



Craig Icsman, left, is Clifford Anderson, and Brent Erdy is Sidney Bruhl, in the Otterbein College Theatre production of "Deathtrap," a comedy-thriller by Ira Levin.

Otterbein theatre season opens

Ira Levin's "Deathtrap" will open the 1983-84 Otterbein College Theatre season with performances set for Oct. 13-16 in Cowan Hall. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday performances begin at 8:15 p.m. The Sunday performance is a 2:30 p.m. matinee.

A comedy-thriller by the author of "Rosemary's Baby" and "The Stepford Wives," "Deathtrap" was hailed as an "absolute knock-out of a suspense melodrama" by New York Times critic Walter Kerr when it premiered on Broadway in 1978.

"The play is intricately plotted and builds suspense in many clever ways. The audience is constantly surprised by reversals," said Dr. Charles W. Dodrill, chairman of Otterbein's Department of Theatre and Dance and director of this production.

"Deathtrap" is set in a converted Connecticut barn inhabited by playwright Sidney Bruhl, who specializes in murder mysteries, and his excitable wife Myra. Sidney hasn't had a hit play for some time when opportunity knocks in the person of Clifford Anderson, a former student, who wants Sidney to look over a play he has written called "Deathtrap." At this point the play is off and running, with barely a pause to introduce the other two characters, Helga Ten Dorp, a psychic, and Porter Milgrim, a lawyer.

Cast members for the Otterbein production will include Brent Erdy as Sidney Bruhl and Carol Giffen as Myra. Craig Icsman will play Clifford Anderson. Jodie Silk will play the part

of Helga Ten Dorp, and Giovanni Moscardino will take the role of Porter.

With the exception of Silk, a sophomore, all the cast members are seniors.

"We are lucky to have help from a new Otterbein student from Holland, Hans Peuker, to coach Jodie Silk in the Dutch accent required by the role of Helga," said Dr. Dodrill.

Otterbein theatre faculty members Fred Thayer and Lucy Lee Reuther will design the stage set and the costumes, respectively.

Dr. Dodrill pointed out that this production will be Otterbein's annual entry into the American College Theatre Festival competition in Kalamazoo, Mich., so the set must be able to be transported if the play is chosen to compete. Last year's Otterbein entry "Abelard and Heloise" was chosen to compete in the ACTF regional festival.

DATE BOOK



Dispatch photo by Tom Dodge

Brent Erdy, standing, and Craig Icsman portray rivals who form strange union in *Deathtrap*, a mystery to be staged at Otterbein College. See theater listings.

Otterbein College, Cowan Hall,
Westerville — *Deathtrap*; 8:15 p.m.
Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. next
Sunday. Call 890-3028 for ticket
information.

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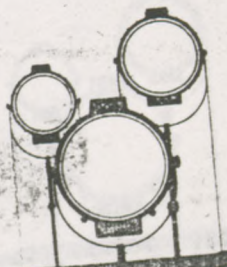
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C. J. OCT 7, 1983