

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2005



Presents

Sleuth

a play by **Anthony Shaffer**

directed by **Michael Michetti**

starring

Mark Capri and **Elijah Alexander**

with

Leo Raul Cervinei, Michele Nacia and Larry L. Grahams

OPENS April 8th, 8 pm

FALCON THEATRE concludes its third subscription season with **Anthony Shaffer's Tony Award-winning Best Play, *Sleuth***, directed by **Michael Michetti, Co-Artistic Director of The Theatre @ Boston Court.**

Popular mystery writer Andrew Wyke (Mark Capri) lives in a world of plot twists and intricate strategies. In discovering his wife's lover, Milo (Elijah Alexander), Mr. Wyke devises a devious plan to humiliate him. But even the best laid plans can go astray when the police arrive and a new game begins — a game where rules don't apply and the stakes are life or death.

The Falcon Theatre production stars **Mark Capri**, standby to Alan Rickman in the recent acclaimed Broadway production of Noel Coward's *Private Lives*, and **Elijah Alexander**, who may be seen this summer opposite Angelina Jolie in the film *Mr. & Mrs. Smith* and in a recurring role on the WB's *Summerland*. Rounding out the cast are the talented local actors **Leo Raul Cervinei, Michele Nacia** and **Larry L. Grahams.**

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Playwright **ANTHONY SHAFFER** was educated at St. Paul's, and Cambridge University. From 1951 to 1955 he practiced law as a barrister, and subsequently, until 1969, he was a partner in a successful film production company, scripting, directing and producing many television commercials. In 1969 Mr. Shaffer resigned to take up writing full time and, in 1970, *Sleuth* appeared. It was one of the greatest theatrical hits of all time in London, New York and throughout the world, winning the Tony Award as the Best Play of the Year. Other stage plays include *This Savage Parade* (1963 revived and revised 1987), *Murderer* (1975), *Widow's Weeds* (1977) and *The Case of the Oily Levantine* (1979), which was presented in New York in 1982 under the title *Whodunnit*. In 1972 he wrote the screenplay for *Forbush and the Penguins*, which starred John Hurt and Hayley Mills and, in 1974, he turned *Sleuth* into a film which starred Laurence Olivier and Michael Caine. The same year he wrote the screenplay for the Alfred Hitchcock film, *Frenzy*. Other screenplays include *The Wicker Man* and *Absolution*, which starred Richard Burton, and three Agatha Christie adaptations: *Death on the Nile*, *Evil Under the Sun* and *Appointment With Death* with Peter Ustinov as 'Hercule Poirot.' Mr. Shaffer developed the storyline for the film *Sommersby* starring Jodie Foster and Richard Gere. *Sleuth* toured extensively through the UK as a PW Productions Mobil 1999 tour starring Peter Bowles and Michael Maloney. It opened in the West End in July 2002 in an acclaimed production directed by Elijah Moshinsky and starring Peter Bowles and Gray O'Brien. Anthony's autobiography *So What Did You Expect?* was published by Picador in the early spring of 2002. Anthony Shaffer died on 6th November 2001. His play, *Murderer*, was revived this past fall at the Menier Chocolate Factory in London.

Director **MICHAEL MICHETTI** is the co-artistic director of The Theatre @ Boston Court in Pasadena where he has directed Charles L. Mee's *Summertime* and *Romeo and Juliet: Antebellum New Orleans, 1836*. His credits include the celebrated production of Stephen Sondheim and Arthur Laurents' *Anyone Can Whistle* (incorporating revisions made by Michetti and approved by the authors) at the Matrix Theatre, David Hare's *Amy's View* starring Carol Lawrence at Florida Rep, David Mamet's *A Life in the Theatre* starring Hal Holbrook at the Pasadena Playhouse, acclaimed productions of Brecht's rarely staged *Edward II* and Aphra Behn's restoration comedy *The Rover*, both for Circle X at the Actor's Gang Theatre, Tom Jacobson's *Ouroboros* at The Road Theatre, and the Ovation Award nominated productions of *Titanic* for Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities and *Sweeney Todd* starring Amanda McBroom and George Ball. He is a double Ovation Award-winner (as director and co-producer) for his production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, set in British colonized India.

WHEN:	PREVIEWS	March 30th – April 7th, 2005 (\$25 to \$27.50)
	OPENING NIGHT	Friday, April 8th, 2005, 8pm
	MUST CLOSE	April 24th, 2005
	PERFORMANCES	Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 4pm
	PRICES	Non-Preview Performance Tickets range from \$30.00 to \$37.50.

Recommended for ages 13 and up.

THE FALCON THEATRE is located at 4252 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, in Burbank.

For ticket reservations, call 818.955.8101.

**To arrange PRESS SEATS, schedule interviews or request editorial information
please contact Wesley Horton at 818.955.8004 x133**

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