

**CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE** *presents*



# OPUS

by Michael Hollinger

Directed by Craig Joseph

**January 24 - February 16, 2025**

*OPUS is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC,  
servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. ([www.dramatists.com](http://www.dramatists.com))*

## **HOUSE INFORMATION**

In case of FIRE or OTHER EMERGENCY, please walk to the nearest exit indicated by a lighted exit sign.

Please note: Our productions may contain ADULT LANGUAGE.

Clague Playhouse is a NON-SMOKING facility.

RESTROOMS are located in the theater lobby.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES are not permitted in the auditorium.

Local EMERGENCY CALLS may be made at the Box Office.

CAMERAS AND RECORDERS are not permitted in the theater.

Please silence PAGERS, CELL PHONES, ELECTRONIC WATCHES.

SPECIAL NEEDS SEATING, subject to availability, please call.

LATECOMERS will be seated at first convenient pause in the performance.

Please report LOST or FOUND items to the Box Office. We are not responsible for lost or damaged items left unattended.

## **BOX OFFICE INFORMATION**

**BOX OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesday - Saturday from 1PM to 6PM and one hour before curtain time on performance dates. Closed Monday and Tuesday. **PHONE: 440-331-0403** **Tickets available online at [bit.ly/ClaguePlayhouseTickets](http://bit.ly/ClaguePlayhouseTickets).**

**ADMISSION:** Adults: \$21, Seniors (60+): \$20, and Students: \$13  
Limited FREE Student tickets for all Thursday performances - call the Box Office for more information.

**PREPAYMENT IS A MUST.** Payment may be made by cash, check, money order, American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa, and Clague Playhouse Flexitix or Gift Ticket. Prepaid tickets held at the Box Office should be picked up one half-hour before curtain time.

GROUP DISCOUNTS are available for groups of 20 or more. For more information, please call the Box Office.

GIFT TICKETS are available. Call the Box Office for more information.

CURTAIN TIMES: Performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday begin at 8PM. Sunday matinees begin at 2PM.

# OPUS

by Michael Hollinger

After firing one of their founding members due to his erratic behavior, a world-class string quartet takes a chance on a gifted but relatively inexperienced young woman. With only a few days to rehearse a grueling Beethoven masterpiece, the four struggle to prepare their highest-profile performance ever — a televised ceremony at the White House. Their rehearsal room becomes a pressure-cooker as passions rise, personalities clash, and the players are forced to confront the ephemeral nature of their life's work.

## *Our Cast*

<b>Doug Sutherland</b> .....	Elliot
<b>Michael J. Montanus</b> .....	Alan
<b>Trey Gilpin</b> .....	Dorian
<b>Chris D'Amico</b> .....	Carl
<b>DeLee Cooper</b> .....	Grace

**PLEASE NOTE: For the safety of our cast and crew, please do not walk across or touch items on our stage.**

New York premiere produced by Primary Stages in New York City, July 2007 (Casey Childs, Founder and Executive Producer; Andrew Leynse, Artistic Director; Elliot Fox, Managing Director).

Originally produced by the Arden Theatre Company, Terrence J. Nolen, Producing Artistic Director, Amy Murphy, Managing Director, in Philadelphia, PA and City Theatre Company, Tracy Bridgen, Artistic Director, Greg Quinlan, Managing Director, in Pittsburgh, PA. The coproduction opened in Philadelphia, January 2006 and in Pittsburgh, March 2006.

Music courtesy of The Vertigo String Quartet (Jose Maria Blumenschein, Johannes Dickbauer, Lily Francis and Nicholas Canellakis) and recorded by Jorge Cousineau for the Arden Theatre Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where *OPUS* had its world premiere.

**Setting:** The play takes place in various locations including New York City, London, Pittsburgh, and Washington, D.C.

**Time:** Recently, and before that.

***Presented without an intermission***

## About Our Cast



**DeLee Cooper** (Grace) is back on the Clague stage as a much less vitriolic character (Lady Anabella Byron,

*Ada and the Engine*). After nine years as a Cleveland resident, her resume is "padded" with performances from several local theatres, and she holds a BFA in acting from Wright State. Thank you to Craig and the production team for all you do in the name of art, and thanks to the audience – hope you enjoy every note.



**Chris D'Amico** (Carl) returns to Clague for the first time since playing Anthony Reilly in *Outside Mullingar* a few

years ago. He recently played Dr. Savant in Vaclav Havel's

*The Memo* and Tobias in Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance*. He has played George Aaronow in *Glengarry Glen Ross* twice – once at Blank Canvas Theatre (where he also played Serge in *Art*) and at Beck Center. Offstage, he toils each day composing acrostic puzzles for his website, [solveandsmile.com](http://solveandsmile.com), and invites all to the site for a fresh puzzle and a dose of daily humor.



**Trey Gilpin** (Dorian) is honored to make his Clague debut. Trey has appeared locally at Cain

Park, Dobama Theatre, Beck Center for the Arts, Cleveland Public Theatre, Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Blank Canvas Theatre, and more. Favorite roles include Charlie Kringas in *Merrily We Roll Along*, Algernon Moncrief in

# About Our Cast *continued*

*The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Emcee* in *Cabaret*, and Agatha Trunchbull in *Matilda*. Many thanks to Craig and the team! @treygilpin



**Michael J. Montanus**  
(Alan)  
(he/him/his) is thrilled to be making his Clague Playhouse

debut! Other Cleveland credits include Cleveland Public Theatre's world premiere *not-for-profit* (Nick), Ensemble Theatre's *Mother Courage* (Swiss Cheese), *Seat of the Pants' Trouble in Mind* (Eddie), and Cleveland Shakespeare Festival's *Measure for Measure* (Isabella). Thanks always, Dad. "Don't be afraid of

reliving your childhood, Ox, because all of us must do it now and then to maintain our sanity."



Since moving to Cleveland from LA, **Doug Sutherland** (Elliot) has appeared in *Skylight*, *Oleanna*, and

*Prodigal Son* at none too fragile, *The Sunshine Boys* at Beck Center, *Women of Lockerbie* with *Seat of the Pants*, *The Prospect of Equality* at Ensemble Theatre, *The Other Place* at Dobama Theatre and *The Language Archive* at Clague Playhouse last year. Here's to all of the friends and supporters of Clague Playhouse.



## The Music Settlement

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# Production Staff

Production Manager .....	Jeff Lockshine
Director .....	Craig Joseph
Production Stage Manager .....	Charlene Hartley
Lighting Designer .....	Micah Harvey
Sound Designer .....	Megan Trimarchi
Resident Scenic Designer .....	Ron Newell
Costume Designer .....	Jennifer Sparano
Prop Designer .....	Lisa L Wiley
Music Consultant.....	Sabrina Maristela
Technical Consultant.....	Lance Switzer
Sound/Light Operator .....	Nick Jones
Assistant Stage Managers .....	Christina Easter, Mike Strama
Dresser .....	Curt Arnold
Set Construction .....	Chuck DoBroka, Donna Hughes Connie Kytler, Charlie Moran, Ron Newell Bill Nordgren, Kathy Whitmore
Props Procurement.....	Gig Giauque, Margy Haas Donna Nordgren
Ushers .....	Dottie Palazzo, Barbara Moran
Program .....	Pam Kilpatrick

# Acknowledgments

Nikki Claverie  
Dred Geib  
Gray's Auctioneers  
Callista Koh  
Minuteman Press Westlake  
Sherry's Custom Dry Cleaners  
Studio South Photography – Terry Schordock  
The Music Settlement

# About Our Production Staff

**Craig Joseph** (Director) (he/him) is excited to return to Clague after directing last season's production of *The Language Archive*. By day, Craig is the Artistic Director of Seat of the Pants ([seatofthepants.org](http://seatofthepants.org)), an ensemble-based, process-driven theatre company that performs throughout Northeast Ohio, and the owner and curator of Translations Art, LLC. He also freelance acts and directs throughout the Midwest with credits at Writers Theatre, TimeLine Theatre, Resonance Works, Dobama, Karamu House, Ensemble Theatre,

Blank Canvas, Canton Symphony, and Akron Symphony, among others. Craig is a Certified Teacher of the Michael Chekhov technique through the Great Lakes Michael Consortium and the proud father to canine children, Truman and Franklin. Many thanks to his friends, family, all of you for your support of live theatre!

**Charlene Hartley** (Production Stage Manager) has been working as a stage manager in the Cleveland area for many years. She has previously worked as an ADSM at Clague Playhouse and an SM at

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# About Our Production Staff *continued*

Cleveland Play House and with Stagecrafters. She runs the drama department at Eastern Heights Middle School in Elyria, and has worked on productions in various backstage positions throughout Northeast Ohio. Recent credits include *Standardized Patient* (CPH), *Baskerville* (French Creek) and *The Language Archive* at Clague Playhouse.

**Micah Harvey** (Lighting Designer) is excited to for his first production at Clague Playhouse. Previously, he has lit shows at Weathervane in Akron and Ohio Star Theater in Sugarcreek. He would like to

give a sincere thank you to his wife and to the audience of *OPUS* for supporting local theatre.

**Ron Newell** (Resident Scenic Designer) Clague Playhouse is glad to have Ron onboard for our 97<sup>th</sup> season adding to his long list of achievements in theatre starting in 1956.

His journey includes the worlds of stage, screen and television, commercials, industrial films, sets and staging for the world of high fashion and classical music and on and on...

In 1982, Ron decided to turn professional, joining Actors'

## Remembering **Ed Dragony**

### Actor-Crew-Supporter

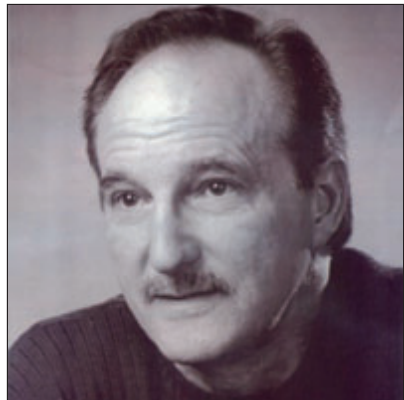
A 35-year member of the local theater community, Ed wishes he were on stage tonight.

So do we.

Ed's passion was to entertain and to spread happiness.

He attended the shows of everyone he knew.

May his spirit of love and kindness live on through the many lives he touched.



*The Dragony Family*



## About Our Production Staff *continued*

Equity Association, SAG/AFTRA, of which he is a proud member.

Along the way there were stops to pick up a few awards. The Northern Ohio Live Award for Achievement for *Angels in America Part 1 and 2* at Dobama Theatre, Times Newspaper - Set Design Berea Summer Theatre, *The Will Rogers Follies*, Cleveland Critics Award - Set Designs and Performance, Dobama, Ensemble, Berea Summer Theatre and Playhouse Square.

When asked about the future Ron replied, "When it gets here, I'll deal with it!".

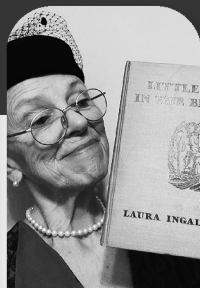
"To you, our audience, for attending live theatre - I can only offer my thanks, my love and respect...and of course *OPUS*... Enjoy the Show!"

Of course all would not be possible without the love of MLSQPODDHKR. – Ron

**Jenniver Sparano** (Costume Designer) has designed costumes for a number of shows at Clague Playhouse over the last twenty years, the most recent being this season's *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*. Elsewhere in Northeast Ohio, her designs have appeared at Beck Center,

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# About Our Production Staff *continued*

Blank Canvas Theatre, Cleveland Public Theatre, convergence-continuum, Dobama Theatre, Ensemble Theatre, Malone University/Seat of the Pants, the bang and the clatter, Weathervane Playhouse, Rocket Mortgage Field House, and the Pickwick & Frolic cabaret stage. In addition to designing costumes, she is proud to co-produce an annual musical benefit production to benefit the AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Mount Holyoke College, she also studied in Paris and is employed by KeyBank.

**Megan Trimarchi** (Sound Designer) is thrilled for her first production at Clague Playhouse. She studied Music Technology (Canton, OH) and Show Production & Live Sound (Toronto, ON). Her favorite previous works include *The Best Man*, *Our Country's Good*,

*Avenue Q*, *Cabaret*, *Les Miserables*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, and *Assassins*. Megan extends heartfelt thanks to Clague Playhouse for the opportunity to collaborate, and to her husband, Pierson, for supporting her artistic pursuits.

**Lisa L Wiley** (Prop Designer) has designed props for several Cleveland area theatres. Her favorite builds include fake foods, break-a-part robots, tricky drink glasses, and edible dirt. Lisa holds a bachelor's degree in Theatre from Ashland University and has over 10 years of experience designing props. In addition to prop fabrication, she is a voice-over artist, standardized patient, and performs various historical women as a member of Women in History. She is a proud member and ensemble designer of Seat of the Pants Productions, [www.seatofthepants.org](http://www.seatofthepants.org).

## GENE'S PLACE TO DINE

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# **Lobby Gallery Display**

During the run of *OPUS*, the works by **Kenneth Peris** will be on display in our lobby.

Kenneth is an illustrator and designer in Lakewood, Ohio. He has enveloped himself in all sorts of nerd culture since he was a kid, surrounded by comic books, animation, video games, action figures and all sorts of things that fueled his imagination. Kenneth needed to express his adoration of characters like Superman, Batman, the Ninja Turtles, Mario and Luigi and so many others in some creative way and that is why he started doodling and sketching all of these heroes of his out of books and comics. It gave him a way to understand them and to put a little bit of himself into them.

Drawing and sketching characters was fun for Kenneth to do as his own hobby. To create new worlds and stories to entertain himself with. But there were always friends and family that would watch him sit and draw all day long and then ask for pieces of their own. He began to feel that what he did was worth it not just for himself but for others as well. If he could build a life around that, it would be a truly fulfilling one. Kenneth studied graphic design and fashion illustration at Virginia Marti College of Art & Design to refine his style as well as develop new skills in illustration and design.

That is why he wanted to display his work here. Not just for recognition or praise, but to showcase things he has always loved and hope many of you will see it and think “man, I love these characters and worlds also!”

Thanks for stopping in and checking it out. Kenneth hopes you enjoy the selection and there is plenty more where this all came from.

If you would like to see more, please follow him on Instagram: @thekennethevan.

The lobby gallery is open during Box Office hours, Wednesday through Saturday 1-6PM and one hour before the performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8PM and Sunday at 2PM.

We are happy to showcase local artists in our Lobby Gallery. If you are interested in displaying your artwork, please call the Box Office at 440-331-0403 Wednesday through Saturday from 1-6PM or email [GalleryArtist@ClaguePlayhouse.org](mailto:GalleryArtist@ClaguePlayhouse.org).



# **CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE DONATIONS**

Please consider a donation to Clague Playhouse. Contributions help us to maintain the professional quality of our productions and keep ticket prices low. All donors are listed in the current program, receive a quarterly newsletter, a special priority period to purchase tickets and may attend membership meetings. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Clague Playhouse is certified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

*Thank you to the following Donors for our 2024-2025 Season.*

*Donations received April 1, 2024 through January 8, 2025*

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*Clague Playhouse is certified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

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