# **Deathtrap**

by Ira Levin 13th – 22nd June 2019

#### The Play.

Deathtrap is a comedy thriller by master playwright Ira Levin. The play opened on Broadway in February 1978 and closed in June 1982 after a record breaking 1,809 performances. It won four Tony awards in its first season including the coveted Best Play award. Regular Medway Little Theatre audience members will remember last season's *Veronica's Room* and many will have seen the film Rosemary's Baby, both the work of the same writer.

#### The Plot.

Sidney Bruhl wrote the highly successful thriller *The Murder Game* 18 years ago. Since his sole smash hit he has clocked up four flops. Funds being low he has taken to running seminars at a nearby college. One morning a script arrives in the post from one of the students Clifford Anderson, who in Sidney's words has "written a play that even a gifted producer couldn't harm". Realising the massive potential of such a sure-fire hit Sidney, under the watchful but suspicious eye of his loving wife Myra, arranges for Clifford to bring the only other copy of the play to the house for a read-through with an eye on collaboration. An innocent invitation to a former student, or is it?

Add to the mix Dutch psychic Helga ten Dorp, who has taken a nearby cottage for the summer and sees "pain, pain and more pain" and a very observant lawyer friend and you have a play with more twists and turns than a mountain road.

#### The Team.

Del de Lorme has acted, directed and set built at MLT since 1996. Simon Kerkham and Andrew Coulson provide sound and lights, and the set was designed by Del and built and painted by himself, the cast and the ever-helpful John Firman. Kerrie Thompson and Peter Clark will be keeping all in order during the run as Del sits in his seat with a pint of lager. A special mention should go to our friend and original assistant director Didi who has not been well lately but will hopefully be up and about soon and able to see this production.

Del de Lorme, Director

## **Coming Next**

THE DUNCAN RAND ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL
8th - 20th July

2019 marks the 44th anniversary of our annual one-act play festival. The Duncan Rand Festival is Medway Little Theatre's annual one-act play festival, promoting interaction with fellow enthusiasts from all over Kent and further afield, bringing together groups both new and familiar in the spirit of the friendly competition; striving to raise standards, forge friendships and to entertain audiences and participants alike.

See www.mlt.org.uk for more details.

### **Medway Little Theatre Needs You!**

Our theatre produces several shows a year and we always welcome new members, whether they are interested in acting, stage managing, set building, working lights and sound, or any of the dozens of other jobs needed to produce live theatre. If you are interested in moving from seat to stage, please ask our front of house team or bar staff for information on how to join, or just turn up at one of our social nights, held every Tuesday evening in between show runs. The next one will be on Tuesday 25th June, which is also our season announcement evening, where the directors of next year's shows will speak about what's coming up next year.

This amateur production of *Deathtrap* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Ltd.

Posters and programmes by Reed Printers of Rochester

