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DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE

By Sarah Ruhl

January 29 – February 15, 2015

PORTLAND, Ore., January 8, 2015 – **PROFILE THEATRE (Adriana Baer, Artistic Director)** proudly presents **Dead Man's Cell Phone** by Sarah Ruhl. Performances run January 29 – February 15, 2015 on the Morrison Stage at Artists Repertory Theatre. Tickets are currently on sale at Profiletheatre.org. *Dead Man's Cell Phone* is the first production in Profile Theatre's 2015 Season dedicated to the works of playwright Sarah Ruhl.

"Sarah Ruhl is interested in exploring a reciprocity with the audience. How can we invite you to be in relationship with the stage instead of just observing it from afar?" says **Adriana Baer, Profile Artistic Director** and director of *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. "Perhaps it is by casting a light onto something we all recognize - an object as basic as a cell phone - and using that to show something greater, something magnificent about the human condition." In *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, as Jean takes possession of the cell phone of a dead man, she is thrown into a mysterious journey of self-discovery and awakening. Through this small modern device, she finds adventure, purpose and even love – but at what cost? This hilarious and paradoxical treatise on the digital world probes at the thin line between reality and fantasy, privacy and openness, and even life and death.

Cast

The cast for **Dead Man's Cell Phone** features **Dana Millican** (Last seen at Profile in 2012's *Fifth of July*), **Don Kenneth Mason** (Last seen at Profile in 2013's *Blood Knot*), **Patricia Hunter** and **Dana Green**. **Jonathan Hernandez**, **Shawna Holt** and **Jake Turner** make up the ensemble.

Production Team

In addition to Director Adriana Baer, the production team includes **Rachel Finn** (Scenic, Costume and Props Design), **Carl Faber** (Lighting Design) and **Sharath Patel** (Sound Design). The stage manager is **D Westerholm**.

About Sarah Ruhl

Forty-year-old Illinois native and MFA recipient from Brown University (2001), Sarah Ruhl's original plan was poetry, but was convinced to switch to playwriting studying under Paula Vogel. She began her first play at age twenty-one. The worlds in which her characters live are none-to-far from our own. But the magic she creates comes from a place that Ruhl describes best for herself, "I like to see people speaking ordinary words in strange places, or people speaking extraordinary words in ordinary places." Just as she's able to bridge the vast and the life-sized, the straightforward and the artful, Ruhl can seemingly fuse the lyrical and the starkly dramatic.

Her plays have been produced on Broadway at the Lyceum by Lincoln Center Theater, off-Broadway at Playwrights' Horizons, Second Stage, and at Lincoln Center's Mitzi Newhouse Theater, and downtown at Clubbed Thumb and Classic Stage Company; regionally all over the country, with premiers at Yale Repertory theater, the Goodman Theater, Berkeley Repertory Theater, Arena Stage, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Madison Repertory Theater, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cornerstone Theater, and the Piven Theatre Workshop in Chicago. Her plays have also been produced internationally in London, Germany, Australia, Canada and Israel, and have been translated into Polish, Russian, Spanish, Norwegian, Korean, German and Arabic.

She was recently the recipient of the PEN center award for a mid-career playwright, the Feminist Press' Forty under Forty award, and the 2010 Lilly award. Sarah Ruhl is also a MacArthur 'Genius,' has received an NAACP nomination, and a multiple Pulitzer Prize finalist. She is currently on faculty at Yale School of Drama and lives in Brooklyn with her family.

About Profile Theatre

Profile Theatre's mission is to produce a season of plays devoted to a single playwright, engaging with our community to explore that writer's vision and influence on theatre and the world at large.

Profile Theatre's 2015 Season is supported in part by The Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Oregon Arts Commission, The Oregon Cultural Trust and the Oregon Community Foundation.

Tickets

Tickets are \$32 for all regular performances. \$25 for all preview performances. Students and those 30-and-under tickets are \$15. Preview Rush: \$15 tickets can be purchased for preview performances on the day of the performance only, 1 hour prior to curtain time at the box office. 1 ticket per person. Groups of ten or more receive a discount off single tickets. Tickets can be purchased at profiletheatre.org by calling box office at 503.242.0080 Tuesday through Friday noon – 4pm.

Location

Dead Man's Cell Phone will be performed on the Morrison Stage at Artists Repertory Theatre, located at 1515 SW Morrison Street in Portland. For directions and parking information, visit Profiletheatre.org/plan-your-visit/.

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