

WILKES UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Offering degrees in:
Theatre Arts, BA
Musical Theatre, BFA
Theatre Design and Technology, BFA



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Special Thanks to:

Adrianna Aziz, Bridget Giunta, Carrie Marko, Brad Barry and the Wilkes Marketing Team, Lycoming College, and Maryellen Sloat

WILKES
UNIVERSITY
THEATRE

2026



Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*

Adapted For the Stage by Ken Ludwig

*The Dorothy Dickson Darte Center
for the Performing Arts*

April 16, 17, 18 at 8PM

April 18, 19 at 2PM

Upcoming at the “Darte”

Saturday, April 24, Darte Stage

Spring Dance Concert 7:00pm

Sunday, April 26

Choral Concert 3:00pm

First Presbyterian Church

Monday, April 27, Darte Stage

Chamber Orchestra Concert 7:30pm

Tuesday, April 28, Darte Stage

Jazz Ensemble Concert 7:30pm

Wednesday, April 29, Darte Stage

Civic Band Concert 7:30pm

Saturday, May 2, Darte Stage

Student Dance Concert 7:00pm

About our Visiting Director



After graduating from the University of Michigan/Flint in 1983, Paul has worked professionally as an actor and Director for over 40 years, including national and international tours. He has performed in 46 of the nation’s 50 states.

As an artistic director, he has created over three dozen professional productions in 10 states. WUT audiences may remember his creative and quirky production of Puffs at the Darte center in 2024. Other favorite directorial endeavors include: Sweeney Todd, Evita, Big River, Footloose, Carousel, Fiddler on The Roof, and many more. Paul is a resident of the great state of Michigan. “Go Blue!”

About the Author: Agatha Christie

Agatha Christie was born in Torquay, England on September 15, 1890. She was the youngest of three children in an upper-middle class home. Agatha was schooled at home by a governess and tutors—a lifestyle later reflected in her novels. She was married in 1914 to Archie Christie, a W.W.I fighter pilot. While he was at war, Christie worked as a nurse. She first worked with patients, but was eventually transferred to the dispensary where she gained an extensive knowledge of poisons. Before Agatha married Archie, Agatha had discussed writing a murder mystery with her sister Madge, but Madge thought it would be too difficult for her. Agatha devoted her downtime at the dispensary to proving her sister wrong and writing *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*.

The Mysterious Affair at Styles was not published until 1920. Agatha's first novel featured her most famous detective character, Hercule Poirot. Poirot became known for his eccentricities, waxy moustache and quick mind. He was a featured character in thirty of Christie's novels. In 1926, Archie asked Agatha for a divorce. Agatha, already distressed by the recent death of her mother, drove off. Her car was found abandoned, with only a suitcase and some clothing in the backseat. Agatha's disappearance started a nation-wide manhunt, at one point 3000 people came out to look for the writer in the area her car had been found. About three weeks later she was found at a small hotel in a nearby town. Agatha claimed she had suffered a severe loss of memory, the British press claimed she had staged her own murder. In 1930, Agatha married Max Mallowan, a young archeologist she met in Mesopotamia; much of Agatha's knowledge of the Middle East and archeology stems from her relationship and travels with her husband.

Christie is often regarded as the Queen of the Golden Age detective and mystery novels. *Murder on The Orient Express*, written in 1934, is considered a Golden Age classic mystery novel. As in *Murder on The Orient Express*, also known as *Murder on the Calais Coach*, Christie's novels accurately portray the life of upper-middle class, British men and women of this period. In her lifetime, Christie wrote over sixty-six novels, short stories, screenplays and a series of romance novels under the pen of Mary Westmacott. In 1971 she was named Dame of the British Empire. Agatha Christie died on January 2, 1976.

This production runs 120 minutes
with a ten-minute intermission.



Setting: Aboard the Orient Express as it travels
from Istanbul to Western Europe:
Time: 1934 – over a 48 hour period

As a courtesy to our performers and those around
you, we ask that you kindly turn off all noise-
making and illuminating devices during the
performance. And please, no food or beverages
are permitted in the theatre.

Enjoy the show!

"Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express" is
presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on
behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

The Cast

CHARACTER

ACTOR

HERCULE POIROT	Caleb Flannery
MONSIEUR BOUC	Alby Lopuhovsky
MARY DEBENHAM	Abby Olander
HECTOR MACQUEEN	John Quick
MICHEL (THE CONDUCTOR)	Elias Brix
PRINCESS DROGOMIROFF	Ariana Gardner
GRETA OHLSSON	Carolynn Jewell
COUNTESS ANDRENYI	Gabrielle Greffen
HELEN HUBBARD	Madeline Meier
COLONEL ARBUTHNOT	Rocco Pugliese
SAMUEL RATCHET	Kaiden Harris
TURKISH WAITER	Evan Cole
PASSENGERS, PATRONS, ETC.	Ensemble

The Production Team

Director	Paul Nelson
Scenic/Props Design	Debra P. Holmes
Lighting Design/Technical Director	Lee Corcoran-Michaels
Costume Design	Bonnie Hall
Assistant Technical Director	Spencer Shotto
Sound Design	Lee Corcoran-Michaels
Production Stage Manager	Ryan Starr
Asst. Stage Manager	Elena DiSciullo
Asst. Stage Manager	Melissa Reyes
Lighting Board Operator	Lacey Rinker
Sound Board Operator	Samantha Gashi
Projection Op	Cally Williams
Sound Effects	Sarina Rowe
Run Crew	Jacob Cintronelle, Noah Dixon, Evan Cole
Run Crew	Antonio Torres, Liv Serkosky
Run Crew	Lydia Federici, Capri Pettinato
Fly Operator	Lavender Ibrahim
Prop Production Lead	Elena DiSciullo
Prop Run Lead	Charley Cain
Prop Run	Hope Jacobus
Wardrobe Lead/ Wig Assistant.	Gabrielle Howe
Wardrobe Run	Cecilia Ruyak
Intimacy Coordinator	Madeline Meier
Box Office Assistants	Adrianna Aziz, Alexis Wesnak
House Manager	Sarah Pugliese
Ushers	Ella Villani, Caitlin Barton, Isabella Mendez
Social Media Coordinators	Alexis Wesnak, Anthony Kehs
Box Office Manager	Maryellen Sloat

Set/Lights Crew

John Quick
 Madeline Meier
 Caleb Flannery
 Jacob Cintronelle
 Noah Dixon
 Ella Villani
 Caitlin Barton
 Samantha Gashi
 Liv Serkosky
 Kaiden Harris
 Ryan Starr
 Melissa Reyes

Set/Lights Crew

Lavender Ibrahim
 Rocco Pugliese
 Sarah Pugliese
 Albert Lopuhovsky
 Gabrielle Howe
 Gabrielle Greffen
 Lydia Federici
 Capri Pettinato
 Abby Olander
 Antonio Torres
 Lacey Rinker
 Sarina Rowe

Set/Lights Crew

Evan Cole
 Cecilia Ruyak
 Isabella Mendez

Sets/Props Crew

Elena DiSciullo
 Charly Cain
 Hope Jacobus

Costumes Crew

Elias Brix
 Carolynn Jewell
 Cally Williams
 Ariana Gardner