

RTC goes dark

BY DEVON WILLIAMS
NEWS REPORTER

In recent years, Cynthiana has earned and leaned into its reputation as a “Halloween” town, even becoming known as the number one Fall destination in the Bluegrass state.

With a long history of hauntings, violence, death and community in love with the macabre, autumn typically comes around with absolute fanfare.

Cynthiana is even home to one of the most haunted buildings in Kentucky, a theater no less. And despite this, it’s been over ten years since the local theater scene has dipped into the horror spirit ... until now.

This coming fall Rohs Theatre Company production is titled “I’ll Be Back Before Midnight” by playwright Peter Colley. It’s one of the most popular and staged shows in North America, particularly in the land up north known as Canada where it was written.

A Google search will give you a clear synopsis, but after conversing with second-time RTC Director Abbey Lile-Taylor and Producer Kendal Butler, it’s advisable to ignore looking into the plot to avoid spoilers.

It’s been said in reviews that the show is a mix of Agatha Christie and Alfred Hitchcock and with the absolute secrecy from Director Taylor and Pro-



Devon Williams

Director Abbey Lile-Taylor and Producer Kendal Butler prepare to go dark in new fall Rohs Theatre Company production.

ducer Butler, it does rhyme of the classic marketing scheme from the 60’s classic “Psycho.”

It’s a four-member cast made up of RTC alum and newcomers: Mike Bess, Kelsey Dacci, Todd Harp and Stephanie Thornton.

Four players in a cabin in the woods scenario, Director Taylor stressed that his particular show is not for kids and likened it closed to a PG-13 movie.

“People will laugh, but they will be freaked out, too,” explained Producer Butler. “Yes, you’ll be laughing one minute and, like, possibly clutching your pearls the next. You’ll be scared for Kelsey’s life.”

Butler went on to describe the show as, “a dark thriller with a touch

of comedy. Four people at the wrong place at the wrong time. And if you’re scared to be out in the country, in the woods by yourself, this is a show you might like.”

Director Taylor stated, “It almost silly. I read some interviews with the writer and he’s kind of breaking the genre, making fun of the thriller

genre, and also producing a thriller at the same time. So he’s poking fun at the genre the whole time.”

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All interested persons and organizations in Harrison County are hereby notified that a copy of the County's 2025-2026 Fiscal Year End Statements are available in full for public inspection at the office of the County Treasurer during normal business hours.

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Jason Marshall
Harrison County
Judge/Executive

The show has not been around this part of the state before and the company is hoping that the locale will add to the experience for audiences and maybe even the cast.

“As far as we can tell, we’re the only people that’s ever put it on in central Kentucky,” noted Butler. “We’ve researched quite a bit, so...we’re kind of bringing something new to the stage in this area, and we thought this would be the best place to do it.”

Taylor last directed a radio-drama adaptation of A Christmas Carol, a spooky tale in its own right. Now she’s fully leaning into the season,

even sandwiching the show around the popular Witches Day Out celebration.

“I love murder mysteries,” sighed Taylor. “I just, it’s my favorite genre to read. It’s my favorite genre to write, I just love it. And so being able to direct it as well is even more fun.”

There’s certainly more news to come about this groundbreaking show, so be sure to keep an eye peeled and ear open.

Production dates are set for Sept. 18, 19 and 25 at 7 p.m. and Sept. 27 at 3 p.m.

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As per the Harrison County Fiscal Court's contract renewal with Rumpke of Kentucky, there will be an increase in the monthly fee effective August 1, 2026 thru July 31, 2027.

The monthly service fee will be as follows:
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**A quarterly fuel surcharge will be implemented on all residential and commercial accounts based upon the Department of Energy's Midwest Diesel fuel average and adjusted monthly.*

Rumpke will continue to individually invoice residents on a quarterly basis.

Jason Marshall
County Judge Executive

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