

**OUR SPONSORS**

**Chevron** (Season Sponsor) has been the leading corporate sponsor of Center REP and the Lesher Center for the Arts for the past nine years. In fact, Chevron has been a partner of the LCA since the beginning, providing funding for capital improvements, event sponsorships and more. Chevron generously supports every Center REP show throughout the season, and is the primary sponsor for events including the Chevron Family Theatre Festival in July. Chevron has proven itself not just as a generous supporter, but also a valued friend of the arts.

**Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA)** (Season Partner) is both the primary fundraising organization of the Lesher Center for the Arts (LCA) and the City of Walnut Creek's appointed curator for the LCA's audience outreach. DRAA's role in the community is all about building partnerships with the focused goal of enhancing artistic quality at the LCA and providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy the arts. Through partnerships with the LCA and its producers, individual donors, corporate and foundation sponsors and the City of Walnut Creek, DRAA plays a vital role in advancing the arts for the betterment of the community. Please visit us online at [www.draa.org](http://www.draa.org).

**Lesher Foundation** (Foundation Sponsor) Since 1994, the Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation has awarded grants totaling more than \$40 million and reaching citizens in all parts of Contra Costa County. True to the original wishes of Dean and Margaret Lesher, the Foundation continues to build on the strengths of the community by supporting organizations and programs that provide help and support to people in need; enhance and enrich the lives of all citizens; and promote a healthy and exciting future for the community. Established in 1989, the Foundation received its principal assets from Dean Lesher's estate in 1993 and 1995. In 1997, an additional endowment from Dean Lesher's estate followed the death of Margaret Lesher. A significant and final bequest from Mr. Lesher's estate was received in 2003. As a family foundation, support for the Contra Costa community will be carried on by the next generation of family members. Grant-making decisions are based on the vision of Dean and Margaret Lesher who felt quality education, diverse art programs, and healthy children and families are the building blocks of a strong and vibrant community. The Leshers defined the "spirit of giving" as "investing in the community and its people." By providing financial support and direction in these critical areas, the Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation is investing every day, every week and every year in the health and well-being of this county that Dean and Margaret so loved.

**ABOUT CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY**

**Center REP** is the resident, professional theatre company of the Lesher Center for the Arts. Our season consists of seven productions a year – a variety of musicals, dramas and comedies, both classic and contemporary, that continually strive to reach new levels of artistic excellence and professional standards.

Our **mission** is to celebrate the power of the human imagination by producing emotionally engaging, intellectually involving, and visually astonishing live theatre, and through Outreach and Education programs, to enrich and advance the cultural life of the communities we serve.

**What does it mean to be a producing theatre?** We hire the finest professional directors, actors and designers to create our productions at Center REP. These are not touring productions – they're conceived and developed here, the sets and costumes are built in our shops, and the actors rehearse in our rehearsal hall. Whether the production is a Bay Area premiere or a Shakespearean classic, each is devised to be a one of a kind, artistic creation that will be a unique theatre experience for our audience.

**What does it mean to be a professional theatre?** It means that all our artists and artisans are career theatre-practitioners. Many of the actors in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association; many of our directors and designers are members of professional unions. All do theatre because it is their profession and their passion.

We are very proud to have the opportunity to produce professional theatre for our community in the beautiful theatres here at the Lesher Center for the Arts. Thank you for your support!

**Center REPeritory Company**

Managing Director - Scott Denison  
Artistic Director - Michael Butler

<i>Production Services</i> Production Services Coordinator <b>Toni Kilcoyne</b> Technical Staff <b>Steve Pino</b> <b>John Earls</b> <b>Michael Arlen</b> <b>Chris Currie</b> <b>Kieren McEntee</b> <b>Garrick Schuster</b> <b>Stephen Spleiss</b> <b>Josh Stouffer</b> <i>Administration</i> Asst. to Managing Director <b>Gail Pfeifer</b> Program <b>Linda Nomura</b> <i>Audience Services</i> Audience Svcs Coordinator <b>Courtney Egg</b> Ticket Office Staff <b>Jeremiah Vierling</b> <b>Robert Nolan</b> <b>Andrea Toney</b> <b>Julia Berghe</b> <b>Jennifer Haga</b> <b>Kiersten Jones</b> <b>Karla Kophammer</b> <b>Britt Lauer</b> Usher Coordinator <b>Kevin Challand</b>	<i>Production</i> Production Manager <b>Jeff Collister</b> <i>Technical</i> Technical Director <b>Joshua Lipps</b> Master Electrician <b>Del Medoff</b> Carpenters <b>Matthew Hougey</b> <b>Gabriel Johnson</b> <b>Noah Lange</b> <b>Chris Swartzell</b> Assistant Stage Manager <b>Joe Coe</b> Deck Manager <b>Alex Logemann</b> Dresser <b>Eddie Olson</b> <b>Yelyzaveta Tashkevych</b> Casting Director <b>Jennifer Perry</b> <i>Education</i> Education Directors <b>Jeff Draper</b> <b>Kerri Shawn</b> <i>Marketing</i> Marketing Director <b>Gabe Marin</b> Marketing Associate <b>Ariel Brewer</b> <i>Costumes</i> Costume Manager <b>Max Hilsabeck</b> Assistant Costumer <b>Michael A. Berg</b>
--	--

CITY COUNCIL Kristina Lawson, Mayor Bob Simmons, Mayor Pro-Tem Loella Haskew Cindy Silva Justin Wedel	
CITY MANAGER Ken Nordhoff	ARTS COMMISSION Joe Bologna, Chair Jane Emanuel, Vice Chair Polly Bradbury Glynnis Cowdery Anita Sagastegui
DIRECTOR Arts, Recreation and Community Services Kevin Safine	

**CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY**  
Michael Butler, Artistic Director      Scott Denison, Managing Director

presents

# SLEUTH

By  
**Anthony Shaffer**

Scenic Designer <b>Michael Locher</b>	Lighting Designer <b>Kurt Landisman</b>	Costume Designer <b>Maggie Whitaker</b>
Sound Designer <b>Theodore Hulsker</b>	Stage Manager <b>Kathleen J. Parsons*</b>	Props Master <b>Shaun Carroll</b>
Wigs <b>Judy Disbrow</b>		Fight Director <b>Kit Wilder</b>
	Cast	
<b>Philip Farrar</b>	<b>Harold K. Newman</b>	<b>Roger Purnell</b>
<b>Thomas Gorrebeeck*</b>		<b>Kit Wilder*</b>

Directed by **Mark Anderson Phillips**

"Sleuth" is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

Margaret Lesher Theatre  
March 28 - April 26, 2014  
Lesher Center for the Arts

Season Sponsor 	Season Partner 	Foundation Sponsor 
--------------------	--------------------	------------------------

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States  
The Lighting Designer is a member of United Scenic Artists Union  
Center REP is a member of Theatre Bay Area and Theatre Communications Group (TCG), The National Organization for the American Theatre

## CAST (in order of appearance)

Andrew Wyke.....Kit Wilder\*  
Milo Tindle .....Thomas Gorrebeeck\*  
Inspector Doppler .....Phillip Farrar  
Detective Sergeant Tarrant .....Harold K. Newman  
Police Constable Higgs.....Roger Purnell

## TIME and PLACE

1970s

### ACT ONE

Andrew Wyke's country home in Wiltshire.  
An autumn evening.

### ACT TWO

Two days later. Evening.

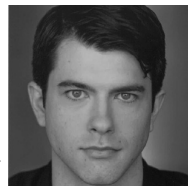
There will be one intermission.

## CAST BIOGRAPHIES

**Philip Farrar (Inspector Doppler)** is pleased to be making his Center REP debut with *Sleuth*. A graduate of The Salisbury Academy of Dramatic Art, Mr. Farrar has appeared in many venues across the UK during his 30-year career. Favorite roles include Daddy Warbucks in Blackpool Music Circus' production of *Annie*, Mr. DePinna in *You Can't Take it With You*, at Henley-on-Thames Dinner Theatre, and Ralph Thomas in *Excuse Me, Madam* at Salisbury Playhouse. Television roles include *Police!*, and *Ground Force with Alan Titchmarsh* (Participant) both on the BBC. He and his lovely wife moved to the US of A five years ago and happily, he has at last picked up acting again. Philip is honored to be a part of Center REP's 2013-2014 season. For Dorothy.



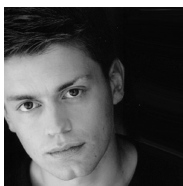
**Thomas Gorrebeeck\* (Milo Tindle)** is excited to be back at Center REP having previously appeared as Harker in *Dracula*. Local Credits include *Hamlet* (Hamlet), *Compleat Female Stage Beauty* (Kynaston), *Dead Man Walking* (Matt), *The Three Musketeers* (D'Artagnan), and *A Few Good Men* (Kaffee) with CityLights Theater Company, *Sense and Sensibility* (Edward) and *The Chosen* (Danny) with TheatreWorks, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Borachio) with CalShakes, *The Eccentricities of a Nightingale* (John) with Aurora Theatre Company, and *White Christmas* (Phil) with Diablo Theatre Company. Mr. Gorrebeeck received his B.A. from New York University and has trained with Shakespeare & Company in Massachusetts.



**Harold K. Newman (Detective Sergeant Tarrant)** is new to acting, and happy to be making his third appearance ever on stage in Center REP's *Sleuth*! His other two plays (Townsperson in *Oklahoma!* and Jim in *Green Willies*) were both at Goleta Little Theatre, in Goleta, California, where he owned and operated a popular fast-food franchise for many years. He now lives and works (still in fast-food!) in beautiful Aptos, CA.



**Roger Purnell (Police Constable Higgs)** makes his west coast debut with *Sleuth*. Previously, he was seen in *Sinbad the Sailor* at Stonewall Theatre, *The Reluctant Dragon* with Charleston Young People's Theater, and the controversial all-male production of Clare Booth-Luce's *The Women*, at Boca Raton's Theatre Factory. Roger works in technology, and holds a master's degree in geology from the University of Montana. Go Grizzlies!



**Kit Wilder\* (Andrew Wyke/ Fight Director)** holds a degree from Santa Clara University, has studied with the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts and members of the Royal Shakespeare Company, and has served as Associate Artistic Director of City Lights Theater Company of San Jose for the past nine years. His work as an actor, director, and fight director runs the gamut from Shakespeare and the classics to contemporary drama and musical theatre, and has been seen at City Lights, Bus Barn Stage Company, Hillbarn Theatre, the New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Jose Stage Company, TheatreWorks, Foothill Music Theatre, Broadway by the Bay, Woodminster Summer Musicals, California Theatre Center, Meadow Brook Theatre, the Grand Canyon Shakespeare Festival, Opera San Jose, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz, among others. He has also written several original plays, and stage adaptations of literary works. *Sleuth* marks his Center REP debut.



### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Linda Anderson & Bert Page  
Patti and Walt Phillips

### THANK YOU TO OUR

OPENING NIGHT DINNER SPONSORS:  
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar  
Oi-C Bowl  
Scott's Seafood Grill and Restaurant

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Anthony Shaffer (Playwright)** was a former barrister-cum-dramatist well known for such successful thrillers as *Sleuth* and Alfred Hitchcock's *Frenzy* who penned numerous works over his fruitful career, though it was *Sleuth* that proved to be his most enduring work among fans. The British-born writer worked briefly as an advertising copywriter early in his career, before hitting the jackpot with his first major play, *Sleuth*, which ran for an incredible eight years (2,359 performances) in London's West End before relocating to Broadway for another 2,000 performances, winning a Tony for Best Play. Later transferred to celluloid and starring Michael Caine and Laurence Olivier, it was once said to Shaffer that *Sleuth* was being performed somewhere in the world every day since he wrote it. Embracing the success as both a blessing and a curse, Shaffer also penned the popular cult thriller *The Wicker Man* in 1973. Adapting Agatha Christie for the big screen, Shaffer wrote the screenplays for both *Death on the Nile* (1978) and *Evil Under the Sun* (1982), in addition to his uncredited work on *Murder on the Orient Express* (1974). His twin brother, Peter, also a playwright, penned *Black Comedy* and *Equus*. On November 6, 2001, Anthony Shaffer died of a heart attack in his London home. He was 75.

**Mark Anderson Phillips (Director)** is an actor and director who has been working professionally in the Bay Area and regionally for over 20 years. Directing credits include *The 39 Steps* (2013 Shellie Award - Best Direction) at Center REP, *Othello* at Calaveras Repertory Theater, *What the Butler Saw* at San Jose's City Lights Theater Company, *Little Women* at California Theatre Center, and *The King and I*, *Cinderella*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Childrens Musical Theatre, San Jose. As an actor, Mark has appeared recently in Taylor Mac's *Hir* at The Magic Theatre, Aaron Loeb's *Ideation* at SF Playhouse, *Dr. Faustus* at San Jose Rep., *Waiting for Godot* at Marin Theatre Company, *Clybourne Park* at Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, and *A Christmas Carol*, at Center REP. Other REP appearances include, *Rumors* (2012 Shellie Award - Best Actor), *Noises Off*, and *Witness for the Prosecution*. His work at other theatres includes roles with TheatreWorks, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, ACT Theatre of Seattle, San Jose Repertory Theatre, The Magic Theatre (including the US Premiere of *Stones in his Pockets*), Aurora Theatre, The SF Playhouse, California Shakespeare Theatre, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Arizona Theatre Company, Repertory, and Word for Word. Mark has appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (*Joan Rivers - A Work in Progress* by a *Life in Progress*) and the New York International Fringe Festival (*Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party*, which won Best of Fringe). He is the recipient of three Bay Area Drama Critics' Circle awards for best performance by a male in a leading role. On television, he has appeared on the CBS series, *Nash Bridges*. He plays Gideon T. Flummox in the children's video project, *Flummox and Friends* (flummoxandfriends.com). Film work includes, *This is Macbeth* and *This is Hamlet* with Reinventing the Wheel Productions, *Something Better* with Blu Fly Productions, and *Joan Rivers - A Piece of Work* with Break Thru Films. www.markandersonphillips.com

**Michael Locher (Scenic Designer)** has designed scenery for theater and opera across the country. His recent and upcoming credits include productions for the Guthrie Theater, Cal Shakes, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Yale Repertory Theater, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theater, Long Island University, Yale School of Drama, and Playmakers Repertory Theater. Michael's designs have been seen Off-Broadway and at venues throughout New York and the northeast. His local credits include numerous productions with the Magic Theatre, Marin Theater Company, the Jewish Theater, Crowded Fire, Shotgun, and the Cutting Ball Theater, where he is a longtime associate artist. Michael teaches scenic design at San Jose State University, and works as a freelance graphic designer and illustrator. He is a founding member of Hollywood-based Tilted Field Productions, and a graduate of the University of California San Diego and the Yale School of Drama (Donald & Zorka Oenslager Scholarship in Stage Design).

**Kurt Landisman (Lighting Designer)** Local audiences will be familiar with his work through past productions designed for Center REP including *Ella*, *the Musical*, *Sweet Charity*, *The 39 Steps*, *Old Wicked Songs*, *Xanadu*, *Arms and the Man*, *Blues in the Night*, *Dracula*, *She Loves Me*, *Noises Off*, *All Shook Up*, *Cabaret*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Mousetrap*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, and *Fugitive Kind*. His designs have been seen throughout the Bay Area at many theaters including San Francisco Opera, ACT, Berkeley Rep, San Jose Rep, Theatreworks, California Shakespeare Festival, The Magic Theatre, and Marin Theatre Company. Locally his work has garnered 16 Bay Area Critics Circle Awards, 5 LA Dramalogue Awards and 5 Shellie Awards. Nationally, his work has been seen at many regional opera & ballet companies, including the Los Angeles Opera, Minnesota Opera, Virginia Opera, Tulsa Opera, and Ballet Arizona. His designs have also been presented off-Broadway, represented at Circle Rep, and the Douglas Fairbanks Theatres. Other designs internationally include world premieres of plays by Sam Shepard in Japan, and Singapore, as well as the San Francisco Opera in Shanghai, China, and the Moscow Circus in Tokyo, Japan.

**Maggie Whitaker (Costume Designer)** is the Costume Design Coordinator at the Academy of Art, as well as a freelance Costume Designer. Credits include: *Red Ice*, *The Movie*; Marin Theatre Company: *I and You* (World Premiere), *Waiting for Godot*, *A Steady Rain*, *Life x 3*, *My Old Lady*; TheatreWorks: *Upright Grand* (World Premiere), and *Little Rock* (New Works Festival); Aurora Theatre Company: *A Bright New Boise*, *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, *Fat Pig* (SFBATCC nominee for costumes) *The Shape of Things* and *Lobby Hero* (Dean Goodman Choice award winner); Shotgun players: *Truffaldino Says No!* (SFBATCC award winner-Best Costume Design); Magic Theatre: *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball*; Cutting Ball Theater: *Lady Gray* and *Krapp's Last Tape*; Crowded Fire Theatre: *The Bereaved*, *Sticky Time*; Ray of Light Theatre: *Assassins* and

*Jerry Springer: The Opera* (SFBATCC Nominee for Costumes); Asian American Theater Company: *#5 Angry Red Drum*. Her design presentation of *Aristophanes's The Birds* was selected for exhibition at the Prague Quadrennial Scenofest. She has worked as a Costume Design Assistant for Andrea Lauer on *American Idiot*, both at Berkeley Repertory Theatre and at the 2010 Grammy awards. She also was a contributor to the book "Earn it, Learn it"; written by Alisa Weinstein. Ms. Whitaker has an MFA in Costume Design from the University of California, San Diego, and teaches Costume Design and Fashion History at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco.

**Theodore Hulsker (Sound Designer)** This is Theodore Hulsker's first production with Center REP. His previous work includes San Francisco Play Houses' productions of *Storefront Church* and *Jerusalem*, Shotgun Player's productions *Strangers Babies* and *Woyzeck*, Cutting Ball Theater's *The Chairs*, and Mugwumpin's *The Great Big Also*. He was the recipient of the 2012 Eric Landisman fellowship for emerging designer. He also teaches sound design at both Tamalpais and Marin Academy high schools.

**Shaun Carroll (Props Master)** was recently ASM/ Props for the 6 month National Tour of *Nunset Boulevard*, starring Cindy Williams of *Laverne & Shirley*. He has been doing props for various theatre companies around the Bay Area for 10 years, including 7 years as the resident Props Designer for the Willows Theatre Company in Concord. Theatres include Jewel Theatre Company, Lake Tahoe, California, and San Francisco Shakespeare Festivals, Capital Stage Theatre, Shotgun Players, Foothill Theatre Company, Opera Santa Barbara, and Ensemble Parallele. He also ran props for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland and the European tour of Walt Disney's *World on Ice*.

**Judy Disbrow (Wig Designer)** and her company Theatrical Hairgoods have provided wigs for theatrical productions for over 30 years. She has worked with companies throughout the United States including Diablo Theatre Company, CCMT, La Jolla Playhouse, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, San Francisco Opera, Portland Opera, Florida Grand Opera, as well as many others.

**Kathleen J. Parsons\* (Stage Manager)** is excited to be doing another show with Center REPeritory Company. Companies she has worked for include Rubicon Theatre Company, Access Theatre, North Shore Music Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, The Pasadena Playhouse, Berkley Repertory Theatre, Teatro Zinzanni, the American Musical Theatre of San Jose, San Jose Rep, and the National Theatre of the Deaf. Kathleen was also the Production Manager for the California International Theatre Festival.



THANK YOU TO:  
Massimo's Ristorante  
Waters Moving and Storage  
Associated Services-Alta Water

**Alex Logemann (Deck Manager)** is celebrating his 42nd show backstage with Center REP. Alex has been backstage for ten seasons and is beyond pleased to be involved with such an amazing group. Alex has also worked backstage for Contra Costa Musical Theatre and with Diablo Theatre Company. Alex is a proud member of the Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble. He is very thankful for our community and the fun it provides. "Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." -Thomas Edison

**Michael Butler (Artistic Director)** This is Michael's eighth season as Artistic Director of Center REP, where his directing credits include *Clybourne Park*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *The Underpants*, *A Number*, *Dracula*, *Boeing-Boeing* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, as well as the Shellie and BATCC Award-winning productions of *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Enchanted April*, and *Witness For The Prosecution*. His directing work has also been seen at San Jose Rep, Cleveland Playhouse, Seattle Rep, Laguna Playhouse, ACT in Seattle, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre Company, San Jose Stage, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and The Juilliard School, of which he is a graduate. As an actor, Michael has worked on Broadway and off, in regional theatres, film and television, as well as REP's productions of *The Mousetrap*, *Noises Off* and *Rumors*. He is a published songwriter and the co-writer and composer of numerous music-theatre pieces, which he has directed and performed in NY, LA, and at festivals in India and Morocco. In his career as a performer he has also danced with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, portrayed the villainous Pierre LeChance on *The Guiding Light*, and played guitar and harmonica in many rock, blues, and country western bands at all the notable dives in NYC.

**Scott Denison (Managing Director)** has been a leader in the Arts for 40 years for Walnut Creek and the surrounding communities. Under Denison's guidance for the last 23 years as General Manager for the Leshner Center for the Arts, he oversees over 850 public events each year. He coordinates performing arts activities with over 85 producers and producing organizations. He is also the Managing Director of the Center REPeritory Company producing 7 professional productions each season; and is the director and co-founder of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, an adult family performing arts company which presents programs for the young and Young at Heart. Scott directed CCMT's hits *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, *Hairspray*, and for the past 13 seasons Center REP's *A Christmas Carol*. Denison has directed over 150 productions including REP's *The Lady with All the Answers* starring Kerri Shawn. This spring, he will direct *Les Misérables*. In 1979 he created the Shellie Awards, which annually honors outstanding performing arts achievement in Contra Costa county. In 2007 he created the Chevron Family Theatre Festival bringing adult nationally acclaimed performances together for one day performing to over 7,000 guests of all ages.