

Dorothy L. Sayers murder mystery takes the Taproot stage

SEATTLE, WA – February 28, 2017 – Taproot Theatre Company will present Dorothy L. Sayers and M. St. Clare Byrne's murder mystery, ***Busman's Honeymoon***, this May 17 through June 17 on the Jewell Mainstage. Producing Artistic Director Scott Nolte will direct. Tickets are available online at www.taproottheatre.org, by phone at 206.781.9707 (Tue-Sat, noon-5pm) or in person at 204 N 85th St.

Newlyweds Lord Peter Wimsey and Harriet Vane discover a body in the basement of their country honeymoon hideaway – murder or accident? Alibi or lie? While the supporting cast of characters complicate this confusing case, Peter and Harriet must decide if the pursuit of truth outweighs the pursuit of happiness.

Scott Nolte, TTC's Producing Artistic Director, will direct these beloved literary characters. He most recently directed the world premieres of *Evidence of Things Unseen*, *Dracula* and *This Christmas*. His other recent work at TTC includes *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge*, *Joyful Noise* and *Best of Enemies*.

The cast includes **Terry Edward Moore** (Thalia's Umbrella's *A Lesson From Aloes*), **Alyson Scadron-Banner** (TTC's *Gaudy Night*), **Jenny Cross** (TTC's *Illyria*), **Reginald Jackson** (Seattle Shakespeare Company's *The Winter's Tale*), **Nolan Palmer** (TTC's *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge*), **Pam Nolte** (TTC's *Joyful Noise*), **Robert Gallaher** (TTC's *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge*), **Keith Dahlgren** (Wooden O's *The Comedy of Errors*), **Kevin Pitman** (TTC's *Joyful Noise*), **Brad Walker** (TTC's *A Charlie Brown Christmas*) and **Frank Lawler** (TTC's *Joyful Noise*).

The production team includes **Sarah Burch Gordon** (TTC's *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge*), costume design; **Timothy Wratten** (TTC's *The God Game*), lighting design; **Mark Lund** (TTC's *Room Service*), scenic & sound design; **Sara Keats** (TTC's *Joyful Noise*), dramaturg; and **Michelle Rodriguez** (TTC's *The Realization of Emily Linder*), stage manager.

Following *Busman's Honeymoon* on the Jewell Mainstage is *Persuasion*, the world premiere adaptation of Jane Austen's final novel, playing July 12 – August 19.

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Post-play Discussions: TTC staff and cast members will join the audience to discuss the play and its production process. Post play discussions are held after every Wednesday performance (excluding Preview) and after the Midweek Matinee performances on May 23 at 2:00pm and May 31 at 10:00am.

Pay-What-You-Can (PWYC): May 24 at 7:30pm; a limited number of \$10 tickets are available at noon, tickets may be purchased in person or by phone. Beginning at 5:00pm, tickets are name-your-own-price; these tickets may be purchased in person only. Limit 4 tickets per person. Seating for PWYC performances is General Admission, there is no reserved seating. If you have accessible seating needs please call the Box Office directly.

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WHAT: Taproot Theatre Company will present Dorothy L. Sayers and M. St. Claire Byrne's murder mystery, ***Busman's Honeymoon***, this May 17 through June 17 on the Jewell Mainstage. Newlyweds Lord Peter Wimsey and Harriet Vane discover a body in the basement of their country honeymoon hideaway – murder or accident? Alibi or lie? While the supporting cast of characters complicate this confusing case, Peter and Harriet must decide if the pursuit of truth outweighs the pursuit of happiness.

WHEN: May 17 – June 17, 2017 • Wed/Thur, 7:30pm; Fri/Sat, 8:00pm; Sat matinee, 2:00pm

Dates to note:

Previews: May 17 & 18, 7:30pm

Opening Night: May 19, 8:00pm

Pay What You Can: May 24, 7:30pm

Midweek Matinees: May 23 at 2:00pm (with Post-Play discussion), May 31 at 10:00am (with guided Post-Play discussion) and June 7 at 2:00pm.

Post-Play Discussions: Wednesday nights following performances (excluding Preview)

WHERE: Taproot Theatre Company's Jewell Mainstage Theatre, 204 N 85th St, Seattle, WA 98103

TICKETS: Single tickets are on sale online at www.taproottheatre.org, by phone at 206.781.9707 (Tue-Sat, noon-5pm) or in person at 204 N 85th St. Tickets range from \$27-47, depending on the performance. Taproot offers a \$5 senior/student discount off regularly priced tickets (excludes previews or specially priced performances). Tickets for the Midweek Matinees are \$20 and cannot be purchased online. Discounts are available for groups of 8 or more by visiting www.taproottheatre.org/group-sales/ or by calling 206.781.9708. Tickets for the PWYC performance are available day of show at the Box Office window; contact the Box Office for details.

AGE RECOMMEDATION: 12+

CAST (in alphabetical order by last name)

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|------------------|----------------------------|
| Jenny Cross | <i>Miss Twitterton</i> |
| Keith Dahlgren | <i>Mr. MacBride</i> |
| Robert Gallaher | <i>Rev. Simon Goodacre</i> |
| Reginald Jackson | <i>Mr. Puffett</i> |

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Frank Lawler | <i>Superintendent Kirk</i> |
| Terry Edward Moore | <i>Lord Peter Wimsey</i> |
| Pam Nolte | <i>Mrs. Ruddle</i> |
| Nolan Palmer | <i>Bunter</i> |
| Kevin Pitman | <i>Frank Crutchley</i> |
| Alyson Scadron-Banner | <i>Harriet Vane</i> |
| Brad Walker | <i>Constable Sellon</i> |

PRODUCTION CREW

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Scott Nolte | <i>Director</i> |
| Sarah Burch Gordon | <i>Costume Design</i> |
| Timoty Wratten | <i>Lighting Design</i> |
| Mark Lund | <i>Scenic & Sound Design</i> |
| Spencer Bertelsen | <i>Stage Manager</i> |
| Sara Keats | <i>Dramaturg</i> |

PR: Isaiah Custer, Communications Manager, 206.529.3666, isaiahc@taproottheatre.org

Support for Taproot Theatre Company's 2017 Jewell Mainstage Season is generously provided by 4Culture, ArtsFund, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and the Nesholm Family Foundation.

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Jewell Mainstage productions, Isaac Studio productions, Touring productions and the Acting Studio. Taproot Theatre Company creates theatre experiences to brighten the spirit, engage the mind and deepen the understanding of the world around us while inspiring imagination, conversation and hope. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group, Theatre Puget Sound and the Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association.

Scott Nolte, *Producing Artistic Director* | Karen Lund, *Associate Artistic Director*
204 N 85th St | Seattle, WA 98103
206.781.9705 | taproottheatre.org

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