Dead Man's Cell Phone
By Sarah Ruhl

In-Person Performances
November 11-27, 2021

Online Streaming Performances
Nov. 19 & 26 | Nov. 20 & 27

Presenting Sponsor
Financial Group

University of Victoria
iA Financial Group is proud to support the University of Victoria Phoenix Theatre

Visit solutionsinsurance.com/uvic for full Alumni Group Insurance Program details.

iA Financial Group is a business name and trademark of Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc.
Dead Man’s Cell Phone
By Sarah Ruhl

CREATIVE TEAM

Director
Fran Gebhard
Set & Lighting Designer
Patrick Du Wors
Costume Designer
Parker Feenstra
Sound Designer
Miriam Dumitra
Livestream Director
Sloane Vasko
Stage Manager
Olivia Reid-Friesen
Choreographer/Fight Director
Jacques Lemay

CAST

Maddy el Baroudi
Mrs. Gottlieb
Holly Hamilton
Hermia
Ryan Kniel
Gordon
Jane Rees
Jean
Branden Sugden
Dwight
Taylor Williams
Carlotta

Ensemble
Brandon Caul
Hannah Farquhar
Katie Lacroix
Akari van den Driesen
Theon Winn

Presenting sponsor

IA Financial Group

Season Community Partner: Cadboro Bay Village

Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

We acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.
Notes from the Director

Dead Man’s Cell Phone explores our post-millennial fixation with wireless communication. Jean, our naïve and quirky heroine, answers a cell phone in a café only to discover the gentleman whose phone it is has quietly died. Things get even more complicated when Jean goes to the funeral of Gordon (the dead man), pretending to be a former co-worker. Wishing to bring fulfilment and a sense of closure to others, Jean fabricates stories about Gordon’s last moments.

I got this far in reading Sarah Ruhl’s play – only two scenes – and already I was hooked. The play’s premise takes sad events and important themes and treats them in a bizarre and meta-theatrical way. This definitely appealed to my offbeat sense of humor.

We are so connected with one another through our devices that we actually feel painful isolation when we misplace or lose our cellphones. I love how in this play Ruhl creates two characters that bring us a vivid participation with old fashioned stationery and its tactile properties.

When I read Ruhl’s stage direction referring to a moment akin to a figure in an Edward Hopper painting I really began to envision the play. Mark Strand says of Hopper’s work, “In Hopper’s paintings there is a lot of waiting going on…They are like characters whose parts have deserted them and now, trapped in the space of their waiting, must keep themselves company.” During this era of the pandemic many of us have all experienced a feeling of loneliness and we are waiting, waiting for whatever the new normal will be.

It is such a pleasure to welcome you back to the Phoenix stage to experience this magical comedy about connectivity. Enjoy the show.

About the Playwright

Sarah Ruhl is a multi-award-winning American playwright, author, essayist, and professor, whose plays include The Clean House (Pulitzer Prize finalist, 2005; Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, 2004), In the Next Room, or the vibrator play (Pulitzer Prize finalist, 2010), and Eurydice. Her work has been produced on Broadway, across the country, as well as internationally, and translated into fourteen languages. Originally from Chicago, Ruhl received her MFA from Brown University where she studied with Paula Vogel. She has won the MacArthur Fellowship, a Steinberg Distinguished Playwright Award, a Helen Merrill Emerging Playwrights Award, Whiting Writers’ Award, a PEN Center Award for mid-career playwrights and a Lilly Award. She proudly served on the executive council of the Dramatists Guild for three years. Ruhl currently lives in Brooklyn with her family and teaches at Yale School of Drama.
Fran Gebhard  Director
Fran acted on stage and in front of the camera for many years before turning her attention to directing. She received her MFA in directing from UBC in 2001. For UVic, she has directed Problem Child, 7 Stories, The School For Scandal, Crackpot, Wreckage, Midsummer Night’s Dream and Les Liaisons Dangereuses. Favourites for other theatres include As You Like It, For The Pleasure of Seeing Her Again, Much Ado About Nothing and The Importance of Being Earnest. Fran has had a long association with the development of new Canadian work, and served as the Program Head of the Playwrights Colony at the Banff Centre for many years. Acting is Fran’s first love and her most memorable roles include: Brutus in Julius Caesar, Lady Wishfort in The Way of the World, Elizabeth in Richard III, Joanne in Norm Foster’s Jupiter in July, and Martha in Joan MacLeod’s Amigo’s Blue Guitar. She regularly performs her one-woman show Looking For Kitty and has hosted her own radio and TV talk shows. Film and TV credits include appearances on The Chris Isaak Show, Stephen King’s Dead Zone, Friday’s Curse and Moment of Truth. She played Bette Davis’ daughter-in-law in A Piano For Mrs. Cimino and was nominated for a Genie Award for her work in Blue City Slammers. Fran also performed in As You Like It and The Fantasticks during Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre’s inaugural season. Teaching has become a focus in Fran’s life – she loves sharing her passion for theatre with the next generation of talented and energetic theatre professionals.

Patrick Du Wors  Set & Lighting Designer
Patrick is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Theatre. Working in a wide range of performance styles and production scales, Patrick’s work has been recognized across Canada and internationally. His work has been exhibited at the Canadian National Exhibition at 2015, The Prague Quadrennial 2015, World Stage Design 2017 (Taipei), and Critical Costume 2020 Exhibition (Oslo). The Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology (CITT), the Dora Mavor Moore Awards (Toronto), the Critic’s Choice Awards (Victoria), the Betty Mitchell Awards (Calgary) and SAT Awards (Saskatoon) have recognized Patrick’s work with both nominations and awards over the last decade.

Parker Feenstra  Costume Designer
Parker is currently in her fourth year of the design focus in the Department of Theatre. She has had the incredible opportunity to work in all facets of theatre in Calgary, Victoria and Toronto, and is thrilled to be able to display what she has learned throughout the last three years on this stage. She would like to thank her parents and dear friends for supporting her dreams no matter how crazy they may think she is. Recent credits include Love and Information (Assistant Costume Designer, Phoenix); Queen of Crystals (Costume & Visual Designer) and Death by Horoscope (Costume Designer, SATCo); Zoo Story (Costume Consultant, Front Theatre Company); and A Dinner Party (Production Assistant, Bad Knaps Collective).
Miriam Dumitra  Sound Designer
Miriam is a polymath and fourth-year student specializing in sound and lighting design. You might find them perched on a ladder hanging lights or hidden behind a laptop, creating playlists and soundscapes. A random sampling of their skills: playwriting, website construction, and blacksmithing. Previous credits at the Phoenix include mainstages *Love and Information* (sound design), *Othello* (musician, alto recorder), and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (spotlight operator), as well as selected SATCo shows *Rain Carnation* (playwright), *A Kind of Apocalypse* (lighting design), *Hey There, Mr. Moon* (sound design), and *Death by Horoscope* (sound design).

Sloane Vasko  Livestream Director
Sloane is a fourth-year design student in the Department of Theatre. Previously she was the Assistant Lighting Designer on *Problem Child*. She is so excited to be working in live theatre with an in-house audience again, and is looking forward to sharing her work! Sloane would like to dedicate all of her work this year to her grandmother, who was integral to her education.

Olivia Reid-Friesen  Stage Manager
Olivia is a fourth-year production and management student in the Department of Theatre. Previous stage management credits include *Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Green World Theatre Company), senior assistant stage manager and livestream show caller on *Love and Information*, and assistant stage manager on *Comic Potential*, and *The Dining Room* (Phoenix). Olivia has also been a work study for the Phoenix’s costume department for 3 years. Outside of theatre, she has been a proud member of the British Columbia Youth Parliament since 2013, and is the current Minister of Intergovernmental and Sessional Affairs. She’d like to thank you all for coming!
Cast

**Brandon Caul**  *Ensemble*
Brandon is a second-year self-directed student. He has spent his time on stage and backstage, acting and designing a variety of productions. Brandon has loved working on *Dead Man’s Cell Phone* and is very grateful to have met a very passionate cast, crew, and creative team.

**Maddy el Baroudi**  *Mrs. Gottlieb*
Maddy is a fifth-year student in her final year at the Department of Theatre. She is excited to take part in her third mainstage after a year away from the theatre. Maddy would like to thank her friends and family for their continued support through all of her endeavours!

**Hannah Farquhar**  *Ensemble*
Hannah is a third-year performance focus student here at the Department of Theatre. She’s participated in radio plays and workshops with SATCo. *Dead Man’s Cell Phone* is her first mainstage production and she is extremely excited to be a part of the ensemble. She hopes you enjoy the show.

**Holly Hamilton**  *Hermia*
Holly, a performance student in her fourth year in the department, is delighted to make her exit with this hilarious and heartfelt show. Recent acting credits include *Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Green World Theatre), *Such Creatures* (Untitled Theatrics), and *Love and Information* (Phoenix). She hopes you laugh, cry, and applaud.

**Ryan Kniel**  *Gordon*
Ryan is a fourth-year performance focus student in the Department of Theatre, and is overjoyed to once again be performing live on stage for you. His previous credits include *Love and Information*, *Comic Potential* (Phoenix), *Knife Skills* (SATCo), *Our Town* (Peninsula Productions), and *The Secret Origin of Mojo Man* (VISTA).

**Katie Lacroix**  *Ensemble*
Katie is a third-year performance focus student. They are making their Phoenix debut with *Dead Man’s Cell Phone* and could not be more thrilled to be working alongside such wonderful people. Katie is deeply grateful for this opportunity to perform live on stage, and hopes you enjoy the show!
Cast

Jane Rees *Jean*
A fourth-year theatre major in the performance focus, Jane is delighted to be returning to live theatre with *Dead Man's Cell Phone!* Past UVic credits include: *Love and Information*, *The Children's Hour* (Phoenix), and *The Next Colour Blue* (SATCo).

Branden Sugden *Dwight*
Branden is an actor, director, and playwright in his fourth year of the self-directed focus. Previous acting credits at the Phoenix include: *Comic Potential*, and *Othello*. Branden was the Livestream Director last year for *Love and Information* and *Problem Child*. Elsewhere: *The Audition* (Theatre Inconnu) and *Hey There, Mr. Moon* (SATCo).

Akari van den Driesen *Ensemble*
Akari is a second-year performance student at the Department of Theatre. She is thrilled and honoured to be working with an amazing cast and crew. Previous theatre credits include *Little Women*, and *The Outsiders* (Burnaby Mountain Secondary School). She hopes you will enjoy the show!

Taylor Williams *Carlotta*
Taylor is a fourth-year student, and she is ecstatic to welcome audiences back to the Phoenix. Previous credits include *Summer Bucket List* (Collectivus/Belfry), *Death by Horoscope* (SATCo), and *The Children's Hour* (Phoenix). Taylor wishes to thank all of her loved ones, especially her mother Brenda, for their unwavering support.

Theon Winn *Ensemble*
Theon is making their debut on stage at the Phoenix as a member of the ensemble. Favourite roles include: Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (William Aberhart Theatre) as well as Death in 2012 (Calgary Young People's Theatre). Theon is a first-year student of the Phoenix.
Production Team

BFA Set Supervisor
Patrick Du Wors
Graham McMonagle
Peter McGuire
Aura Magnien
Bonnie Burton (Costumes), Georgia Sherman (Props)
Analiese Lohr (Costumes), Connor Runnings (Props)
Grace Carmichael, Aldana Padron
Ken Matthews
Ken Matthews
Andy Blair
Izabela Zawadzki*, Karina Kalvaitis*
Hannah Abbey, Link Bechtold, Zoe Bechtold, Zoey Collins, Rebecca Davey, Sam Frew, Brock Keeler,
Ken Matthews, Ariel Pretty, Riley Schaffner, Lisa Van Oorschot, Devon Vecchio
Mallory Goodman
Lilian Doucet, Tiffanie Leger
Emily Schuler
Nichelle Friesen
Claudia Fraser, Annie Lucas, Daniella Snyders-Blokk
Devon Vecchio
Kornél Danis
Carson Schmidt
Rebecca Davey, Theo Falkiner, Spencer McCarins
Emily Trepanier
Brock Keeler, Lisa Van Oorschot
Hina Nishioka*
Jaeden Walton
Trystin Simon
Carson Loughridge
Brian Linds*
Jaeden Walton
Jack Storwick
Brianna de Jong
Zoe Bechtold
Jamie Anderson, Garrett Clayton, Akari van den Driesen
Lauren Alliston, Sydney Hunt, Kye Mclnnis, Addie Tonn
Raeleigh Aberg, Rose Cory, Kevin Eastman,
Amanda Huang, Taylor Williams
Lauren Alliston, Madi Collins, Carter Gulseth
Sydney Hunt
Maddy el Baroudi, Roan Foshaug, Carter Gulseth,
Klara Kopeinigg, Katie Lacroix, Sophia Radford,
Jenny Robinson, Taylor Williams, Landon Wong

And Theatre 105, 205, 305, 405 and work study students | *Guest Artists

The Department of Theatre would like to thank the following for their support of this production:
Campus Hair Design, The Kindness Factory and Pacific Opera Victoria
Theatre Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following Department of Theatre undergraduate students for their academic achievements last year (2020/21).

Entrance Scholarships
Alisa & Roger Bishop Entrance Scholarship in Theatre: Joel Black, Jaeden Walton
President’s Entrance Scholarship: Janina Ferrer, Damini Johnstone, Sophie Mackay, Nadia Myroon, Gabriella Newell
UVic Entrance Scholarship: Siera Alexander, Eric Barnes, Jordann Bradshaw, Morgan Christopher, Grace Foureac, Rodel Frazer, Christopher Friedman, Carson Freeman, Samantha Frew, Teagan Kropp, Carie Lam, Annie Lucas, Ella Macdonald, Andie Mackenzie, Thomas Moore, Avery Przysswitt, Daniella Snyders-Blok, Casey Williams, Logan Winn
UVic Excellence Scholarship: Kiera Byrnes, Judy Caranto, Rebecca Davery, Theo Falkiner, Ava Harvey, Alexandra Kimler, Makayla Madill, Mariah Madill, Spencer McCairns
Faculty of Fine Arts Undergraduate Entrance Scholarship: Zoey Steinstra
UVic Transfer Scholarship: Sam Caul, Shael O’Brien

University Scholarships
President’s Scholarship: Aiden Finn, Brigit Stewart
Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award: Miriam Dumitra, Naomi Duska
UVic Excellence Scholarship Renewal: Link Bechtold, Zoe Bechtold, Kaya Crawford, Lily Davies, Siobhan Davies, Kiera Epp, Sophie Groves, Miranda Hatch, Sloane Vasko, Rowan Watts
Butterfield Scholarship in Fine Arts: Sophie Taylor
Faculty of Fine Arts Student Community Impact Award: Alison Roberts
General Undergraduate Scholarship: Sophie Taylor, Fenja Young
Robert G. Lawrence Theatre in Canada Scholarship: Miriam Dumitra, Aura Magien
Ethel Dorothy McConnell Scholarship: Zoey Steinstra
Hector and Carol McDonald Scholarship: Sydney Hunt
Dr. Peter Montgomery Undergraduate Scholarship: Judy Caranto
UVic Undergraduate Scholarship: Aiden Finn

Department of Theatre Scholarships
Valentine Barrow Scholarship in Theatre History: Sloane Vasko
Sarah Blackstone Scholarship in Theatre: Link Bechtold
Clio Book Prize in Theatre History: Jane Rees
Muriel Conway Memorial Scholarship: Miriam Dumitra
Crestview-Chelsea Theatre Award: Zoe Bechtold
Finlayson Award: Sophie Groves, Ken Matthews
Trish Grainge Scholarship: Sophia Rodford
David Harris-Flaherty Scholarship: Miriam Dumitra
Katherine E. & Murray D. Edwards Scholarship in Theatre: Ken Matthews
Elisabeth Jackson Scholarship in Theatre: Klara Kopeinigg
Gwladys & Gwen Downes Scholarship in Theatre: Link Bechtold, Madeleine El Baroudi
Audrey St. Denys & M.E. Johnson Scholarship: Miriam Dumitra
JTS Scholarship: Alison Roberts
Nigel Leach Memorial Scholarship: Jane Rees
Thomas and Elizabeth Mayne Scholarship in Theatre: Klara Kopeinigg, Aura Magien
Barbara McIntyre Scholarship in Theatre: Vanessa Wood
Anne McLaughlin Legacy Scholarship in Theatre: Aiden Finn, Brigit Stewart
Bentley Nichvolodoff Memorial Book Prize: Klara Kopeinigg
Opening Night Scholarship: Christopher Stewart
Phoenix Theatre Award: Miriam Dumitra, Sydney Hunt
Dr. Marion Porath Legacy Scholarship in Theatre Costume Design or Construction: Hannah Abbey
Dr. Marion Porath Legacy Scholarship in Theatre Performance: Geneva Noppers
Dr. Marion Porath Legacy Scholarship in Theatre Production and Management: Aura Magnien
Keith Provost Memorial Scholarship in Theatre: Siobhan Davies, Rowan Watts
Royal Victorian Fashion Society Costume Design Scholarship: Hannah Abbey
Dorothy Somerset Scholarship in Theatre: Alison Roberts
Vincent Short Memorial Theatre Award: Brock Keeler, Aura Magnien
University of Victoria Revue Award: Ryan Kniel, Andrew Shepherd, Zoe Salvin
Esmé Walker Scholarship: Aiden Finn, Bridgit Stewart
Department of Theatre
Faculty and Staff

Dr. Tony Vickery (Theatre History) Chair
Conrad Alexandrowicz (Performance, Movement)
Carolyn Choo Properties Coordinator
Patrick Du Wors (Design)
Michael Elliott (Performance & Voice, on leave)
Simon Farrow Acting Technical Director
Fran Gebhard (Performance)
Sandra Guerreiro Audience Services Manager
Adrienne Holierhoek Communications Manager
Dr. Yasmine Kandil (Applied Theatre)
Dr. Sasha Kovacs (Theatre History, on leave)
Dr. Allana Lindgren (Theatre History)
   Acting Dean of Fine Arts
Peter McGuire (Directing)
Timothy O’Gorman Operations & Production Manager
Catherine Plant Receptionist
Brian Richmond (Performance, Directing, on leave)
Dr. Kirsten Sadeghi-Yekta (Applied Theatre)
Gregory Smith Head of Scenic Construction
Katri Tahvanainen Head of Wardrobe
Connie te Kampe Department Secretary
Olivia Wheeler Acting Assistant Technical Director
Jan Wood (Performance)
Vanessa Wood Box Office Liaison

Adjunct Professors
Dr. Christopher Balme
Jacques Lemay
Trudy Pauluth-Penner
Michael Whitfield

Emeritus Professors
Dr. Sarah Blackstone
Dr. Warwick Dobson
Linda Hardy
Dr. Giles Hogya
Dr. Alan Hughes
Mary Kerr
John Krich
Juliana Saxton
Allan Stichbury
Dr. Jennifer Wise

Sessional Instructors
Jackie Adamthwaite
Leslie D. Bland
Cindy Block
Dr. Clayton Jevne
Rebekah Johnson
Colin Legge
Evan Lendrum
Graham McMonagle
Matthew Payne
Michael Shamata
Treena Stubel

A vibrant place to shop, just down the hill from UVic - with lots of parking!
Our businesses are proud to support the Phoenix Theatre

Peppers Foods is 100% Locally Owned!
10% Student Discount Fast Home Delivery

Heart Pharmacy IDA
at Cadboro Bay
heartpharmacy.com
Find us also at Shelbourne Plaza,
Fairfield Plaza & on campus in the SUB
Friends of the Phoenix

The Department of Theatre faculty, staff and students would like to thank the following for their support of the Phoenix Theatre’s 21/22 season (April 1, 2021 - October 29, 2021).

SEASON SPONSORS
iA Financial Group

$1000+
Anonymous - 1
Leslie D. Bland
In Memory of Dr. Marion Porath
Jennifer Wise

$500 - 999
Anonymous - 2
Caddy Bay Liquor Store
Ron Cox & Bev Suzuki
For Good Measure Bulk Foods
Sharon & Pauline Molnar
Peppers Foods
Smuggler’s Cove Pub

$150 - $499
Anonymous - 4
John & Barbara Barton
Mavis Begg
Martin & Judy Bergbusch
Denny Gelinas & Anne Clinckett
Janet Eramus & Mark Yunker
Dr. David McCutcheon & Rebecca Grant
Renate Grinfelds
Heart Pharmacy
Katrin Horowtiz
Robert Howell
Nancy Kenyon
M. Lees & K. Wallace
John & Ann McLaren
Anthony & Catherine Moses
George Murphy
Bill & Coline Neilson
Marilyn Ottenhof
Jackie & Tim
Paul & Hazel Ramsey
Patricia Robertson
Saipo Consulting
Barbara L. Wilson

$25 - 74
Anonymous - 31
Lucy Bashford
D. & D. Bell
Graham Bennett
Jane Bond
P. M. Bond
Patrick & Gail Boulger
John Bunge
Sylvia Burkhardt
Luz Maria Cabrera & Lyle Grant
S. Campbell
Laine Canivet
Tim & Donna Cheesman
Linda Cowen
Marylou Curtis
Donna Dippie
Darryl & Joanne
Flow Speech, Voice & Communications
For Live Performance Gratitude
Richard Furbacher
Audrey McClellan & Chris Gainor
Wayne & Cindy Garner
Linda Graham
Ian Hill
Chris Horbachewski & Lana Wicentovich
Gwen Isaccs
John Johnston
Rhonda Korol
Amelita Kucher
Helen & Oliver Lantz
Anne Lynch
Erik Lythgoe
B. McDougall
Jennifer Mann
David & Carol Marshall
Liz Miller
mistermerv

$25 - $499
Anonymous - 1
Leslie D. Bland
In Memory of Dr. Marion Porath
Jennifer Wise

$150 - $499
Anonymous - 4
John & Barbara Barton
Mavis Begg
Martin & Judy Bergbusch
Denny Gelinas & Anne Clinckett
Janet Eramus & Mark Yunker
Dr. David McCutcheon & Rebecca Grant
Renate Grinfelds
Heart Pharmacy
Katrin Horowtiz
Robert Howell
Nancy Kenyon
M. Lees & K. Wallace
John & Ann McLaren
Anthony & Catherine Moses
George Murphy
Bill & Coline Neilson
Marilyn Ottenhof
Jackie & Tim
Paul & Hazel Ramsey
Patricia Robertson
Saipo Consulting
Barbara L. Wilson

$25 - 74
Anonymous - 31
Lucy Bashford
D. & D. Bell
Graham Bennett
Jane Bond
P. M. Bond
Patrick & Gail Boulger
John Bunge
Sylvia Burkhardt
Luz Maria Cabrera & Lyle Grant
S. Campbell
Laine Canivet
Tim & Donna Cheesman
Linda Cowen
Marylou Curtis
Donna Dippie
Darryl & Joanne
Flow Speech, Voice & Communications
For Live Performance Gratitude
Richard Furbacher
Audrey McClellan & Chris Gainor
Wayne & Cindy Garner
Linda Graham
Ian Hill
Chris Horbachewski & Lana Wicentovich
Gwen Isaccs
John Johnston
Rhonda Korol
Amelita Kucher
Helen & Oliver Lantz
Anne Lynch
Erik Lythgoe
B. McDougall
Jennifer Mann
David & Carol Marshall
Liz Miller
mistermerv

UNDER $25
55