## encore

OCTOBER 2011

arts programs

FEB 4 - MAY 1 Vanities: A New Musical

APR 29 - MAY 29 The Prisoner of Second Avenue

7 - JUL 17 Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World

JUL 29 - AUG 28 In the Next Room, or the vibrator play

SEP 9 - OCT 9 Mary Stuart

OCT 21 - NOV 20 Double Indemnity





A Contemporary Theatre

ATHEATRE? NEW IDEAS

## Double Indemnity

Adapted by David Pichette and R. Hamilton Wright
Based on the book by James M. Cain

Based on the book by James M. Cain Directed by Kurt Beattie Co-Produced with San Jose Repertory Theatre

ACT A Contemporary Theatre presents

# Double Indemnity

Adapted by David Pichette and R. Hamilton Wright

Based on the book by James M. Cain **Directed by Kurt Beattie** 

> Beginning October 21, 2011 Opening Night October 27, 2011

Co-Produced with San Jose Repertory Theatre Rick Lombardo, Artistic Director; Nick Nichols, Managing Director

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SEASONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:



A Contemporary Theatre Foundation Eulalie Bloedel Schneider Artists Fund



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THE JOHN GRAHAM FOUNDATION

Originally produced by ACT – A Contemporary Theatre, Seattle, WA Kurt Beattie, Artistic Director Gian-Carlo Scandiuzzi, Executive Director

#### Welcome to ACT

"Like many first person narratives, the world is seen through an entirely subjective lens, and the primacy of the individual's emotion and sexual need imbues everything with a cold force."

James M. Cain was one of a number of writers during the '30s who created and explored a new genre of crime fiction. Until then, the more or less virtuous detective was the focus of most stories, and his or her powers of ratiocination the main pleasure. This type of hero had a popularity that endures even today, spread widely in interesting contemporary guises throughout the media, such as Hugh Laurie's *House*, the strung-out medical Sherlock Holmes. Some of Cain's protagonists, however, like those of Cornell Woolrich, Kenneth Fearing and William Lindsay Gresham,

were the criminals themselves. The best novels generated from this premise had a different feel to them, a psychological density and disturbing bleakness that made it impossible for many to talk about them as other than works of Art. W. H. Auden postulated that the difference lay in the fact that these books, concentrating on the criminal as protagonist, forced an uncomfortable identification of the reader with the murderer. They created a sense of spiritual risk in the reader, like Kafka or Dostoyevsky, and were not escape literature in the normal sense, or entertaining like an Agatha Christie yarn, which never has to be read again once you know who did it.

James M. Cain's novella *Double Indemnity* incited a bidding war among the movie studios when it appeared in 1935 as a magazine serial, but the Hayes Office, the censor through which all scripts had to pass in order to be made, found it so appalling that it wouldn't okay it for production. The Hayes objection is worth remembering: it found the characters in the novella loathsome and "sordid." The book seemed to step over a line by having no heroes, or anything like a good character. (Even Raymond Chandler, who later adapted the book for film, thought it low.)

There is no obvious evidence of the Depression in *Double Indemnity*, no Okies or desperately poor people or bankers selling apples. But something is clear. California in 1935 as imagined by Cain is a featureless place without a whisper



of moral inhibition. That simply doesn't exist. The place's greedy materialism is instinctive and natural. There are rules that most seem to obey, like showing up on time for work or stopping for a red light, but ultimately what you want in the immediate moment is all that matters, and if you can get it, you should. Huff is a salesman who has never, as far as we know, done anything wrong before he encounters his Los Feliz death muse, but Cain makes you feel like the potential for something bad was always there in Huff's ordinary charm, hiding like a tarantula in his unconscious smile as he tries to make a

sale. Like many first person narratives, the world is seen through an entirely subjective lens, and the primacy of the individual's emotion and sexual need imbues everything with a cold force. Hatred, anger, and indifference to suffering hang around unprepossessingly in reflective department store windows and oil fields and insurance offices. Their tantalizing surfaces and promises cover a hard substrate, a narcissistic world without cultural memory, generosity, or the faintest twitch of altruism.

The writers of the wonderful movie, Raymond Chandler and Billy Wilder, brilliantly adapted the book for 1944 audiences. Much of the great repartee between Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck is their invention, and the source of so much that is compelling in the film. But they ignored a number of the book's most original and very strange gestures, I think simply because there was no way audiences could understand them then. Our fine adaptors, David Pichette and R. Hamilton Wright, have brought the novella full circle back to itself, with all its unique and unsettling music. And for that, I am most grateful.

Kurt Beattie, ACT Artistic Director

Thut Beat

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## The Company

#### Cast

(in alphabetical order)

John Bogar

Walter Huff

Jessica Martin

Lola Nirlinger/Nettie/Nurse

Carrie Paff

Phyllis Nirlinger

Mark Anderson Phillips

Nino/Jackson/Norton

Richard Ziman

Keyes/Nirlinger

#### Creative Team

Kurt Beattie

Director

Thomas Lynch

Scenic Designer

Annie Smart

Costume Designer

Rick Paulsen

Lighting Designer

Brendan Patrick Hogan

Sound Designer

Adam Stern

Composer

Jeffrey K. Hanson

Stage Manager

Whitney Breite

Assistant Stage Manager

Robert Macdougall

Fight Director

#### Setting:

The dusty, amoral Los Angeles of the 1930s.

#### Running Time:

This show runs approximately two hours. There will be one intermission.

The Actors and Stage Managers in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

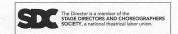
Audience members are cordially reminded to silence all electronic devices such as cell phones, watch alarms, and pagers prior to the performance.

All forms of photography and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited.

Please do not walk on the stage before, during or after the show.

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## ANINTERVIEW

WITH THE ADAPTERS & DIRECTOR OF ACT'S DOUBLE INDEMNITY

FROM VINCE KEENAN'S INTERVIEW IN NOIR CITY MAGAZINE WITH DAVID PICHETTE, R. HAMILTON WRIGHT, AND KURT BEATTIE

NOIR CITY: How did the idea of the adaptation originate?

**DAVID PICHETTE:** We'd been thinking for years about doing some kind of adaptation because all three of us are big fans of that branch of American lit, the crime novel. One of the first things we looked at was Nightmare Alley, which I still think is the greatest of all those crime novels. It's better every time I read it. And a really good film adaptation, too, if you ignore the tacked-on ending. I always stop it just before his redemption. It happens so often, like with Ride the Pink Horse, a really good adaptation of a really good Dorothy B. Hughes novel. And then they f\*\*\* it up at the end, because they have to. It's so rare that they stick to their guns. But then Double Indemnity had been such a huge hit, you'd think that would set the precedent. You can do this and have a successful film.

**R. HAMILTON WRIGHT:** Like a lot of people I started reading Hammett and Chandler



when I was in my teens. I think the reason I liked them so much, and Hammett especially when I first got into him, was the sense of him being a Western writer. Being a West Coast kid, I grew up in Seattle. I came to Cain later on, probably in my 20s and 30s.

**PICHETTE:** I didn't get to Cain until maybe 20 years ago. What I love about Cain is that he's the first guy to write a popular thriller that's like a Black Mask world but doesn't involve a detective. Elmore Leonard talked about Double Indemnity and The Postman Always Rings Twice as the greatest one-two punch in

American lit, because they came out so close together. Actually, they're the same story.

**WRIGHT:** They really are.

PICHETTE: And both enormous successes. But it's like Georges Simenon getting pissed off when the Nobel Prize for Literature went to Albert Camus [in1957]. Simenon, who by that point had written at least 100 novels, was covering exactly the same world that Camus did with *The Stranger* but he was doing it like James M. Cain. He was writing popular novels, making mainstream huge philosophical angst and dismay at the meaninglessness of existence but telling it as a popular story and being a huge success. They were doing the same thing in the same era, in the 1930s, Simenon in France and Cain here.

**WRIGHT:** Sometimes you feel when you read Cain's novel it's like Dostoyevsky has decided to write a leaner, meaner, little book in English. They are thrillers, but you can quite appropriately call them American





"AS A REMEDY TO LIFE IN SOCIETY I WOULD SUGGEST THE BIG CITY.

NOWADAYS. IT IS THE ONLY DESERT WITHIN OUR MEANS." - CAMUS

novels. The fact that they have to do with murder doesn't significantly alter them from, say, Theodore Dreiser or any number of great novels. With death and culpability and sin as major precipitating events.

KURT BEATTIE: Cain documents the fear and terror at the heart of modern life in his own odd way, and it's why his work has hung around. You could get a hundred pulp novels and you wouldn't find anything that's as compelling as Cain's novels. And they're compelling not just because they're good entertainments but because they are actually saying something about what it is to live in the modern world. That's why I think it's an inspired choice of Bob and David's to take on this material. If we're able to do it right, it will be both an entertaining and, dare I say it, philosophical journey for the audience. Noir, for me, is a fantastic journey into a morally featureless universe. I see noir as fundamentally melodrama with one great difference. In the moral definition of the world, good people and bad people, moral absolutes are hugely blurred in noir. But you have all the devices of melodrama. Mood heightened by music, cliffhanger situations, suspense. And noir generates a tremendous amount of fear, pleasurable fear, about being waylaid in the dark, about being destroyed by people who supposedly care about you. And yet these stories are often discussions of moral values. Noir is a brilliant way of bringing forward and amplifying those emotional forces, those anxieties that people struggle with daily.

NOIR CITY: How do you hope to make Cain's story relevant to contemporary audiences?

PICHETTE: This is one of those questions that's always asked, and without being a smartass, I don't think it's important. I think you do something because you feel compelled to do it. I think both Bob and I would have been willing at any point in the last 20 years to tell this story, because we love it. It is a little bit lucky, right now, because we are in fact facing a national crisis where again, we've watched malfeasance on a level that had been unthinkable. You start getting into a Huff-like mentality where you think, "If those are the new rules, why I shouldn't I take advantage in a similar fashion? My goals are smaller. The only difference between me and J. P. Morgan is I'm going to kill one person and get a little bit of money instead of destroying a nation and making a fortune."

wright: We always ask the question, when you see a production of *Macbeth*, beyond the fact that there's all the baggage of it's Shakespeare and why do it, why do you want to watch? You want to watch because it's people caught in the grip of fate and their own pathetic flailings to get away from it. And we can see that they're doomed. Cain has the added advantage that I think too many Shakespeare productions don't have, which is an actual sense of humor about it. I don't mean funny, necessarily, but that human vulnerability that makes people gasp.

So often in Shakespeare we create creatures that aren't quite that because of the language and everything else. It doesn't seem to echo ourselves enough.

**PICHETTE:** And tragedy is always going to be compelling, whether times are good or bad; that you are in fact simultaneously a victim of fate and the architect of your own doom. A sense that things are never going to turn out the way you want them to.

BEATTIE: I look upon it as a sociopolitical description of where we are right now. This is one of the uber-reasons why we programmed this. One, we programmed it because it's fun. Everybody likes a thriller. Crime stories are endlessly popular to us all, and If done well, audiences will enjoy it and will want to buy tickets to see it. But there is another reason for doing it, and it has to do with creating consciousness. It's an examination of human behavior; the morality of the marketplace, the philosophy of self-interest. And I hope that audiences watching this story will be stimulated to think about it intellectually. Certainly film noir created that. The genre, as it was defined by film historians and intellectuals had that effect on audiences. They said, "This articulates something really important and serious about who we are and how we live. It describes a malady." The idea is how do we correct the malady, can we correct in it. In the end, that's one of the reasons why I'm doing it.

#### Who's Who in Double Indemnity



John Bogar

(Walter Huff) has the great pleasure to work with ACT for the first time. Seattle audiences have seen him in a number of roles with the Seattle Shakespeare

Company including: Macheath in *The Threepenny Opera*, Malvolio in *Twelfth Night* and 'The Man' in *The Turn of the Screw*. Some favorite productions around town are: *Macbeth* with Wooden O (title role), *Persuasion* and *Night Flight* with Book-It Repertory Theatre and *42nd Street* with Village Theatre. He trained at Circle in the Square and Columbia University from which he holds an MFA. Look for *The Seagull* in the fall of 2012 here with the support of ACT's Central Heating Lab and for which he is a coproducer with his real-life partner in crime, Julie Briskman. www.theseagullproject.org



Jessica Martin

(Lola Nirlinger/Nettie/ Nurse) Martin has appeared at ACT in Rock 'n' Roll, The Trip to Bountiful, and in two seasons of A Christmas Carol as the Ghost of

Christmas Past. Most recently she appeared as Marianne Dashwood in Book-It Repertory Theatre's production of *Sense and Sensibility*. Elsewhere: *Hamlet* at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the world premiere production of Jane Martin's *Somebody/Nobody* at the Arizona Theatre Company, *12 Minutes Max* at On the Boards, and in readings for the Icicle Creek Theatre Festival, TheFilmSchool, and Short Stories Live at Town Hall. Martin is the voice of Samus Aran in Nintendo's *Metroid: Other M.* She is a graduate of the University of Washington with degrees in Drama and Psychology. www.jessicaerinmartin.com



**Carrie Paff** 

(Phyllis Nirlinger) is thrilled to make her ACT debut. Regional credits include Tiny Alice and A Streetcar Named Desire at Marin Theatre Company; After the

War at A.C.T. in San Francisco; Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde at Arizona Theatre Company; A Delicate Balance, Collapse, Small Tragedy and Betrayal at Aurora Theatre Company, Legacy of Light and A Picasso at San Jose Repertory Theatre; and Joan Rivers - A Work in Progress by a Life in Progress at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival & London's Leicester Square Theatre. Film work includes Love & Taxes, Presque Isle, Opal, This is Macbeth

and *This is Hamlet*. She holds a master's degree in educational theater from New York University and is the cofounder of StageWrite, Building Literacy through Theatre. www.carriepaff.com



Mark Anderson Phillips (Nino/Jackson/ Norton) is pleased to be making his ACT debut with Double Indemnity. Based in the SF Bay Area, his work includes roles with American

Conservatory Theater, The Magic Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, TheatreWorks, San Jose Repertory Theatre, The Aurora Theatre, The SF Playhouse, Marin Theatre Company, Arizona Theatre Company, California Shakespeare Theatre. Phillips 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 in a leading role. Also, he can be seen in the educational film This is Macbeth (Macbeth). www markandersonphillips.com



**Richard Ziman** 

(Keyes/Nirlinger)
Previously at ACT: Das
Barbecü, Stuff Happens,
The Underpants, Mitzi's
Abortion, Born Yesterday,
Polish Joke, Grand Magic,
and A Christmas Carol.

Ziman most recently appeared as Falstaff in Henry IV. Part 1 and Cardinal Richelieu in The Three Musketeers for Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and earlier this year as Claudius in Hamlet for Seattle Shakespeare Company. Other local work includes Rounding Third at Intiman Theatre, Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2 and Richard III at Seattle Shakespeare Company, and The Gypsy King and The Importance of Being Earnest for Village Theatre. Broadway: Not About Nightingales (premiered at the Royal National Theatre of Great Britain), Epic Proportions, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Lost in Yonkers, and Henry IV. New York Shakespeare Festival: Twelfth Night, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Julius Caesar, Kit Marlowe, and The Normal Heart. Film and TV include: Leverage, The Sopranos, Law & Order, Third Watch, 100 Center Street, Private Parts, Clockers, Hackers. A graduate of The Juilliard School, Ziman is also a core member of Endangered Species Project and The Sandbox Artists Collective. www.richardziman.com.

**Jeffrey K. Hanson** (*Stage Manager*) Now in his 22nd season at ACT, Hanson has stage managed more than 60 shows including *In* 

the Next Room, or the vibrator play, Becky's New Car, The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Das Barbecü, The Women, Stuff Happens, The Pillowman, Mourning Becomes Electra, A Skull in Connemara, Quills, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Gospel at Colonus, Halcyon Days, The Revengers' Comedies and Lloyd's Prayer. At The 5th Avenue Theatre, he has been production stage manager for Candide, Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Hello Dolly! and Mame. He has stage managed at Seattle Repertory Theatre (Metamorphoses, The Cider House Rules, Parts One and Two), Seattle Children's Theatre, Intiman Theatre, and Arizona Theatre Company.

Whitney Breite (Assistant Stage Manager) Double Indemnity is Breite's first main stage production at ACT. Previous credits include Death of a Salesman (The Old Globe), A Doctor in Spite of Himself, Ruined, Othello, A Streetcar Named Desire (Intiman Theatre), Three Musketeers, The Cure at Troy, The Breach, Murderers (Seattle Repertory Theatre), The Brementown Musicians, Goodnight Moon, If You Give a Mouse a Cookie (Seattle Children's Theatre), Il Trovatore (Seattle Opera). Before moving to Seattle, Breite grew up in San Diego and received a BA from California State University, Chico. She is a proud member of Actors Equity Association and is delighted to be working with ACT on this project.

**David Pichette** (*Playwright/Adapter*) In a 29-year association with ACT, some of his favorite roles have been George (*Jumpers*), Golutvin (*The Diary of a Scoundrel*), Mellersh (*Enchanted April*) and an entire village of very nervous people (*The Woman in Black*). He appears regularly at most theatres in the area, and did so with the late, great Empty Space Theatre. The first conversation that Pichette had with Bob Wright, 30 years ago, was centered on their mutual passion for noir crime fiction. Some projects just take longer than others.

R. Hamilton Wright (Playwright/Adapter) was last seen at ACT as Robert Dudley, the Earl of Leicester in Mary Stuart and before that as Mel Edison in The Prisoner of Second Avenue. He is co-adapter—along with his old friend David Pichette—of ACT's world premiere of James M. Cain's Double Indemnity. He lives in a small house north of Ballard with his amazingly talented wife Katie Forgette.

James M. Cain (Author) one of the creators of the roman noir genre began his career as a police reporter for *The Baltimore Sun* and was a protégé of the famous critic H. L. Mencken. As a journalist born and raised on the East Coast, he contributed to *The Atlantic, The Nation, The New York World, American Mercury*, and

#### Who's Who in Double Indemnity

became the managing editor of *The New Yorker* magazine before moving to Hollywood in 1930. Though he tried his hand at both play and screenwriting, Cain found his true voice and fame as a crime novelist and short story writer. Best known for his novel *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, Cain is also the author of *Serenade*, *Mildred Pierce*, *Sinful Woman*, *The Moth*, *Rainbow's End* and *Past All Dishonor* among others. *Double Indemnity*, his second novel, was first published in serial form in *Liberty Magazine* in 1943. Cain died at the age of 85 in 1977.

Thomas Lynch (Set Designer). Broadway: A Raisin in the Sun, Contact, The Music Man (Tony Award nomination), Having Our Say, Swing! The Heidi Chronicles (Tony Award nomination), Ah, Wilderness! and Tintypes. Off-Broadway: Wendy Wasserstein's Third, See What I Wanna See, A Woman Before a Glass (OBIE Award), Valhalla, Richard Nelson's Madame Melville, Chris Durang's Laughing Wild and Betty's Summer Vacation (OBIE Award), and Alfred Uhry's Driving Miss Daisy. Designs for all major regional theatres and with directors including Daniel Sullivan, Robert Falls, Kyle Donnelly, Richard Nelson, Stephen Wadsworth, and Emily Mann. Opera: includes Rodelinda and the upcoming Iphigenie en Tauride (Metropolitan Opera), The Ring Cycle (Seattle Opera), Alcina (Covent Garden), A Quiet Place (Vienna Staatsoper).

Annie Smart (Costume Designer) is originally from London where she designed for the Royal Court Theatre, Joint Stock Theatre Group and the National Theatre amongst others. Now resident in the Bay Area, recent work there includes: The Threepenny Opera, A Doll's House, Night and Day at A.C.T. San Francisco; The Tempest, Man and Superman, An Ideal Husband, Private Lives, The Pastures of Heaven, Candida at California Shakespeare Theater; Brooklyn Boy, Theophilus North, Auctioning the Ainsleys, [title of show] for TheatreWorks; Long Day's Journey Into Night, The Weir for San Jose Repertory Theatre; and for Berkeley Repertory Theatre: Big Love, Suddenly Last Summer, To The Lighthouse, Heartbreak House, Fêtes de la Nuit, Taking Over (also The Public Theater, NY), Yellowjackets, Passing Strange, Tiny Kushner (also at The Tricycle Theatre, London), Concerning Strange Devices from the Distant West, In The Next Room, or the vibrator play (also the Lyceum Theatre, NY), Three Sisters and more. She currently teaches costume and set design at UC Berkeley.

**Rick Paulsen** (*Lighting Designer*) is delighted to be returning to ACT, where his lighting was first seen in 1984. Since then, Paulsen has lit over 50 shows at ACT including *First Class*,

Vincent in Brixton, Fiction, The Trip to Bountiful, Lonely Planet, Becky's New Car, Jekyll and Hyde, last season's Yankee Tavern as well as The Prisoner of 2nd Avenue. Paulsen's work has appeared all around Seattle and across the nation. Some recent works of note include The Borrowers and The Brementown Musicians at Seattle Children's Theatre, Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse and A Year with Frog and Toad at Childsplay. He is, most importantly, devoted to his wife Roberta and daughter Paige.

**Brendan Patrick Hogan** (Sound Designer) Double Indemnity is Hogan's 16th design for ACT Theatre. Favorite designs for ACT include Mary Stuart, Yankee Tavern, Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World, Rock 'n' Roll, Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, The Lieutenant of Inishmore, In the Next Room, or the vibrator play and Below the Belt. Other local designs and compositions for stage include: RoboPop!, Titus, God's Ear, Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom, Mr. Marmalade (Washington Ensemble Theatre); Demonology (Next Stage); Chamber Cymbeline (Seattle Shakespeare Company); The River Why (Book-It Repertory Theatre). When not editing audio files in a dark room, Hogan performs with local bands Miss Mamie Lavona the Exotic Mulatta and Her White Boy Band and The Bad Things. He is married to actress Samara Lerman.

Adam Stern (Composer) is currently the Music Director and Conductor of the Seattle Philharmonic and the Port Angeles Symphony. When not conducting, he is active as a pianist, composer, lecturer, writer and teacher; he is currently on the faculty at Cornish College of the Arts where he teaches conducting and composition. He has written the incidental music for a handful of ACT productions over the years, including The Pillowman, Alki, The Red and the Black, and A Christmas Carol, the score of which has been heard at ACT every December since 1996. Adam is thrilled to be working with colleagues Kurt Beattie, R. Hamilton Wright and David Pichette again on Double Indemnity.



#### **Kurt Beattie**

(Director) Beattie's past productions at ACT include The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Rock 'n' Roll, Becky's New Car, Intimate Exchanges, First Class, The Pillowman,

Mitzi's Abortion, The Underpants, Vincent in Brixton, Bach at Leipzig, Black Coffee, Alki, Fuddy Meers, Fully Committed, Via Dolorosa and A Christmas Carol. Elsewhere he has directed Things Being What They Are and Art at Seattle Repertory Theatre, as well as productions at The Empty Space Theatre, Intiman Theatre, the Hugo House, and the University of Washington. As an actor, he has appeared in leading and major roles at ACT, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre and The Empty Space Theatre. Beattie was the corecipient of the 2004 Theatre Puget Sound Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement Award. This season he also directed *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*.



#### Gian-Carlo Scandiuzzi

(Executive Director) is a founder of Agate Films and Clear Pictures, producing such films as Prototype, Dark Drive, Outpatient and The

Flats, and Indieflix, a distribution company. In 1979, Scandiuzzi started Modern Productions, bringing to Seattle such legendary bands as The Police, Devo, Nina Hagen, Iggy Pop, The Ramones, John Cale, Robert Frip, James Brown, Muddy Waters and many more. He performed in several plays at The Empty Space Theatre including Aunt Dan and Lemon, The Return of Pinocchio and Dracula. In the early '80s, he collaborated with many Seattle performance artists such as Norman Durkey, Alan Lande and Jesse Bernstein. He also acted in various films including Bugsy, The Public Eye, Another You, Casanova's Kiss and Killing Zoe. He graduated from the Ecole Superieure D'Art Dramatique of Geneva.

San Jose Repertory Theatre (Co-Producer) founded in 1980, is an award-winning regional theatre with a mission to engage, entertain, and inspire. They produce innovative theatrical performances that offer fresh perspectives into the human condition, educational programs that promote life-long learning, and outreach initiatives that benefit Silicon Valley's diverse community. San Jose Rep presents seven main-stage productions and offers extensive education/outreach programming that serves over 100,000 community members annually. Over the last five years, San Jose Rep has received prestigious national awards for new works and outstanding artistic merit from organizations such as The Shubert Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, Dean Goodman Awards, Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards, DramaLogue Critics Awards, and AT&T OnStage.

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