**CONTACT: Nancy Richards – 917-873-6389 (cell) /nancy@northcoastrep.org**

**MEDIA PAGE:** [**www.northcoastrep.org/press**](http://www.northcoastrep.org/press)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE:**

**WHODUNIT? HERCULE POIROT OUTWITS EVILDOERS**

**TO SOLVE *MURDER ON THE LINKS***

**A NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE WORLD PREMIERE**

**By Steven Dietz, From the Novel by Agatha Christie**

**Performances Beginning Wednesday, April 19, 2023**

**NOW EXTENDED Through Sunday, May 21, 2023**

**Directed by Steven Dietz**

Solana Beach, Calif. - Something’s afoul on the private golf course at Merlinville-Sur-Mer – namely the body of Hercule Poirot’s newest client. Acclaimed playwright Steven Dietzbrings the famed Belgian detective to life to solve one of Agatha Christie’s most intricate whodunits. Of course, there are the host of usual – and – unusual suspects. A cast of six versatile actors embody myriad characters as they navigate the twists and turns of this lively and fun new adaptation. You won’t want to miss a thrilling moment of this world premiere comic mystery. If you miss the show at North Coast Rep, you’ll have an opportunity to see this production at Laguna Playhouse (May 31 – June 18). NOW EXTENDED THROUGH MAY 21ST.

Steven Dietz directs Kim Morgan Dean,\* Jennifer Erdmann,\* Brian Mackey,\* Jessica Mosher,\* Omri Schein,\* and Matthew Salazar-Thompson\* in ***MURDER ON THE LINKS.*** The design team includes Marty Burnett (Resident Scenic Designer), Matthew Novotny (Lighting), Elisa Benzoni (Costume Design), Robertson Witmer (Composer/Sound Design), Rachel Hengst (Props), and Peter Herman (Hair & Wigs). Vernon Willet\* is the Stage Manager.

\*The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors’ Equity Association. For photos, go to [www.northcoastrep.org/press](http://www.northcoastrep.org/press).

***MURDER ON THE LINKS*** *previews* begin Wednesday, April 19. Opening Night on Saturday, April 22, at 8pm. It will play Wednesdays at 7pm, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2pm, with Sundays at 7pm through May 21. There will be a talkback with the artistic director and cast on Friday, April 28. A performance has just been added on Wednesday, May 10, at 2 pm (See Schedule below). North Coast Repertory Theatre is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Tickets: Previews - $54 (including Friday preview at 2pm), Week Nights/Wed. & Sat. Matinees - $60; Sat. Eve. & Sun. Mat. $65; Sun Night - $57. Seniors, Students, Military & Educators - $3 off admission. Call 858-481-1055, or visit [www.northcoastrep.org](http://www.northcoastrep.org) to purchase tickets.

**WHAT: NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE presents**

 ***MURDER ON THE LINKS***

**Written by Steven Dietz, Based on the Novel by Agatha Christie**

 **Directed by Steven Dietz**

**CAST:** Kim Morgan Dean,\* Jennifer Erdmann,\* Brian Mackey,\* Jessica Mosher,\* Omri Schein,\* and Matthew Salazar-Thompson.\*

**WHERE:** North Coast Repertory Theatre

987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive

 Solana Beach, CA 92075

**SCHEDULE:** Previews start: April 19, 2023

 Opens: April 22, 2023

 Closes: May 21, 2023

 Wed. @ 7pm, Thurs-Sat @ 8PM; Sat & Sun @ 2PM, Sun @ 7pm

 Fri (Apr. 21) @ 2 pm

 Wed (May 10) @ 2pm

**PRICES:** Previews $54.00

 Weeknights & Sat. Matinees $60.00

 Sat. Nights & Sunday Matinees $65.00

 Sunday Nights $57.00

**DISCOUNTS:** Seniors, Students, Military & Educators $3.00 off admission. Rush tickets available for $25. Sold 15 minutes prior to showtime.

**BIOS:**

**STEVEN DIETZ** (Director/ Playwright) Plays at North Coast Rep: *Bloomsday, This Random World, Becky’s New Car, Dracula.* Recent premieres: *How a Boy Falls* (Northlight Theatre, Chicago); *Dracula: Mina’s Quest* (ACT Theatre, Seattle); *The Ghost of Splinter Cove* and, *The Great Beyond* (Children’s Theatre of Charlotte/Actor’s Theatre of Charlotte). Upcoming premiere: *Gaslight* (Cincinnati Shakespeare Company/Merrimack Repertory Theatre). Upcoming film: “What Happens Later*”* (starring Meg Ryan and David Duchovny). Other widely produced plays: *On Clover Road, Last of the Boys, Rancho Mirage, Shooting Star, Yankee Tavern, Inventing van Gogh, Private Eyes, Rocket Man, God’s Country,* and *The Nina Variations.* Awards: American Theatre Critics Association Steinberg New Play Citation for *Bloomsday;* Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays Award for *Fiction* and *Still Life with Iris*; PEN USA Award in Drama for *Lonely Planet*; Edgar Award® from the Mystery Writers of America for *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*. Other: 30+ plays and adaptations at over one hundred regional theatres; international productions in over twenty-five countries; in 2019, once again named one of the 20 Most-Produced Playwrights in America by American Theatre Magazine.

Cast (in alphabetical order):

**KIM MORGAN DEAN\*** (Captain Hastings) is joyous to be joining North Coast Rep for this world premiere! Kim has performed in over 20 shows at the Barter Theatre in Abingdon, Virginia, where she has been a member of the Resident Acting Company since 2018. Prior to Barter, Kim was a company member at Greenbrier Valley Theatre, where she also served as associate artistic director. Other credits: Janet in *Yankee Tavern* (Florida Stage); Lisa in *Collected Stories* (Mosaic Theatre); Colleen in*Ripcord*; Rosalind in *Moon Over Buffalo* (Florida Rep). She is the recipient of the 2008 and 2009 Carbonell Best Supporting Actress Award for her performances as Wren in *Body of Water* (Mosaic Theatre) and Mairead in Gable Stage’s production of *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, respectively. Gratitude to the North Coast Rep crew for having me aboard, to TM for love & support, and to YOU for supporting live theatre! [www.kimmorgandean.com](http://www.kimmorgandean.com)

**JENNIFER ERDMANN\*** (Woman One)is delighted be making her first appearance at North Coast Rep. A San Francisco Bay Area-based actor, her credits include *Baskerville*: *A Sherlock Holmes Mystery, Boeing-Boeing*, *The 39 Steps,* *Rumors, Our Town,* and *Noises Off* (Center Repertory Company); the world premiere of Bill Cain’s *9 Circles* (Marin Theatre Company); *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Marin Shakespeare Company); *The Tempest, Romeo and Juliet* (San Francisco Shakespeare Festival); *Vincent in Brixton* (TheatreWorks); *Restoration Comedy* (Stanford Summer Theater); *Major Barbara* (San Jose Rep). Other regional credits include *Pride and Prejudice* (Arizona Theatre Company/Alliance Theatre); *Nunsense Jamboree* (Meadow Brook Theatre, MI); *The Miracle Worker* (Sierra Rep); and both Antiphola twins in *The Comedy of Errors* (Santa Cruz Shakespeare). Jennifer holds a B.A. from Cornell University and also works frequently in independent film, commercials, and voiceover. Love to D, M, and L.

**BRIAN MACKEY\*** (Man Two) is thrilled to be back at North Coast Rep, where he has performed in *Ben Butler, Little Women,* and *A Christmas Carol,* and serves as the Associate Artistic Director. Brian has appeared on stages across San Diego including Lamb’s Players Theatre, San Diego Repertory, Cygnet Theatre, Backyard Renaissance, Diversionary Theatre, New Village Arts, Roustabouts Theatre, Intrepid Theatre, and Ion theatre. Favorite credits include *The Explorer’s Club*, *Noises Off*, *All My Sons*, *Silent Sky*, *In the Next Room or the Vibrator Play*, *The Woolgatherer*, *Jack Goes Boating*, *The Humans*, *Abundance*, and *The Glass Menagerie*.

**JESSICA MOSHER\*** (Woman Two) is a Canadian actress based in New York City. North Coast Rep debut! Regional: *The 39 Steps* (Riverside Theatre); *Hand to God*(Florida Studio Theatre); *Fun Home*(New York Regional Premiere, White Plains Performing Arts Center); *Crimes of the Heart* (Bristol Valley Theatre); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Savannah Repertory Theatre). TV/Film: “Mr. Robot; For Hire” (SOHO International Film Festival).Thanks to everyone at North Coast Rep and Laguna Playhouse and the talented cast and crew of *Murder on the Links!* Special thanks to Dad, Heather, Keith, and her wonderful friends. [www.jessicamosher.com](http://www.jessicamosher.com) @notjessmosher

**OMRI SCHEIN\*** (Hercule Poirot) As a writer: *The Remarkable Mister Holmes* at North Coast Rep, *Making Melrose* at Slippery Rock University, *The Princess Prob-llama* and *Fintastic Finn*at Cape Fear Regional Theatre, *Mambo Italiano* at Westchester Broadway Theatre, *Withering Heights* with The Roustabouts Theatre Co, *Gary Goldfarb: Master Escapist* (2013 NYMF Award Best Lyrics) and an upcoming musical adaptation of the young adult novel "The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate.”

As a performer: *Baskerville*, *Babette’s Feast, All In The Timing, A Funny Thing…Forum, Persuasion, Noises Off, The Explorer's Club, Beau Jest, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Underpants, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Five Course Love, When Pigs Fly, Disney’s Beauty and The Beast, Dear World, The People vs. Mona* (Off-Broadway/Cast Recording), *Hell’s Belles, Henry V, Grease*(tour), and *When You’re in Love, The Whole World Is Jewish* directed by Jason Alexander. Omri recently directed *Anything Goes* at San Diego Musical Theatre and *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Southwestern College. Member of AEA. [www.omri-schein.com](http://www.omri-schein.com).

**MATTHEW SALAZAR-THOMPSON\*** (Man One) Select acting credits*: The Car Plays, The Grift*(La Jolla Playhouse);*Spring Awakening* (Cygnet Theatre);*Yoga Play, Dead Man’s Cell Phone*(Moxie Theatre); *Now or Later* (Diversionary Theatre); *Moonlight and Magnolias* (Sierra Rep); *Marjorie Prime* (Pacific Repertory Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing*(Intrepid Theatre); *Henry V* (New Fortune Theatre); *Beachtown* (San Diego Rep [understudy]); *Moon Over Buffalo,* *The Father, The Spitfire Grill, The Odd Couple, THIS, Don’t Dress for Dinner, Over the Tavern, Dracula*, *Leading Ladies, A Thousand Clowns, Julius Caesar, The Comedy of Errors* (North Coast Rep);*Terra Nova (*Compass Theatre); *Cold Comfort Farm, West Side Story* (Lamb’s Players). TV credits: “C.S.I,”“Veronica Mars,” “Fashion House,” “Cover Me,” “Dharma and Greg,” “Watch Over Me,”“18 Wheels of Justice,” “Frasier,” “The Invisible Man,” “Days of Our Lives,”and“Baywatch.”  Proud member: SAG/AFTRA & AEA.

**VERNON WILLET\*** (Production Stage Manager) is extremely grateful to be returning to *live theatre*, working for the first time at North Coast Rep in this production of *Murder on the Links.*Vernon has had the privilege of working with the Laguna Playhouse, McCoy/Rigby Entertainment, Musical Theatre West, 3D Theatricals, the Rubicon Theatre, San Diego Musical Theatre, Theatre Aspen, Maltz Jupiter Theatre and a myriad of others. He shares his life with director/choreographer/champion ballroom dancer Cate Caplin. Proud Actors’ Equity Association member since 1983.

**DESIGN TEAM**

**MARTY BURNETT** (Set Design) Resident Designer at North Coast Rep since 1992 and has designed more than 200 productions for the theater. Other design venues include: Sahara and Hacienda hotels in Las Vegas, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, and Drury Lane Chicago.

**MATTHEW NOVOTNY** (Lighting Design) is pleased to be designing another show for North Coast Rep, where he has designed close to forty shows over the past seven years. Matthew is currently the Lighting Designer in Residence for San Diego Musical Theatre as well as North Coast Rep, and his work can be seen at a wide variety of theatres across San Diego. Matthew holds a B.A. in Technical Theatre from San Diego State and a master’s degree in Lighting Design from Boston University. Matthew is married to his beautiful wife Amanda, with five AMAZING children: Ragan, Harper, Heston, Maddex, and Harrison.

**ELISA BENZONI** (Costume Design) is thrilled to be working on her eighth season at North Coast Rep including numerous Craig Noel nominated productions. Elisa has also worked on over a hundred productions across Southern California with theatres such as The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, Geffen Playhouse, South Coast Repertory Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Diversionary Theatre and New Village Arts. Being Italian born, Elisa has also had the opportunity to work and perfect her craft in Europe. Elisa holds a costume design M.F.A. from UCSD where she currently is an adjunct professor.

**ROBERTSON WITMER** (Composer/Sound Design) is a Seattle-based sound designer, composer, and musician. Recent projects include *A Christmas Carol*(Merrimack Repertory Theater); *Harlem Nutcracker*(Spectrum Dance Theater) and *A Very Die Hard Christmas*(Seattle Public Theater). Other recent credits include: *A Thousand Splendid Suns, Orfeo et Euridice*(Seattle Opera); *Mrs. Caliban*(Book-It Repertory Theater); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*(Seattle Shakespeare Company);*The Best Summer Ever,*(Seattle Children's Theatre); *Dracula* (ACT Theatre) and *Big Love*(Seattle Pacific University). His sound designs have also been heard at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Village Theatre, and Teatro ZinZanni. When he is not designing sound for theater, Rob plays with several bands, including the Love Markets and the Toucans steel drum band. Rob is a part-time Lecturer at UW School of Drama, and a member of United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829.

**RACHEL HENGST** (Props Design) has worked as a Props artisan and Assistant Stage Manager at various theatres around San Diego. Some of her credits include *The Cherry Orchard (*North Coast Rep), *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Shockheaded Peter* (Cygnet Theatre), *Mixtape* and *Once* (Lamb’s Players Theatre). She thanks God and her family for their love and support.

**PETER HERMAN** (Hair & Wigs Design) has previously designed wigs for over 30 North Coast Rep productions. Peter teaches wig and makeup design at San Diego State University. He is glad to be part of the creative team on this show.

**CREW**

James Snyder (Crew) Annabelle Ouellet (Crew)

**About the North Coast Repertory Theatre** under the artistic leadership of David Ellenstein since 2003, is a professional Equity theatre, currently celebrating its 41st Season. North Coast Rep has received critical acclaim from media and audiences alike, and has evolved into one of the area’s leading performing arts organizations. North Coast Rep prides itself on employing the majority of its actors from Actors’ Equity Association for its high quality, award‐winning productions, and staging works by established and emerging playwrights. Throughout its history, North Coast Rep has created a platform where artist and audience thrive through the intimacy of live theatre, recognizing the power of theatre to challenge complacency, revitalize the imagination, nurture the unexpected and embrace the variety and diversity in our lives.

*###*