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Black Coffee

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OTTERBEIN SUMMER THEATRE

and Oakland Nursery present...

Black Coffee
by Agatha Christie

Directed by Dr. John Stefano
Scenic design by Madeleine M. Sobota
Lighting Design by D. Glen Vanderbilt
Costume design by Janice Benning
Properties design by Melissa Maite Muguruza
Sound design by Peter Nein

July 31 at 7:30 p.m., August 1, 2, 3 at 8:00 p.m.,
August 4 at 2:00 p.m. and August 7, 8, 9, 10
at 8:00 p.m., August 11 at 2:00 p.m., 1996

Campus Center Theatre
100 W. Home Street
Westerville, OH 43081

Summer Theatre Show #136
Otterbein College Theatre Show #495

Black Coffee is presented through special arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc., 45 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

THE CAST

TREDWELL (the butler) ..... Christopher M. DePaola
LUCIA AMORY (Richard's wife) ..... Emily Marie Cotton
MISS CAROLINE AMORY (Sir Claud Amory's sister) ... Victoria Libertore
RICHARD AMORY (his son) ..... Corey Brill
BARBARA AMORY (his niece) ..... Cara Miller
EDWARD RAYNOR (his secretary) ..... Aaron W. Ramey
DR. CARELLI ..... Steven Lhamon
SIR CLAUD AMORY ..... James Carr
HERCULE POIROT ..... Ed Vaughan
CAPTAIN ARTHUR HASTINGS, O.B.E. ..... Jason W. Morrissette
DR. GRAHAM ..... Wade Beam
INSPECTOR JAPP ..... Daniel M. Koscielak
JOHNSON (a constable) ..... Bill Wells

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action of the play takes place in the library of Sir Claud Amory's house at Abbot's Cleve, about twenty-five miles from London.

ACT I. 8:30 p.m.
ACT II. The following morning
ACT III. Fifteen minutes later

There will be two twelve minute intermissions.

BIOGRAPHIES

Ed Vaughan (Poirot) has been an actor, director, stage manager, theatre manager, artistic director or producer on over 200 theatrical productions. He is well known to Central Ohio audiences having performed under Actors' Equity contracts at CATCO, Players Theatre of Columbus, Otterbein College, Otterbein Summer Theatre, Grandparents Living Theatre and the Country Dinner Playhouse. A few of his favorite Central Ohio acting roles include: Max in *The Homecoming*, Bobby Gould in *Speed-the-Plow*, and Herbie in *The Loman Family Picnic* at CATCO; Lear in *King Lear*, Nat Moyer in *I'm Not Rappaport*, Father Rivard in *The Runner Stumbles*, Pseudolous in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, Jessep in *A Few Good Men* and Frank in *Educating Rita* at Otterbein; and the Stage Manager in *Our Town* for Grandparents Living Theatre. Mr. Vaughan's most enjoyable passions are following his son's military career with the Army and "hanging out" with his seventeen year-old daughter Emily. Mr. Vaughan is an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein College. *Mr. Vaughan appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.*

Dr. John Stefano (director) has been chairman of the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein College since 1992, when he moved from Illinois State University where he was chair of their Theatre Department and Managing Director of the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Before that, he was Director of Theatre at Emporia State University in Kansas where he directed the oldest Summer Theatre west of the Mississippi. At Otterbein, he has staged *Big River*, *Top Girls*, *Baby*, *Sweet Charity*, and *Robin Hood*. John also serves on the regional board of the American College Theatre Festival and the board of the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education. He would like to dedicate this production to the memory of his mother who introduced him to the joys of Agatha Christie when he was ten years old.

Madeleine M. Sobota (scenic design) is delighted to be designing her first show at Otterbein. She has taught and designed at a number of colleges and universities, including Kenyon College, Loyola University-Chicago, and, most recently, the State University of New York at Buffalo. At SUNY, she designed the sets for *The Threepenny Opera*, *Brilliant Traces*, *Godspell*, and an innovative environmental production of *Antigone in New York*, all part of SUNY's new Center for the Arts' premiere season. Locally, Madeleine has designed for CATCO, the Columbus Light Opera, Grandparents Living Theatre, and

the Columbus Ensemble Theatre. She was honored by USITT-Ohio Valley Section with a Peggy Ezekial Finalist Award for excellence in scenic design for her designs for *The Three Sisters* at OSU. Madeleine studied design with Lester Polakov in New York, and holds degrees in theatre and design from Northwestern University and The Ohio State University.

D. Glen Vanderbilt Jr. (lighting designer) is a Professor of Theatre at Ohio Wesleyan University and has worked around the country as a designer, director and educator at the Interlochen Center for the Arts, CATCO, the University of Colorado, the Cleveland Playhouse, BalletMet, Boston Publick Theatre, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Vanderbilt University, Northwestern University and the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre. He has studied with Josef Svoboda at the Banff Center for the Arts and with Rachel Keebler at the Cobalt Scenic Studios in New York and currently serves as President of the Ohio Theatre Alliance. This is Mr. Vanderbilt's second summer with OST–last summer he designed set and lights for *Sherlock's Last Case* and lights for *Closer Than Ever*. His design for *Harrison, Texas* (CATCO) won an award for excellence from the USITT-Ohio Valley, which Glen has won on three previous occassions and his design for *Angel Street* (Interlochen Arts Camp) was selected for inclusion in this years' Design Expo at the National USITT Conference in Fort Worth.

Janice Benning (costume designer) just designed *Three Viewings* and *Three Hotels* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Credits at regional theatres include Syracuse Stage, Washington DC's Source and Studio Theatres, ACT in San Francisco, Old Globe Theatre, Mark Taper Forum and Sledgehammer Theatre. In 1992 she designed the West Coast premieres of Jose Rivera's *Marisol* and *The Swan*, as well as *What The Butler Saw* directed by Michael Grief and featuring Kate Mulgrew, all at the LaJolla Playhouse. She holds an MFA in theatre design from the University of California, San Diego, and is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor in costume design at nearby Kenyon College.

Wade Beam (Dr. Graham) After *Black Coffee*, Wade is looking forward to stage managing *To Kill A Mockingbird* in the fall, along with being production assistant for the Theatre Dept. He is looking forward to long awaited sleep and being able to spend time with his family, who thinks he doesn't exist anymore. Thanks to Sheri, Melissa, Marni, Steve, J.W. and everyone else for helping him get through the summer.

Corey Brill (Richard Amory) is a senior musical theatre major from Cambridge, OH. He is excited to be going on internship in the fall with a New York casting agency. Corey last appeared as the Count De Chandon in *Phantom*.

Emily Marie Cotton (Lucia Amory) is a junior BFA musical theatre major from Toledo. She's appeared in *Charley's Aunt*, *Phantom*, *A Chorus Line* and *Sweet Charity*. Emily would like to thank the SDS for all of the fun, her parents for loving her, and all of her brothers for putting up with her.

Christopher M. DePaola (Tredwell) is a soon-to-be senior from Hollywood, FL. His credits include Paul in *A Chorus Line* and Santiago in *A Few Good Men*. He would like to thank his parents and Amy for their patience and support.

Marni Kuhn (production manager, master painter) A recent 1996 graduate, her Otterbein credits in the last year include: directing the Workshop production of *Three Women* and playing Arkhein in *Trojan Women*. She would like to thank the following people for all their help during the summer season: Tim, Marci, Melissa, Brian, Steve, Wade, Pete, Bill, Tricia and JW. After the summer and a bit of therapy she hopes to move to New York.

Daniel M. Koscielak (Inspector Japp) In playing a cop, Daniel has really come to understand the law and its inner workings. He would like to remind the audience that murder is wrong and, as muchas this cast glamorizes it, it is still wrong. He would also like to thank Elvis for his divine inspiration.

Steven Lhamon (Dr. Carelli) Steve graduated this spring with a BFA in musical theatre. He was last seen in Otterbein College's production of *Phantom*. He is serving as wardrobe master and will appear in *Charley's Aunt* and *Black Coffee*. He wishes the class of '96 luck as he heads to New York this fall for a new beginning.

Victoria Libertore (Miss Amory) just completed her tour with the WWF. She can be found at South Vine knitting on most evenings. She thanks the ladies of Vine, the Burdge family and her parents.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Producing Artistic Director	Dennis Romer
Managing Director	Jason W. Morrissette
Business Manager	Tod Wilson
Production Manager	Marni Kuhn
Stage Manager	Sherri M. Nierman
Assistant Stage Manager	Wade Beam
Technical Director	Timothy D. Allwein
Assistant Technical Director	Kathlyn D. Brandt
Master Carpenter	Gregory Bell
Costume Shop Supervisor	Marci Hain
Master Electrician	Bill Wells
Master Painter	Marni Kuhn
Sound Engineer	Peter Nein
Box Office Assistants	Tricia Collins, Amy Ellenberger
Running Crew	Meg Morman

Cara Miller (Barbara Amory) graduated this past June from Otterbein with a BFA degree in musical theatre. She is a native of Louisville, KY, and is excited to be participating in her second season at OST. Her Otterbein credits include *Charley's Aunt, Phantom, A Chorus Line, Jake's Women, Pippin* and *Top Girls.*

Jason W. Morrisette (Hastings), Managing Director, Otterbein alum and six year OST veteran, this marks the third time that J.W. has played Ed Vaughan's second banana. One day he hopes to reach the heights of playing Ed's first banana or, at the very least, his second orange. He wishes to thank the wonderful cast, the highly overworked crew, and the box office babes for an excellent summer.

Melissa Maite Muguruza (properties designer) is a senior BA Theatre performance major (imagine that!) and is grateful for surviving the summer season. She is looking forward to going on vacation and spending time with her friends and family (if they haven't disowned her for not calling). Regretably, *Black Coffee*, will be her last technical as she plans to concentrate on acting (at least until after graduation). Thanks to her incredible family, her boyfriend, Brian, for being so understanding, and the heart and soul of OST (also known as "the crew"): Marni Kuhn, Wade Beam, Peter Nein, Bill Wells, Meg Morman, and JW Morrissette (he was drafted). Steve, I didn't forget you…I wanted to thank you in my own "special way" for helping me keep what's left of my sanity. Good luck to those going to NYC…"I'll miss you."

Peter Nein (sound designer) is designing sound for this show, just like the last. He hopes it will not be his last, for then he might die alone and penniless.

Sherri M. Nierman (stage manager) is a senior stage management major from Chandler, AZ. She is a transfer student from Chapman University in Orange, CA. Her stage management credits include: *Hair, Never in My Lifetime* (Chapman University); *Alms for Oblivion, Twelfth Night* (asm), *King Lear* (asm) with Shakespeare Orange County; *Robin Hood* (asm) and *Picasso Does My Maps* for Otterbein College. She can be seen next stage managing *Wind In The Willows* in the fall. She would like to thank all her family and friends for all their love and support.

Aaron W. Ramey (Raynor) is a junior BFA musical theatre major from Solon, OH. Previous Otterbein credits include *Phantom, A Few Good Men, Sweet Charity, Assassins* and *Six Degrees of Separation*. He'd like to say that Westerville is a town–vicious attack squirrels or not. He'd like to thank his parents, the brothers of Pi Beta Sigma, and OfficeMax cause it pays the rent.

Bill Wells (Johnson, master electrician) Bill is a sophomore design/tech major from Cincinnati. His most recent work includes properties master for *Picasso Does My Maps* and sound designer/engineer for *Educating Rita* and *The World Goes 'Round*. Bill's lifetime goal is to recreate the role of Vinnie from *Doogie Howser, MD*.

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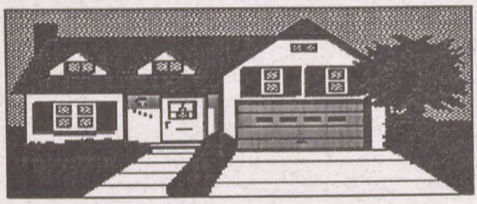

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