

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I love mysteries. I have loved them ever since I was a young boy running to his mother to breathlessly explain the plot of a particularly thrilling episode of *Scooby Doo*, *Where are You?* As I grew older, and my tastes got a bit more sophisticated, I gravitated to the British country house genre of Agatha Christie – and was particularly thrilled when I got to direct one of her plays, *The Unexpected Guest*, for Footlighters in 2010. *An Act of the Imagination* is not a Christie play, but her influence is certainly felt in Bernard Slade's cunning script. I think that even Dame Agatha herself would be surprised by some of the plot twists that occur over the next couple of hours. I have no doubt you will be, too.

It was a thrill to be back again at Footlighters, and to work with this wonderfully talented cast! I am also indebted to Paige Polcene, Tom Hurst, Etha Sabel, Mary Dalton, and everyone behind the scenes who contributed mightily to the success of this show. *An Act of the Imagination* was truly a collaborative effort from start to finish. I sincerely hope you enjoy our efforts!

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Christopher Diehl
Production Stage Manager Paige Polcene
Technical Director Tom Hurst
Original Music Joshua B. Himes
Special Effects Mike Hanrahan
Prompter Mary Dalton
Properties Paige Polcene
Costumes Etha Sabel
Set Design Nancy Covarrubias, Tom Hurst
Set Construction: Bob Breszny, Jim Diel, Don Elliott, Ken Foster, Eric Gruenler,
Paul Hodson, Jon Hoghoug, Bud Kensok, Lee Lutz, Dick McCarty, Paul Rougeau,
Steve Soltesz
Set Dressers/Painters: Margaret Alexander, Nancy Covarrubias, Chris Diel, Mike Hogan,
Stephanie Hurst, Tom Hurst, Vicki Janis, Tyler Martin, Dottie Sevel, Carol Steele
Photography Alan Merrigan Photography
Lobby Decorations Doris Pirkle, Carol Steele
Box Office Manager Sue Ullrich
Web Site Teresa Dolan
Program and Poster Tom Hurst

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Rialto Community Players Riverside Community Players
Chino Community Theatre and many more!
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to learn about theatre events throughout the Inland Empire.

FOOTLIGHTERS

OUR MISSION

It is the object of the Redlands Footlighters, Inc., to provide rewarding entertainment, creative productions of live theatre, a cradle for community theatre, growth for actors and directors, presentations of our dramatic heritage, and mutually satisfying and varied theatre experiences for both the Footlighters and its audiences.

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Redlands Footlighters, Inc.
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FOOTLIGHTERS

An Act of the
Imagination
by Bernard Slade
Directed by Christopher Diehl

An Act of the Imagination

by Bernard Slade

JANUARY 12-29, 2012

Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Arthur Putnam Mike Hanrahan
 Julia Putnam Sandra Ford
 Simon Putnam Brady Greer Huffman
 Detective Sergeant Fred Burchitt Chuck Baugh
 Holly Adams Jena Fraley
 Brenda Simmons Macie Hanrahan
 Brooke Carmichael Julia Brown

SETTING

The living room/study of a house
 in Hampstead on the outskirts of London.

ACT I

Scene 1 – Late afternoon on a sunny spring day in 1964
 Scene 2 – Early evening, two weeks later
 Scene 3 – The next morning

15-minute intermission

ACT II

Scene 1 – Immediately following
 Scene 2 – Early evening, a few weeks later

WARNING: This performance contains gunshots.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



Chuck Baugh (*Detective Sergeant Fred Burchitt*): Chuck is excited to be making his second appearance with the Redlands Footlights. Last seen here as Paul Sycamore in *You Can't Take It With You*, Chuck has also appeared last spring in Redlands at the Shakespeare Festival. Chuck has also appeared at Riverside Community Players and Rancho Cucamonga Community Theatre. Chuck teaches Drama and Science at Rubidoux High School – Go Falcons. He would like to thank Chris for casting him, and his wife and son for letting him “go play on the stage”.



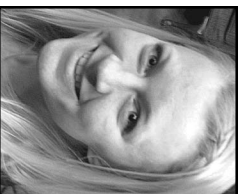
Julia Brown (*Brooke Carmichael*): Julia was born and raised in Redlands. She recently decided to become involved in acting and auditioned for the first time for this play here at the Footlights. She is currently also enjoying taking acting classes at Elizabeth Mestrik Acting Studio in Los Angeles. She would like to thank the amazingly talented cast and crew who have been fun and encouraging through this journey. She would also especially like to thank the director Chris for allowing her to participate in the play. She is very grateful to her family, friends and her husband Shawn for supporting her in her dream to be an actress.



Sandra Ford (*Julia Putnam*): Sandra is excited to be back on the Footlights' stage and working with such a talented group of people. She last appeared here in 2005 as Elizabeth in *Taking Steps*. She is most proud of the work she did in *The Shadow Box* playing the role of Agnes for which she received an ITL award. Other roles include: Constance in *The Constant Wife*, Laura in *Laura*, Bessie in *Marvin's Room*, Evalita in *Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will?*, and Edna Louise in *Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean*, Jimmy Dean. She thanks Christopher for the opportunity to return to this stage.



Jena Fraley (*Holly Adams*): Jena is well versed in the theatre having spent over twenty years working on stage and behind the scenes. While her home theatre is Rialto Community Players, she is excited to be making her debut at Footlights. Her favorite performances include *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *The Pajama Game*, *Bus Stop*, *Tom, Dick & Harry*, *Christmas at Bascomb Jr. High*, and most recently *Butterflies Are Free*. Jena is pleased to be working with old friends and new ones. She recently became engaged and thanks her fiancé, Joe, for this past year as it's never been this good! No doubt about it!



Macie Hanrahan (*Brenda Simmons*): This is Macie's first time on the Footlights stage, and she is thrilled to be working with such a great cast and to be sharing the stage with her father again (playing Arthur)! She has recently appeared in *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Caitlin O'Hare) and *Noises Off* (Poppy) at Rialto Community Players. When not on stage, Macie lives in Corona and works hard as a high school history teacher.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST (CONTINUED)

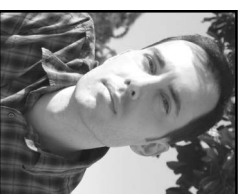


Mike Hanrahan (*Arthur Putnam*): Mike returns to Footlights, having previously appeared here in *The Giants Dance*, *Breaking the Code*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. Mike's had success at other Inland Empire theaters, appearing in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *My Three Angels*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Rainmaker*, all of which earned Mike Inland Theatre League nominations and awards. Mike is delighted to be back at Footlights, working with such a talented cast, crew, and director. He lives in Corona with his lovely wife Pepper.



Brady Greer Huffman (*Simon Putnam*): Brady is thrilled to be a part of his first Footlights production. He recently moved to Redlands to pursue a career in the arts. Before moving to California, he spent 9 months living in Chicago as an actor. In 2010, he received his B.A. in Theatre from Northwestern College in Orange City, IA; where he founded the SchoolHouse Company, a community theatre. Brady is not only an actor, but a director, playwright, and designer. His play *Parcel* premiered at Northwestern College in 2010. Brady aims at being a well-rounded theatre artist.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Christopher Diehl (*Director*): This is Christopher's second directorial effort for Footlights, following 2010's ITL-winning *The Unexpected Guest*. He has also appeared onstage here in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* and *See How They Run*. Christopher has directed and acted all over the Inland Empire and Orange County and is currently the president of the Chino Community Theatre. Recent productions include *Bye Bye Birdie* (director), *Closer* (director), *Urinetown-The Musical* (Officer Lockstock), and *The Dixie Swim Club* (director). This spring he will be directing *Educating Rita* at the Covina Center for the Performing Arts. He would like to express his gratitude to Footlights for the opportunity and once again making this a very happy experience.



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