

# FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

**Kentwood Players Presents**

**WHEN  
THE  
NUMBERS  
FAIL...**

**WRITTEN BY  
FREDERICK KNOTT**

**DIRECTED BY  
GEORGE KONDRECK**

**PRODUCED BY  
KATHY DERSHIMER**

**KILLING IT  
SEPTEMBER 13  
THRU  
OCTOBER 19, 2019**



**DIAL  
M  
FOR MURDER**

Dial 'M' for Murder is presented by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc., New York

# DIAL “M” FOR MURDER

by Frederick Knott

Director George Kondreck

Producer Kathy Dershimer

Assistant Producer Myron Klaffer

Set Design

Doug Carlson

Lighting Design

Hollister Starrett and

Kira Sherman

Sound Design

Susan Stangl

Costume Design

Kathy Dershimer and

Cathy Kondreck

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

Margot Wendice ..... Courtney Shaffer

Max Halliday ..... Jeremy Palmer

Tony Wendice.....Justin Heller

Captain Lesgate ..... Ross G

Inspector Hubbard ..... Philip Bartolf

Thompson .....Jack Maatita

Voices:

Police .....Susan Stangl

Roger ..... George Kondreck

Reporter ..... Allison Boole

Pendleton ..... Dave Parke

Radio Announcer.....John deBono

Sgt. O'Brian ..... William Carter

The action of the play takes place in the living room  
of the Wendices' apartment in London

Act I Scene 1 A Friday evening in September.

Scene 2 An hour later.

Scene 3 Saturday evening.

Scene 4 Later that night.

Act II Scene 1 Sunday morning.

Scene 2 A few months later. Early afternoon.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.

Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

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## About the Cast



**Philip Bartolf** (Inspector Hubbard) is elated to be in his second show at Kentwood (first was *Farragut North* 2017). Thanks to George for casting me, and to our great cast! Phil has performed regularly at Theatre Palisades since 2010. He just received their 2018 season awards for Featured Actor (*Clybourne Park*) and Lead Actor (*Twelfth Night*). Favorite plays include *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio), *The Price* (Walter Franz), *Farragut North* (Paul), *Anne Frank* (Otto Frank), *The Tempest* (Prospero), *12 Angry Men* (Juror

8). Love to my wife of 26 years, Patsy! And to our wonderful grandkids, Harper 7, Graham 3, Dusty Rose 2, and her little sister, Gio 1!



**Ross G** (Captain Lesgate) studies long-form narrative improvisation at Impro Theatre School, where he performs in completely improvised plays (no script!). *Dial 'M' for Murder* is his second ever “scripted” play. His first role was this year as Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* at Theatre Palisades. When not acting, he is editing and writing true crime documentary TV series for networks like Investigation Discovery, A&E and Oxygen. He thanks director George Kondreck and the cast and crew for a

stellar experience at this historic theatre! He is grateful to God, his Sicilian family, friends and relatives who travel a long way to attend his performances, coaches Kay Aston and Paul Rogan, actors Phil Bartolf and Susan Stangl, and his beloved, Mara Green.



**Justin Heller** (Tony Wendice) is a writer, actor, and musician from Texas, making his debut with the Kentwood Players. He is thrilled to have the opportunity to bring the character of Tony to the stage in his first show since returning to Los Angeles this year.



**Jack Maatita** (Thompson) is elated to make his on-stage debut in *Dial M*. He worked as the backstage crew in Kentwood’s production of *Blithe Spirit*. Other than community theater, Jack enjoys writing, music production, and farming. Jack is one with nature and enjoys barn yard animals. He currently attends Mayfair High School.



**Jeremy Palmer** (Max Halliday) last performed in Los Angeles 11 years ago at theatre companies that no longer exist. In the intervening years, he wrote, directed, and performed theatre in Denver including Cliff in *Cabaret*, El Gallo in *The Fantasticks*, The Dentist in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and George Bailey in *It’s a Wonderful Life*, among others. Since returning to LA, he produced *Pippin* at Kentwood and has watched his wife Lyndsay kill it in multiple productions here. He received his MFA from the USC School of Cinematic Arts and is currently a working screenwriter.



**Courtney Shaffer** (Margot Wendice) is thrilled to be joining the Kentwood Players family for the first time. Shaffer is a Bay Area native film and stage actor who studied with Berkeley Rep. Favorite past stage credits include: *Barefoot in the Park* (as Corie Bratter with PCT; Shellie Award Nominee for Best Leading Actress in a Play), *My Three Angels* (as Marie Louise with OnStage) and *Beauty and the Beast* (as Belle w/s with Berkeley Playhouse). Ms. Shaffer would like to thank her amazing friends and family for their continuous love and support!

[www.courtneyshaffer.com](http://www.courtneyshaffer.com)

You are invited to meet and greet cast members  
after the performance in the Lobby.

### About the Production Staff

**George Kondreck** (Director) is pleased to present *Dial M for Murder*. George previously directed Kentwood Players production of Agatha Christie's *The Hollow*, in 2014. George's other directing credits include: *The Ride*, *The Nerd*, *WHAC Live! A Radio Play*, and *Academia Nuts*. Recent acting credits include Dr. Bradman in *Blithe Spirit* and the Fisherman in *Big Fish*. Previously he was in *Mame*, Agatha Christie's *The Hollow*, *Mr. Potcher's Holiday*, *Ragtime* and *Oliver*. George most often works set design and construction and has been the Master Builder for several productions. George sits on the Kentwood Players Board as the Production Manager.

**Kathy Dershimer** (Producer/Costume Designer) – is excited to be working on *Dial 'M'* with both new and old friends. Kathy has directed *Orphans*, *Wait Until Dark* and *Dangerous Obsession*, produced *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *Our Town*, and has costumed over 20 productions at Kentwood. She would like to thank the great cast and hard-working production team for all of their work. Kathy is currently on the Kentwood Board and is always grateful for the generosity of the Kentwood members as they give of their talents, time and caring. As always, Kathy thanks her husband, children and friends for their support in all her endeavors.

**Myron Klaffter** (Assistant Producer) was a subscriber of Kentwood Players for years. One day during a show's intermission, he was telling some Kentwood Players how taken he was with the passion of the cast and supporting members, who were not paid, but performed for their love of acting and the theater. Myron joined the Kentwood Players family, who embraced him. This, his first opportunity to assist has provided incredible insight to producing plays, while highlighting the dedication of Kentwood members. He sincerely thanks Kentwood Players, and Producer Kathy Dershimer for this incredible opportunity

**Doug Carlson** (Set Design) has been designing and building sets with the Kentwood Players for several years. If it slopes, curves, swings, spins, or lifts, chances are Doug designed & built it. He thinks of the set as a playground, and enjoys playing there.

**Kira Sherman** (Lighting Design) – After swearing up and down she didn't have time for extra shows, Kira is once again light designing at Kentwood with her partner in crime, Hollister. A senior at Cal State Fullerton, Kira studies stage and production management for theatre. Thank you all for coming out and enjoy the show!

**Hollister Starrett** (Lighting Design) has been in theatre for over 12 years. He started here at Kentwood at age 8, went on to light design several Kentwood Kids shows, and at age 12, his first main-stage show for which he won a Marcom-Masque award. Though primarily onstage nowadays, he still very much enjoys the opportunity to work alongside a wonderful creative team and use lighting to compliment their story. His recent light design credits include *The Addams Family* at El Segundo Youth Drama, and *Match* here at Kentwood Players. Thank you to the production team for the opportunity to design here again, and a huge thanks to Kira for putting up with him!

**Susan Stangl** (Sound Design) has designed sound for over 125 shows, many of them at Kentwood. She sings, plays and composes music and had fun recording all the phone calls and sound effects in this show! She will be directing *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* at KP in 2020 and was last seen on stage here performing in *Good People*. This summer she played a guitar-playing singing buzzard in Aristophanes' *The Birds* at Sacred Fools Theatre as part of the Hollywood Fringe Festival and a guitar-playing Harpo Marx in *Rosalind and the Falcon* for Culver City Public Theatre.

**Cathy Kondreck** (Costume Design) – has been involved with various productions for Kentwood Players on costume teams, sewing and altering costumes. Most recently she assisted with *Blithe Spirit* and *Little Mermaid*. She enjoys the comradery of the costuming team and specializes in period pieces from the 1950's.

### Director's Note

Delving into the script of *Dial M for Murder*, one is struck by how well Frederick Knott has crafted this play. Reversing the usual sequence of a mystery, the playwright gives the audience the culprit at the onset and the thrill derives from watching the plot unfold. The characters of the play are richly developed and the dialogue is crisp and interesting. Although an iconic part of theatrical and film history, it is hard to believe that initially Mr. Knott had trouble getting this, his first play, produced on the stage and it was first presented on British television. It received critical acclaim and finally made it to the West End stage on June 19, 1952 and to Broadway on October 29, 1952. I along with the cast and crew hope you have a thrilling evening and enjoy *Dial M for Murder* as much as we enjoy presenting it to you.

George Kondreck  
Los Angeles, 2019

## Production Staff

Stage Manager .....	Harold Dershimer
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Bouket Fingerhut
Script Supervisor .....	Bouket Fingerhut
Fight Choreography .....	Drew Fitzsimmons
Stage Crew .....	Jack Maatita
Booth Crew .....	Kirk Larson, Amy Witkowski
Set Decoration Design .....	Melodie Rivers, Samantha Barrios
Original Graphic Design .....	West Maatita
Lobby Design .....	Kathy Dershimer
Master Builder .....	Doug Carlson
Hair .....	Jon Sparks
Properties .....	Katie Harfouch
Publicity Photos .....	Shari Barrett, Gloria Plunkett
Audition Assistance .....	Anne Klafter
Hospitality Coordinator .....	Michele Selin
Box Office .....	Abilene Gonzalez

## Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Phil Bartolf, Jenny Boone, Doug Carlson, William Carter, Sheldon Cohen, Harold Dershimer, Kathy Dershimer, Kevin Ellsworth, Martin Feldman, Ross G, Samuel Goldman, Gay Guldstrand, Katie Harfouch, Anne Klafter, Myron Klafter, Cathy Kondreck, George Kondreck, Kirk Larson, Ben Lupejkis, Mel Miller, Coleen Okida, Jeremy Palmer, Shawn Plunkett, Melodie S. Rivers, Courtney Shaffer, Jon Sparks, Bruce Starrett

*With deepest gratitude for  
my Kentwood Players family.*

*With love,  
Charlotte*

## Kentwood Players' Board of Directors 2019-2020

President.....	Jenny Boone
Vice President / Membership Chairperson .....	Kathryn Dershimier
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During the performance please turn your pagers to silent,  
and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches.  
There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane.  
*Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

Kentwood Players is a Member of the  
LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website

[www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)

### Special Theatre Parties

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least  
ten friends, family members, or co-workers,  
special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance.  
For more information please call 310-645-5156.

### Reservations are Necessary

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY  
Tickets MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER  
at the time reservations are made.

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Pierre & Nancy Joujon-Roche

Jacqueline Arkord

Sheldon & Arlene Cohen

Thomas & Lyn Hamilton

Alison Boole

Stanley Weinberg

Sharon Robinson

Kent & Linda Pearson

Myron Kayton

## Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

*Little Women*, a Musical  
Music by Jason Howland  
Lyrics by Mindi Dickstein  
Book by Allan Knee  
Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott  
November 15 – December 21, 2019  
Director: Jennifer Richardson

*The Giver*  
A Drama by Adapted by Eric Coble from the  
Newbery Award-winning book by Lois Lowry  
January 17 – February 22, 2020  
Director: Harold Dershimer

*Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*  
A Comedy by Christopher Durang  
March 13 – April 18, 2020  
Director: Susan Stangl

*Fun Home*, a Musical  
Book and Lyrics by Lisa Kron  
Music by Jeanine Tesori  
Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel  
May 15 – June 20, 2020  
Director: Kathryn Dershimer

*Laughter on the 23rd Floor*  
A Comedy by Neil Simon  
July 10 – August 15, 2020  
Director: Stanley Brown

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