hosting this production and **the Pillar Foundation** for hosting rehearsals. We would also like to thank **Take 3 Christian Theater** for their continued support. We are most grateful. Thank you all for making this show possible. ~

-The Players-



Will McDonald as
Hercule Poirot



Micah George as
Arthur Hastings



Walter Wimmer-Brown as
John Cavendish
& *Heavywether*



Svea Taylor as
Cynthia Murdoch
& *Vocalist*



Julianna Ziegler as
Mary Cavendish



Robert Poetz as
Lawrence Cavendish



Kat Poddo as
Evelyn Howard



Josephine Wimmer-Brown
as *Dorcas*



Aidan George as
Alfred Ingelthorp
& *Judge*



Jamie G'Sell as
Emily Inglethorp
& *Anna Bartlett*



Sofia Lange as
The Coroner



Mike Poddo as
Dr. Bauerstein
& *Philips*



THE COVERING HOUSE

SAFETY. DIGNITY. FREEDOM.

Since our first stage play, we have been donating the profits from our summer shows to a local nonprofit. This year, profits will be donated to The Covering House. The Covering House's mission is to restore the lives of sexually trafficked youths through their residential and community outreach programs and services.

There is such a need for their services. On a yearly average, they have to turn away 40 youths from their residential program because they do not have enough space. To meet this tremendous need, The Covering House is working to build a second campus. The profits from this show will be donated toward this fundraiser in order that more people may experience healing and restoration.

We are most grateful to our door prize donors and their support for The Covering House.

-La Cosecha Coffee Roasters

-Great Harvest Bread Company in Maplewood

-Missouri Baptist University

To learn more about The Covering House, please visit
their website,

TheCoveringHouse.org

Our Theater Donors

We would like to thank our supporters for equipping us to provide family-friendly theater for our community. Thank you for giving the gift of storytelling!

- **The Pillar Foundation**
- **Church of the Word**
- **Murphy Carpet**
- **Christopher Poetz, music composer**
- **Take 3 Christian Theater**
- **West County Christian Home Educators**

A Word from the Director

Thank you for coming to our presentation of *Agatha Christie's The Mysterious Affair at Styles*. Published in 1920, this was Agatha Christie's first detective novel. She would continue to write novels, short stories, and plays for the next fifty-five years.

I read an article about Christie's popularity during the tumultuous years of World War II. As Great Britain was facing the possibility of destruction and defeat, people were still reading Christie's murder mysteries. She published approximately 12 novels during this time. Why would people in the midst of war turn to murder mysteries for "entertainment" or "distraction"? The article suggested that people were looking for the assurance of order overcoming chaos and right ultimately triumphing over evil.

Today, chaos seems to be the norm. Whether it's national affairs, international affairs, or what's happening in our day-to-day lives - chaos is present. We dislike chaos because it speaks to our fear - and sometimes the reality - that we are not in control of our world, our lives, our relationships. We can feel hopeless, powerless, isolated. This may explain why we tend to gravitate towards influential people or characters in literature who appear to have answers and can bring order out of chaos.

On a semi-regular basis, I struggle with stress and anxiety, particularly when I lose perspective. As a Christian, I find my perspective refreshed through the Bible. Overflowing with raw emotion, the Bible never shies away from how dark and troubled the world and the human soul is. The writers express their anger, their fear, and their anxiety about the world. And God meets them where they are with love and the assurance that right will ultimately prevail, that God has not lost control, that He still holds the world in the palm of His hand.

One of my favorite Psalms about perspective is Psalm 73. The Psalmist recounts nearly stumbling as he envied arrogant sinners because they seemed to be getting away with wrongdoings. Then the Psalmist says, "When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply till I entered the sanctuary of God". When we believe in God and have surrendered our lives and futures to Him, we can weather the chaos of the world because we know that He sees the past, the present, and the future - that all three are His. He will walk with us through whatever we may face. He will execute justice and bring order out of our chaos.

I hope you enjoy this production of *Agatha Christie's The Mysterious Affair at Styles*.

Blessings,

Katelyn Ericson