

A.B.

Only Sherlock Scheuble could figure this out.

Agatha Christie's The mousetrap

The story of The Mousetrap is set in the early 1950s, when Mollie Ralston (played by Kirsten Hazel Smith) and her husband, Giles Ralston (Tom Rooke) had just opened their guesthouse. Mollie was waiting for her four guests; Mr. Boyle (Karen Archer), Christopher Wren (Simon Haines), major Metcalf (Christopher Knott) and Miss Casewell (Hannah Lee) while listening to the report of a gruesome murder on the radio. One by one they all had arrived, introducing themselves and already revealing themselves



The cast on the scenery¹

as a bunch of rather peculiar people with drastically different personalities. Unexpectedly, Mr. Paravicini (Simon Roberts) arrived, wanting to stay there, because he had gotten stuck in the blizzard close to the mansion. Despite the blizzard, not much later, Detective-Sergeant Trotter (Jamie Hutchins) showed up. He explained that on the scene of the previous murder they had found the address of the mansion, meaning that there was a great chance that the murderer's next victim could be one of the guests and the murder was probably already present. From this point on, the hunt for the murderer had begun.

Hugh Ross, the director of the Mousetrap, who is also known for his work on plays like "Macbeth" or "Hamlet", has once again delivered a phenomenal production of an English classic. The cast was well chosen and each actor seemed to fit their assigned role seamlessly and played their parts in a funny but also thrilling manor. They kept the balance between the humor and the important serious moment nice and clean, without tilting too far to one side. The stage was a perfect portal to the 1950s with the furniture and the accurate costumes. The whole setting with the shy politeness the actors adapted to created a cozy atmosphere that was skillfully interrupted by thrilling scenes that kept you on the edge of your seat. I can assure you, that unless you've seen or read the play, you will most likely not know the end or be able to figure it out yourself, unless you are Sherlock Scheuble, but that part is taken already. Because, not like most famous stories, the true ending of this story is a well kept secret among those who know it already and will there for not be told here.

This murder mystery is sure to get you to think and will surprise you with its secrets and details. It is not bound to be for one age group and can be fun for a broad audience, you do not even have to be a huge fan of murder mysteries or detective stories to enjoy this play. A healthy amount of curiosity is all you need. No matter if you're going as a family, a young group of friends or even a class with teachers, this production will not disappoint you.

4.5/5 stars

1. Picture: <https://www.londontheatredirect.com/images/Event/TheMousetrap/The-Mousetrap-10906.jpg>