

# **THEATRE THREE** THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle

**The Mousetrap**  
By Agatha Christie March 16 - April 22, 2006

**My Own Private Diva**  
By Terry Dobson March 26 - April 5, 2006



Jac Alder, Executive Producer - Director, presents  
2005 - 2006 SEASON From B.C. to A.D. - Tales of the Great Storytellers

2800 Routh Street, Suite #168  
 Dallas, Texas 75201  
 Box Office: 214-871-3300, option #1  
 Administration: 214-871-3300, option #2  
 Administration Fax: 214-871-3139  
 Direct Sales: 214-871-3300, option #3  
 Email: admin@theatre3dallas.com  
 Web page: www.theatre3dallas.com

#### Regarding Theatre Three...

Theatre Three is a 501 (c) 3, not-for-profit cultural institution founded in 1961 by Norma Young. It serves to celebrate and honor the three essentials of theatre for which she named it: gifted playwrights, talented theatre artists, and adventurous audiences.

#### Regarding this performance...

- Concessions are available in the lobby.
- Cameras or recording devices of any kind are prohibited.
- Please turn off (or silence) all cell phones and pagers.
- No late-comers will be seated once the performance commences.
- Please finish refreshments in the lobby.

#### For theatre-goers with disabilities...

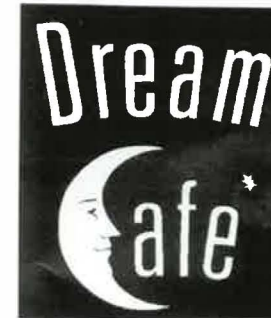
- Please feel free to call upon our staff for assistance.
- Wheelchair locations are available.
- Half of the seats may be reached by aisles with handrails.
- A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- Handicapped parking is next to the Dream Cafe and East Wind restaurant

#### Regarding parking...

- All parking is free. Surface parking surrounds The Quadrangle.
- Garage (tower) parking is accessible just off Routh on Laclede Street.

## Theatre Three's Board of Directors

Jeff Sanders, Chair; Jac Alder, D'Metria Benson, Roland & Virginia Dykes, Gary W. Grubbs, Jeannine Lee, John Lilley, David G. Luther, Sonja J. McGill, Shanna Nugent, Elizabeth Rivera, Eileen Rosenblum, Ph.D., Enika Pearson Schulze, Janet Spencer Shaw, Karen Washington, Patsy P. Yung



## The Dream Cafe

2800 Routh Street  
 Dallas, Texas 75201  
 Next door to Theatre Three  
 214-956-0486

We gladly take reservations  
 for theatre-goers in a hurry

*The playbill is a publication of Theatre Three, Inc. 2800 Routh Street, Suite #168 Dallas, Texas 75201. This Theatre Three playbill is published for:*

- **The Mousetrap** by Agatha Christie, the sixth show of the Mainstage Series of the 2005-2006 season.
- **My Own Private Diva** by Terry Dobson, the second show of the Appetizer Attraction Series of the 2005-2006 season.

*Cover art is by Unigraphics, Inc. Show logos by Harland Wright. Playbill editors: Jac Alder, Kimberly Richard*

*Pictured on the cover are a few of our great storytellers: top row: Noel Coward, Agatha Christie & George Bernard Shaw, 2nd row: Moliere, Truman Capote & Ovid, 3rd row: Joe DiPietro, William Finn & Stephen Schwartz.*

## On Other Stages...

**The Dallas area has an incredibly active arts community, filled with theatre, music, and dance. Take some time to enjoy some of the great art in Dallas. Below is a listing of a few of the current theatre offerings in the Dallas area:**

**Dallas Children's Theater** Box Office: 214-978-0110  
*Winnie the Pooh* March 3 -- April 2  
*The Secret Garden* March 17 -- April 23

**Dallas Theatre Center** Box Office: 214-522-8499  
*I Am My Own Wife* March 1 -- 26

**Kitchen Dog Theatre** Box Office 214-953-1055  
*Cloud Tectonics* March 3 -- April 1

**Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre** Box Office: 972-724-2147  
*Brighton Beach Memoirs* April 6 -- 30

**Contemporary Theatre of Dallas** Box Office: 214-828-0094  
*A...My Name is Alice* April 14 -- May 7

**Irving Community Theatre** Box Office: 972-252-2787  
*Nonsense* March 17 -- April 1

**WaterTower Theatre** Box Office: 972-450-6232  
*The Crucible* April 6 -- April 30

**Garland Civic Theatre** Box Office: 972-205-2790  
*The Crucible* March 9 -- April 1

**The Eisemann Center** Box Office: 972-744-4650  
*Are We There Yet?* March 14 -- 19  
*Bye Bye Birdie* April 4 -- 8

**Richardson Theatre Centre** Box Office: 972-699-1130  
*Rumors* March 31 -- April 29

**Classical Acting Company** Box Office: 214-505-1655  
*No Exit* March 9 -- April 2

**Mark-Brian Sonna Productions** Box Office: 214-477-4942  
*Kiss the Boys* March 23 -- April 8

**The Mousetrap**  
 By Agatha Christie March 16 -- April 22, 2006

**My Own Private Diva**  
 By Terry Dobson March 26 -- April 5, 2006



**THEATRE THREE presents the second  
show of the Appetizer Attraction Series  
of the 2005-2006 season...**  
By Special Arrangement with ASCAP



Artistic Staff

Director	Jac Alder
Selected Musical Arrangements	Stan Graner

Cast

The Man	*Terry Dobson
The Diva	*Sally Soldo

Production Staff

AEA Stage Manager	*Terry Vandivort
Production Manager	Linda Harrison
Prop Master	Linda Harrison
Production Assistants	Melanie Lang, Donald Walker

**Jac Alder (Director)**

"My friendship with Terry Dobson contributes mightily to the joy of my continued work at Theatre Three. We share a passion for laughter and music. We also share a professional concern for the health of this organization and its service to Dallas. When Terry shyly brought me the first draft of his personal project, *My Own Private Diva*, he said 'Tell me what you really think.' Then he added (looking down – he's soooo tall!), 'Not that you won't, I know that!' His reference was to advice he gives to other artists: 'Don't ask Jac what he thinks, 'cause he'll TELL you!' I've always taken this assessment as a compliment to my candor, but it does have the ring of a warning. What I told him was that he may have hit on a new genre – the confessional cabaret. I've encouraged him to continue to write and refine the piece and I hope it gives you a glimpse into Terry's unique world view. And that'll show you why he's so loved around here."

**Stan Graner (Selected Musical Arrangements)**

Stan Graner appeared three times last year at Theatre Three in *A Talent to Amuse*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, and *Merrily We Roll Along*. His favorite Theatre Three role is Bobby in *Company*, with additional shows including *Rise and Shine*, *Tomfoolery*, and *The Frogs*. He will appear in April in WaterTower Theatre's *The Crucible*. As a composer he has had children's musicals published with Hal Leonard, Choristers Guild, Lorenz, and Jensen. His arrangements have also been performed by The Turtle Creek Chorale.

### Terry Dobson (The Man)



Terry Dobson has been a member of Theatre Three's artistic staff since May 1980. He currently serves as Theatre Three's Musical Director and Company Manager. Terry directed (and accompanied) Theatre Three's record-breaking smash hit musical revue, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. He also directed and accompanied many of the critically acclaimed Theatre Too! productions. *Myths and Hymns*, *First Lady Suite*, *Grateful: The Songs of John Bucchino*, and *Elegies* are among his favorites. Terry has performed with the Dallas Theater Center, Casa Manana, Lyric Stage, and Theatre Arlington. Terry won a Leon Rabin Award -- Outstanding Musical Direction -- for his work on the musical, *Jon & Jen* and he is the recipient of numerous "Column Awards". As an actor, Terry has appeared in Theatre Three productions of *Sylvia*, *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Death Defying Acts*, *God's Man in Texas*, and *Dirty Blonde*. This production of *My Own Private Diva* would not be possible without the love and support of friends and family. A special "thank you" to Jac Alder, Stan Graner, Harland Wright, Betty Sue, Victor, Rod, and my own private diva, Sally Soldo.

### Sally Soldo (The Diva)



Sally Soldo is always thrilled to return to Theatre Three, where she has appeared in more than 20 musical productions including *A...My Name is Alice*, *Triumph of Love*, *Assassins*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Company*, *A Little Night Music*, *I Love You, You're Perfect...Now Change!*, *Grateful*, *The Songs of John Bucchino*, *First Lady Suite*, and most recently, the critically acclaimed *Elegies*. She appeared as the Guest Artist for the Turtle Creek Chorale's 21st Anniversary Concert at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, The Music of Sondheim. Sally has appeared Off-Broadway, worked extensively in industrial productions, and has toured nationally in *George M!* and *Play It Again, Sam* opposite Robert Morse. Regionally, she has starred in *Man of La Mancha*, Burt Reynolds Jupiter Theatre; *West Side Story*, Golden Apple, FL; *The Merry Widow*, Carouse!, OH; *I Do, I Do*, Hacienda, TX; *Pajama Game*, Music Theatre of Wichita, as well as appeared in The Dallas Summer Musicals (25 productions), Lyric Stage, Casa Manana, Dallas Repertory Theater, Garland Summer Musicals, Theatre Under the Stars, Chanhassen Theaters, and the Starlight Musicals in Kansas City. Although primarily an actress-singer, Miss Soldo is an accomplished dancer and choreographer, having choreographed for Theatre Three, Casa Manana, Garland Summer Musicals, Chanhassen Dinner Theaters, Country Dinner Playhouse, Inc., and several national industrial shows, including General Motors, Campbell's Corporation and Eastern Airlines. Sally has been awarded the Leon Rabin Award, The Dallas Times Herald Theater Critics Best Actress Award, the Column Award, and has been a ten-year "Dallas Diva" for Lyric Stage. She is a proud member of Actors Equity Association and also serves as the Chair for the Dallas-Ft. Worth Liaison Committee of Actors Equity. Ms Soldo makes her home in Dallas with her husband, Jon Veon, her son, Jonathan, and six wonderful kitties, and she works as an RN/ Medical Technologist for Parkland Health & Hospital System.

### Dear Playgoer,

Good people give to good causes.

I've been reading a Benjamin Franklin biography. In some ways, it almost seemed like he invented the American personality single handedly. Smart, practical, self-improving, a great believer in the ordinary man's good common sense, a champion of thrift and industry, and -- and impressed me over what I'd known before -- a great one to organize and support community enterprises ... like volunteer firemen, or voluntarily pooling private financial resources to serve community needs.

I think we sometimes forget how giving is uniquely woven into our national character. Education, medicine, and the arts and other charities do so much of America's work that our laws encourage donations to this work in ways not other countries do. The private not-for-private concept of how to get things done is uniquely American. Thanks, Ben!

Look how many of your fellow playgoers have already given to our national drive, The Phoenix Campaign. Join them, won't you? America can use the spirit of optimism and "can-do" the Arts encourage.

Sincerely,

Jac Alder

Executive Producer-Director

### YES!

List my name in support of Theatre Three's The Phoenix Campaign. Theatre Three's annual drive for operating support. I'd like to help as follows:

☐ (for gifts of \$1,000 or more)  
**PRODUCER'S COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**  
(to support production costs for sets, lights, and designers)

☐ (for gifts of \$500 -- \$999)  
**DIRECTOR'S COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**  
(to support outreach, audience development and artistic administration)

☐ (for gifts of \$250 -- \$499)  
**ACTOR'S BENEFACTORS**  
(to support salaries and benefits for the residential acting company)

☐ (for gifts of \$125 -- \$249)  
**AUTHOR'S BENEFACTORS**  
(to support royalties to composers, lyricists, and playwrights)

☐ (for gifts of \$50 -- \$124)  
**BACKSTAGE BENEFACTORS**  
(to support stipends for Theatre Three's intern staff)

Write your total contribution in the blank...

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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How would you like your name to appear in the program?  
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☐ Check here if you wish your gift to be anonymous

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☐ Charge my donation to:

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Dallas, Texas 75201



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gelo, Charles W. Yates

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and Elya Naxon, Joe & Pauline Neff, George Nilan, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Norris, Charlene Owen, Yvonne Perkins, William & Susan Chizeck Pervin, Pat Polk, Janet Poudevigne, Frances Prasil, Ms. Jeanne M. Rasco, Dr. & Mrs. Peter C. Ray Henriette & Leonard Rayburn, Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Reed, Durel & Barbara Reid, Irvin M. & Patricia C. Rice, Catherine Ritchie, Phyllis & Elliott Ross, Mr. & Mrs. John Rowley, Ms. Ann L. Schoeps, Drs. Richard & Roxanne Scott, Jean & Rudy Seward, Stephanie Simoni, Val & Sylvia Smith, Ms. Patricia L. Stahl, Mr. Carroll Staton, Billie Stone, Don and Norma Stone, Ms. Jean Sturman, Tom Sullivan, Mr. John Sutherland, Mrs. Gus Taylor, Mrs. Lynn Terrill, Cala Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. John B. Tolle, Mr. Bruce Toplek, Carole Trocchio, Barbara S. Turner, Alvena & Naomi Unruh, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph P. Walker, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Walker, Dr. Betty Ward, Carolyn Shellman, Ms. Marlene Webb, Louise Wells, Chappell Westlake, Virginia Whitehill, Robert S. Williams, Clark & Jane Willingham, Mr. Richard Wills, Mr. & Mrs. Ken & Anita Wrobel, Ms. Ellen Ogden Young.

All donations are as of 02/28/06.



# THEATRE THREE presents the sixth show of the Mainstage Series of the 2005-2006 season...

By special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

## Artistic Staff

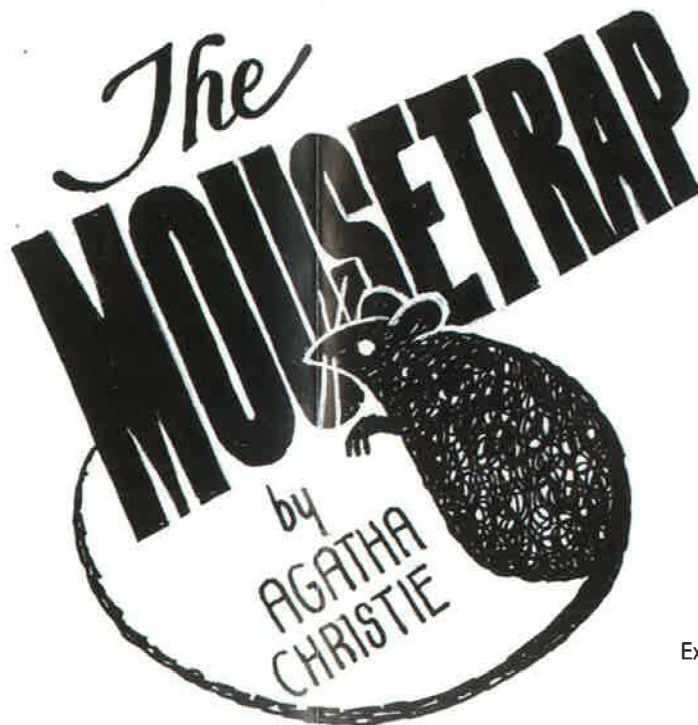
Director	Kerry Cole
Set Design	Jac Alder
Costume Design	Michael Robinson
Lighting Design/Master Electrician	Neil Robert Inglés
Sound Design	Richard Frohlich
Dialect Coach	Terry McCracken

## Cast

Mollie Ralston	Laurel Whitsett or Lisa Schreiner
Giles Ralston	*Ashley Wood
Christopher Wren	Chad Peterson
Mrs. Boyle	Carolyn Wickwire
Major Metcalf	**Michael Craig Rains
Miss Casewell	Tracy Leigh
Mr. Paravicini	*Bob Hess
Detective Sergeant Trotter	**David M. Dixon
News Broadcaster	**Robert Silva
Mollie's Late Aunt	Susan Cissne

## Production Staff

AEA Stage Manager	*Sally Cole
Production Manager	Linda Harrison
Master Carpenter/Scenic Painter	Jeffrey Schmidt
Carpenters & Painters	Leann Ellis, Lane Mooney,
	Robert Silva
Prop Master	Linda Harrison
Production Assistant	**Liz Banks



## Scene Synopsis

### ACT I

Scene 1	The Great Hall at Monkswell Manor. Late afternoon.
Scene 2	The following day after lunch.

### ACT II

Scene 1	Ten minutes later.
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*The Mousetrap* was originally presented by Peter Saunders at the Ambassadors Theatre, London, W.C.2, on November 25, 1952. The show is still running in London at St. Martin's Theatre. It celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2002.

Special thanks to Sarah Aberg for portrait paintings.

## The Staff of Theatre Three

### Administration

Executive Producer-Director	Jac Alder
Company Manager	Terry Dobson
Director of Business Affairs	Joan Sleight
Computer Services Manager	Nick Rushing
Director of Publications & Communications	Kimberly Richard
Webmaster	Greg MacPherson
In-House Accountant	Wendy Kwan
Executive Administrative Assistant	Robert Silva

### Production

Director of Design	Harland Wright
Musical Director	Terry Dobson
Production Manager	Linda Harrison
Master Carpenter	Jeffrey Schmidt
Production Assistants	Melanie Lang, Robert Silva
Intern Staff	Liz Banks, Lane Mooney

### Customer Service

Customer Service Director	Amy Mills Jackson
Hospitality and Concessions	Nancy Meeks, House Manager
Box Office Daytime Service Manager	Darius Warren
Box Office Performance Service Manager	Wendy Kwan
Box Office Agents	Sally Cole Ainsworth, Fred Faust, Amy Mills Jackson, Tony Banda, Shanara Hollins
Director of Telemarketing	Carol Crosby
Telemarketing Agents	Trinity Johannsen, Roger Wilson



**Kerry Cole (Director)**

Although this is Kerry's Theatre Three Mainstage directing debut, she appeared onstage at Theatre Three, most recently in last season's *Medicine, Man*. She also adapted and directed *Myth It Up*, a version of Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses* for young audiences. Her directing credits in the Metroplex include *Circle Theatre*, *WaterTower Theatre*, *Contemporary Theatre* of Dallas, *Shakespeare Dallas*, *Richardson Theatre Center*, *Garland Civic Theatre*, and *Irving Community Theatre*. She has also directed at several regional theatres in Virginia, New Mexico, and Hawaii. A few of the shows she has directed include *The Dinner Party*, *Turn of the Screw*, *Broadway Bound*, *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *Psychopathia Sexualis*, *Cripple of Inishmaan*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Damn Yankees*, *Ten Little Indians*, *A Doll's House*, and *Barefoot in the Park*. Kerry has also taught at Richland College, Eastern New Mexico University, UT Dallas, Texas Woman's University, and University of Central Arkansas. "For Mr. Peterzen."

**Jac Alder (Set Design)**

Son of a master carpenter and home builder, Alder enrolled in the Oklahoma University School of Architecture (at that time chaired by the fanciful painter-architect, Bruce Goff) and graduated in 1957. He practiced architecture in Dallas in several offices (chiefly with John Barthel in George L. Dahl's office) during the early years of Theatre Three (which he co-founded with his late wife, Norma Young). Alder is the designer of Theatre Three's unique performance chamber and has designed many sets for productions here including this season's *Metamorphoses* and the just-concluded *The Devil's Disciple*.

**Neil Robert Inglés (Lighting Design/Master Electrician)**

*The Mousetrap* is Neil's first assignment at Theatre Three. Lighting design credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Le Petit Théâtre du Vieux Carre and *The Little Foxes* at Southern Repertory Theatre. He was the stage manager and assistant technical director for the Tennessee Williams Literary Fair & Theatre Festival at Le Petit Théâtre du Vieux Carre and assistant technical director and master electrician for Delta Festival Ballet's *The Nutcracker*. He was also the studio manager and assistant lighting director at WLAE-TV Ch. 32 PBS New Orleans. In addition to his convention, special event and concert work, Neil briefly managed a small nightclub in Mid-City New Orleans.

**Michael Robinson (Costume Design)**

Michael's previous assignments at Theatre Three include *Metamorphoses*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *I'll Leave It to You*, and *Children of Eden*. He has designed many shows for WaterTower Theatre, Uptown Players, CrossRoads Theatre, Plano Repertory Theatre, Garland Civic Theatre, Garland Summer Musicals, Lyric Stage, Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, Kauffman Civic Theatre, and Coppell Community Theatre. He has also designed for many of our local colleges and universities: University of North Texas Opera Theatre, Texas Christian University Opera Studio, University of Texas at Dallas, Brookhaven College, and Richland College. His awards include "Best Costume Shop" (Dallas Observer 2000), "Best Costumes" for *Old Settler* (Dallas-Fort Worth Critics Forum Award 2003), the Leon Rabin Award for Best Costumes for *42nd Street* (2003), and the Column Awards for Best Costume in a Play or Musical (2001, 2002, and 2005 for Theatre Three's *Metamorphoses*).

**Richard Frohlich (Sound Design)**

Richard Frohlich is making his debut with Theatre Three. Richard has recorded and produced over 60 audio plays with the award-winning Texas Radio Theatre Company, produced CDs for many area storytellers and designed sound for ICT Mainstage, The Pocket Sandwich Theatre, Slappy's Puppet Playhouse and *Bonnie Parker On-Stage* at the John Houseman Theatre Centre, New York. He produces a modern audio theater program that airs Sundays in KNTU-FM in Denton, Texas.

**Terry McCracken (Dialect Coach)**

Terry has been involved in Dallas area theatre for many years, both onstage and behind the scenes. She last appeared at Theatre Three as Mrs. Crombie in *I'll Leave It to You*. She is adjunct faculty at Brookhaven College in DCCCD, where she has been in various capacities including staff costumer and director for 25 years. She is also theatre faculty at the University of South Carolina at Aiken. Directing credits locally include *HMS Pinafore* for the Gilbert & Sullivan Company, *The Mysterious Mr. Love* for Theatre Britian, and many plays for Brookhaven, including *Noises Off*, *Flea in Her Ear*, *School for Scandal*, *Inspecting Carol*, *Ten Little Indians*, *The Mousetrap*, *Send Me No Flowers*, and *Pygmalion*. She is currently in production for *Don't Drink the Water* by Woody Allen. Terry was born in England, educated in England, Singapore, and Australia. She lives in Frisco.

**David M. Dixon (Detective Sergeant Trotter)**

David recently appeared on Theatre Three's stage as Oliver in this season's *I'll Leave It to You* and as Max in last season *Seven Keys to Baldpate*. A few of his favorite theatre roles include Peter in *The Zoo Story* at Risk Theatre Initiative, Mr. Gilmer in *To Kill A Mockingbird* at Dallas Children's Theater, Theo in *[sic]* at Stage West and Elliot Chase in *Private Lives* at Rover Dramawerks. He would like to thank his wife, Stefanie, for her constant love and support.

**Bob Hess (Mr. Paravicini)**

Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* is one play that has followed Bob through his entire career -- this marks his fourth production, and he has now played every male role in the show but Major Metcalf! Bob is delighted to be returning to Theatre Three, having last appeared as the outrageous French Emcee in *Lucky Stiff*. Both onstage and on camera, he has worked extensively as both an actor and director in the Metroplex for the past twenty-five years, also appearing and/or directing on the stages of Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, Lyric Stage, Dallas Theater Center, WaterTower Theatre, ICT Mainstage, Casa Manana, Echo Theatre, Stage west, and Granbury Opera House. Most recently, Bob directed *The Oldest Living Graduate* for ICT Mainstage and appeared in the role of Father in Lyric Stage's *Ragtime*. Bob dedicates this performance to the memory of his dear mother, Rose, who passed away this past January, and to the DFW theatre family who gave him so much comfort and support during this difficult time. Love to Doug.

**Tracy Leigh (Miss Casewell)**

Tracy is thrilled to be making her debut at Theatre Three. She is an avid Christie fan and so considers the opportunity to play the role of Miss Casewell an honor. She has been involved in theater for years. Two roles that she particularly enjoyed playing were Ado Annie in *Oklahoma*, produced by MWR Theater in Europe, and Agnes in *The Fourposter* produced in Fort Worth. While not "treading the boards", Tracy is a wife and mother, and while not having the distinction of winning any theater awards yet, she has won "Best Mopped Floors" and "Quickest Potty Training". She hopes you enjoy the show.



**Chad Peterson** (Christopher Wren)

*The Mousetrap* is Chad's debut performance at Theatre Three. His theatre roles include Andrew in *Southern Baptist Sisses* at Uptown Players, Luke in *The Wrestling Season* and Win in *Everyday Heroes* at the Dallas Children's Theatre, McQueen in *Uninetown* at WaterTower Theatre, Roger in *Grease* at Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre, and Felix in *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?* at Theatre Arlington. He has won four Column Awards: Breakthrough Performance in 2002, Best Actor in 2003 and a Chita Rivera Dance Award in 2004, and Best Featured Actor in a Play in 2006.

**Michael Craig Rains** (Major Metcalf)

Michael's Theatre Three credits include Chief Jiggs Kennedy in last season's *Seven Keys to Baldpate* and Fleurant and the Accountant in this season's *The Imaginary Invalid*. Other theatre roles include Rogers the Butler in *Ten Little Indians* at Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre, Ebenezer Scrooge in *Scrooge & Marley: A Christmas Carol* at Mainstreet & Onstage at Bedford (named "Best Theatre Production of the Year" by Star-Telegram's Reader's Poll), Charlie Martin in *On Golden Pond* at Onstage at Bedford (2003 Column Award for Best Featured Actor in a Play), Boo Radley/Judge Taylor in *To Kill a Mockingbird* at Dallas Children's Theatre, Floyd in *Ghost of a Chance* at Artisan Theatre, Pug Tailor/Sir Geoffrey in *Shanghai Moon* at Pocket Sandwich. He appeared in the BBC Film *Days that Shook the World*, Ringer Production's *The Ringer*, *Eye 4 an Eye* and the U.N.T indie film, *Work in Progress*. This proud grandpa says, "I used to talk to animals, but got tired of being barked at. Acting has taken me to places I never expected, like dancing at La Bare in Dallas to playing Benjamin Franklin – what a ride!"

**Lisa Schreiner** (Mollie Ralston)

Lisa is making her Theatre Three debut in *The Mousetrap*. Her theatre experience includes Lucille/Mother in *Junie B. Jones & A Little Monkey Business* at Dallas Children's Theater, Anya in *The Cherry Orchard* at Classical Acting Company, Viola in *Twelfth Night* at Shakespeare at Stinson Beach, Julia in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* in Pacific Repertory Theater, Barbara in *Major Barbara* at Diego Rivera Theater, Louise in *The Underpants* in Dowling Loft Theater. Lisa holds an M.A. in Educational Theatre from New York University and works full-time at Dallas Children's Theater. She and Laurel Whitsett will be alternating in the role of Mollie Ralston.

**Laurel Whitsett** (Mollie Ralston)

Laurel obtained her MA in Drama Text and Performance in 2004 from the University of London's King's College and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA). Her theatre credits include *Absurd Person Singular* (Theatre Three), *Mapping Sepocracy* (original work, Tutor Theatre, Bromley-by-Bow, England), *Bob the Builder – Live!* (national tour, HIT Entertainment), *Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight* (WaterTower Theatre), *Be Aggressive* (Dallas Theater Center), *In the Jungle of Cities* (Kitchen Dog Theatre), *Polaroid Stories* (Undermain Theater), and *The Ladies Room* (Theatre Quorum), the latter performances for which she earned Dallas Theater Critics' Forum Awards and Leon Rabin nominations. Her film/TV credits include *Premonition* (starring Sandra Bullock and Julian McMahon, 2007 release), *Wisteria: The Story of Albert Fish* (2006 release), *The Anarchist*, *Chaplin*, *Dr. T & the Women*, *Pale Blue Moon*, *Walker, Texas Ranger: Trial By Fire*, and *Radiant* which premiered at the Edinburgh Film Festival in 2005. Laurel was Mr. Chuck Norris' dialogue coach for *Walker, Texas Ranger* (2000-2001). She wishes to thank Kerry, Jac, Haji, Jody, Callie, Alan, and her family. Laurel is represented by The Home Agency. She and Lisa Schreiner will be alternating in the role of Mollie Ralston.

**Carolyn Wickwire** (Mrs. Boyle)

Carolyn is making her debut at Theatre Three in this production of *The Mousetrap*. Her most recent theatre experience includes playing Mrs. Morehead in *The Women* at Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, Mag Folan in *Beauty Queen of Leenane* at Quad C, Esther in *Morning's at Seven* at Richardson Theatre Center, Lil Miller in *Kindertransport* at Echo Theatre, MaryJohnny Rafferty in *A Skull in Connemara* at Stage West, and Ursula in *Much Ado About Nothing* at Classical Acting Company. Carolyn was featured as Mrs. Rogers, opposite Hal Holbrook, in *Eye of God*. She recently won a 2005 Column Award for Best Supporting Actress for her work in *Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Carolyn is represented by The Kim Dawson Agency.

**Ashley Wood** (Giles Ralston)

Ashley's Theatre Three appearances include *All in the Timing*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Coconuts*, *Our Town*, *Racing Demon*, *Old Wicked Songs*, *The Miser*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, and most recently, *The Devil's Disciple*. He also performed in the Mainstage production of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and spent three years in Theatre Too! doing the same show. Favorite theatre roles include Valentine in *Arcadia* at Remy Bumppo Theatre in Chicago; the title role in *Hamlet* at Fort Worth Shakespeare in the Park; Ezra Pound in *Sailing to Byzantium* at Echo Theatre; actor as Kipps in *The Woman in Black* at Circle Theatre; Moon in *Real Inspector Hound* (Tom Stoppard's tongue-in-cheek "tribute" to *The Mousetrap*); and Tom in *The Glass Menagerie* at Sage & Silo. His film/television credits include *Only in America*, *Midsummer*, *Walker, Texas Ranger*, *Wishbone*, and several national and regional commercials and voiceovers. He has received two Dallas Theatre Critics Forum Awards for *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and *The Woman in Black*.

**In her words: A few quotes from Agatha Christie**

Agatha Christie was a very private person and even dreaded the publicity that each major anniversary of *The Mousetrap* would bring. However, her letters and diaries reveal an opinionated, clever and witty woman:

About Austin during a 1966 trip to Texas:  
*Austin very civilized as well as rich...quite unexpectedly attractive city -- from snow to warmth (they had been in Ohio previously) 80 degrees and almost a new Baghdad feeling of gardens and green trees and leisure...dinner at top of recent well-built skyscraper -- very good food.*

About Dallas (on the same trip):  
*Monied -- lectured to a very select audience. Much too select. Wonderful display of a loan exhibition of carpets, nobody knew a thing about -- or was interested -- a dull lot.*

Christie's thoughts on writing mystery novels:  
*I am of the same belief as Dorothy Sayers, that the detective story is the direct successor of the Morality Play. It is the triumph of good over evil -- the deliverance of the innocent from the aggressor -- that is what makes it exciting.*

Christie asked why *The Mousetrap* had been so successful in a TV interview:  
*People like it, but who can say why?*

Christie in a letter to a friend, about *The Mousetrap* anniversary party on April 13, 1958 to celebrate the play as the longest-running production of any kind in the kind of the British theatre:  
*See you at "Hell at the Savoy" on Sunday.*



Imagine the Queen of England is celebrating her 80th birthday and she requests that **YOU** write something to commemorate the occasion.

## What would you write?

When the BBC asked Queen Mary what she would like for her birthday, she knew exactly what she wanted: "an Agatha Christie mystery". The most famous mystery writer in the world promptly wrote a thirty-minute radio play, *Three Blind Mice*, which would eventually become the full-length play, *The Mousetrap*. By the time *Three Blind Mice* was performed in 1947, Christie was already an extraordinarily prolific and beloved mystery writer. Her writing career started with a simple dare from her sister: write a mystery that she couldn't figure out until the author revealed the truth. Queen Mary (and the rest of the world) knew of her successful mysteries: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*, *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, *Murder on the Links*, *The Seven Dials*, and *Murder on the Orient Express*. She had also introduced the world to two unlikely detectives: Hercule Poirot and Miss Jane Marple. Christie was also experimenting with playwrighting, having written *Black Coffee*, *Love from a Stranger*, *Peril at End House*, and *Then There Were None*, *Murder on the Nile*, and *Appointment With Death*. In a letter, she admitted that she was greatly excited by the theatre, "I find that writing plays is much more fun than writing books."

Five years after writing the radio play for Queen Mary, *The Mousetrap* opened at the Ambassadors Theatre in London on November 25, 1952, starring a young Richard Attenborough and his wife, Sheila Sim. The critics strongly praised the show and Christie was pleased with the result, but not even the author predicted the show's longevity. In fact, she thought *The Mousetrap* would run only eight months. The world's longest-running play is still playing in London today at St. Martin's Theatre in the West End, having celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2002. The play has been performed in 45 countries, translated into 24 languages, and has earned over \$50 million in the West End alone. Even though the West End production of the show has managed to employ 324 actors and 162 understudies, there is one person who never earned any money from *The Mousetrap*: Agatha Christie. Instead, she put the money in a trust for her only grandson, Matthew Prichard, the current chairman of Agatha Christie, Ltd.

Just as *The Mousetrap* continues to thrive, so does Agatha Christie's legacy. Over two billion of her books have been sold. Her novels and plays have been turned into extremely popular films and television series. In October 2005, Kevin Elyot's adaptation of *And Then There Were None* opened in the West End and was considered a critical and popular success. Surprisingly, a new Agatha Christie murder mystery play has been rediscovered. *Chimneys* was written in 1930 for the Embassy Theatre, but it was lost and never performed. A dilapidated script was found in Canada and the play was performed in Calgary in 2003. In the summer of 2006, *Chimneys* will be performed as a part of the Pitlochry Theatre Festival in Scotland. Even with the success of so many of Christie's works, *The Mousetrap* is still her most famous play with a new generation of theatre-goers discovering its well-crafted twists and turns. Perhaps Agatha Christie's most successful play was intended as a gift for just the Queen. It has become a gift the whole world still enjoys.

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May 4-- June 10, 2006

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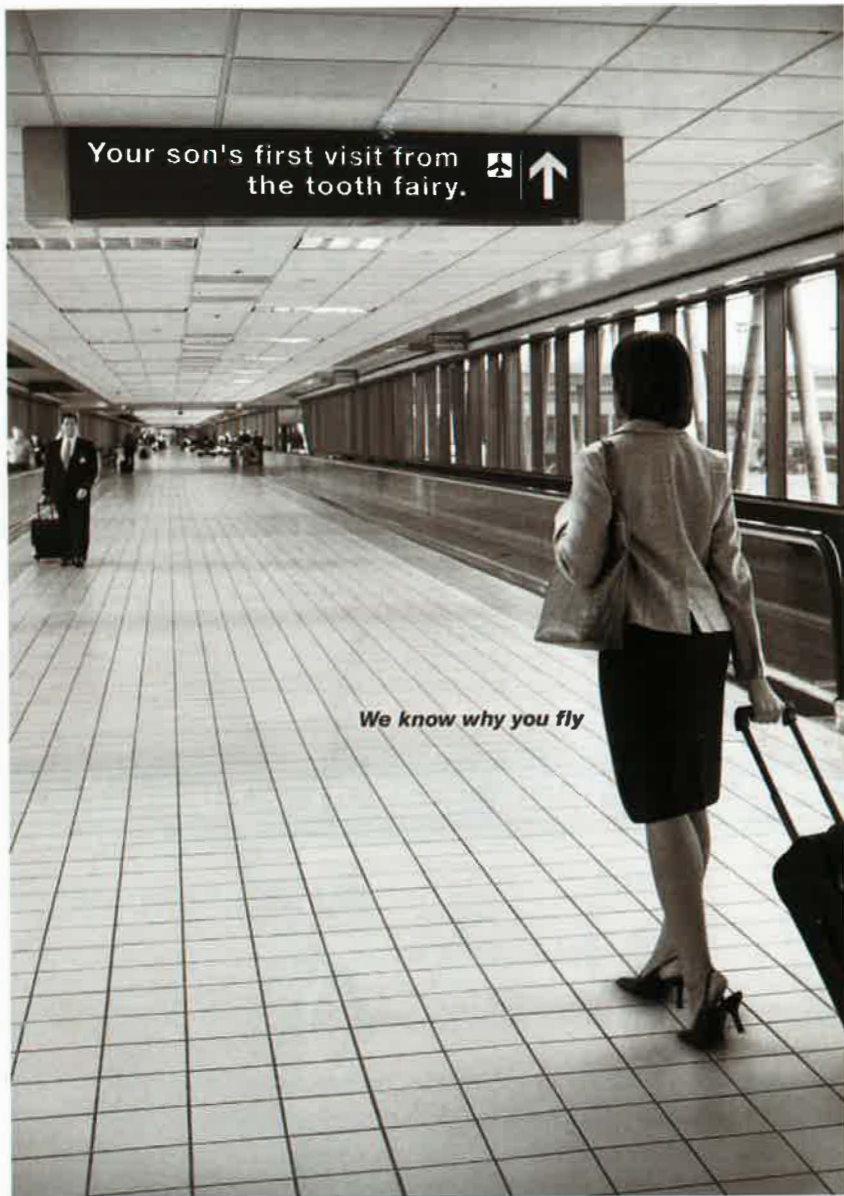
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*By Moliere August 25 - October 1, 2005*

In this new English language version by Jac Alder, Argan, a resolute hypochondriac, spends most of his time consulting with doctors about his mysterious illness and devising ways not to pay his bills. When he agrees to marry his daughter to a bland medical student, his daughter and her maid concoct a clever plan that manipulates Argan's own medical obsession.



*By Noel Coward October 13 - November 19, 2005*

Mrs. Dermot has her hands full with five very lazy children. When a wealthy uncle suddenly announces that he is dying and will leave his fortune to the most productive and successful of the children, all five of the young adults suddenly get wildly energetic.

*By Stephen Schwartz & John Caird December 1, 2005 - January 14, 2006*

Inspired by Genesis, *Children of Eden* explores the complicated relationship between parents and their children. After God creates Earth, plants, and animals, he decides to create something extraordinary: man. With an energetic and rich score, this ambitious musical shows a personal side of some of history's most legendary parents.



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In a small New Hampshire town, devout Puritans complacently await the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, unaware of the danger that surrounds them. When an unlikely hero, Richard Dudgeon returns home, British soldiers mistake him for the minister of the town and threaten to hang him. Dudgeon contrives an astonishing plot to fool the British General Burgoyne. Romance, comedy, politics...a play with everything.

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Agatha Christie's most beloved mystery comes to Theatre Three's stage. A young couple eagerly opens their bed and breakfast, only to welcome a peculiar array of strange guests. Suddenly, a ferocious blizzard traps everyone in the house and there are reports that a murderer is hiding in their midst!



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