



# RED HERRING PRODUCTIONS

## The Red Herring Catalog

*Murder Mysteries, Melodramas, Special Characters, and more: Red Herring provides a variety of theatrical services. We held our first performance in October, 1985.*

*Since then we've done hundreds of shows in a variety of locations, from mountain tops to river rafts. Portability and improvisation have always been our hallmarks.*

*Over time we've developed a number of fictional settings - we call them our "Worlds" - within which we've written a variety of scripts for different products and audience sizes.*

*These are the Red Herring Worlds:*

### CEO Murder

... hires a consulting group to deal with your organization's toughest challenges. Of course, the consultants get it all backward (thus relieving tension with humor), and what appears to be another boring presentation quickly turns into an exciting mystery game. This is an excellent ice-breaker for diverse audiences.

### Invaded By Murder

... lands an alien from outer space in the middle of your meeting, with the authorities in hot pursuit. When the mind-channeling starts, who knows which body will be the next that is snatched...

### Murder Al Dente

... cooks up trouble in a small, family-owned restaurant. When old-world values clash with the needs of modern business, something - or someone - is likely to get broken.

### Murder At Bottomsrood

... sits down to a seance circa 1900, where you're invited to "join hands, clear your minds, and concentrate with every fibre of your being. Who knows what ghosts will come, and whether they will come for good, or for evil?"

### Murder At Colorado General

... raises funds for a small hospital in your city. When the president of the insurance company - disguised as a patient - threatens to increase regulations and reduce costs, the mortality rate is sure to suffer a sudden increase.

### Murder At Macabre Manor

... transforms your location into an old English castle. This show's characters will remind you of those classic horror films from the 30's and 40's. It's a favorite with audiences planning to come in costume.

### **Murder In Buffalo Chip**

... rolls back the rug in the small town of Buffalo Chip, Colorado, where the year is 1888. Meet ranchers, gunslingers, church ladies, mountain men, Indians, gamblers, and outlaws. One gunshot offstage. This show is a favorite with visitors looking for Western flavor.

### **Murder In Salt Creek**

... busts into the Silver Queen Saloon of Salt Creek, Texas, in the year 1874. Outside the blazing sun has set, the dust devils have died down, and the men are riding in from the range to find liquor, women, and danger in a most unexpected form ...

### **Murder Is Sweet**

... unwraps the world of fine chocolate, where recipes are passed from generation to generation, where innovation is the key to survival, and where secrets are guarded with a fierce passion.

### **Murder On Location**

... puts you in the middle of a movie production set in the 1950's. Meet Producers, directors, faded stars, rising newcomers, and many of the "little people" who make films possible.

### **Murder Says "I Do"**

... hosts a wedding reception. The groom is handsome, the bride is beautiful, but some of the family members are a bit stranger than usual.

### **Murder Speaks Easy**

... re-creates a speakeasy in the Chicago of the 20's. Characters include mobsters, molls, crooked politicians, shifty lawyers, bootleggers, cigarette girls, etc. Great for costumes and dialects.

### **Murder Takes A Cruise**

... sets sail on the ocean liner SS Grover Cleveland in May, 1935. The Cleveland's complement of international passengers are looking forward to tomorrow's docking at Portsmouth, but tonight they will share a final evening of intrigue, romance, and murder.

### **Murder Takes A Peak**

... crashes a high-society party in 1933, where everyone is searching for a lost map. Who will be the first to find the treasure, and how far will he or she go to get it?

### **Politics Is Murder**

... sponsors a campaign rally or debate in the present day, but can also be set for a particular period. The cast includes those strange and nefarious characters that seem to have always inhabited our political landscape, but the issues are pertinent to the time and culture.

### **Safari To Adventure**

... almost brings the creatures of our wild kingdom on-stage during the taping of a zoo-oriented TV show. Unfortunately, the animals have other ideas, as do several members of the crew.

### **Slaybells Ring**

... takes you over the river and through the woods to a Christmas Eve celebration with the extended family at grandmother's house. Features a Christmas tree as the murder weapon.

## **Star-Spangled Murder**

... follows a young soldier returning home in 1946, only to find that all is not well on the home front.

***Within each World, we can deliver a variety of products:***

### **Murder Mysteries**

Not only Murder Mysteries, but Non-Murder Mysteries and other improvisational entertainments comprise what we call Portable Improv Entertainment ( P.I.E.), which is the core of our product line. The distinguishing characteristics of Red Herring are that we go to your location, that we provide a lot of audience interaction, and that our primary goal is for everyone to have fun.

### **Educational Services**

These productions are based on and include a murder mystery, but the audience is challenged not only to solve the puzzle, but to develop strategies for preventing conflict and to apply them to their own organization. Topics include Leadership, Coping with Problem Personalities, Values In The Workplace, Selling To Your Client's View of the World, and Team Building.

### **Other Entertainers**

Period Music; Strollin', strummin', singin' cowboys; a flapper ensemble; a classical quartet; even a German Oktoberfest band - Red Herring Productions now offers accompanying music to all our performances.

### **Pointimation**

We'll help you get your point across by expressing it in humorous and entertaining terms. After you tell us your ideas, we'll convert them into short, improvisational skits using some of the many characters from our Worlds. Examples: "...and now for a roundtable discussion of our sales territory" becomes a Mountain Man welcoming guests to the Territorial Rendezvous. "Welcome to our week-long computer training session" becomes "welcome to an exciting time of data collection and identification" as two cowboys demonstrate roping and branding on a volunteer from the audience. "Over the next few days you'll be touring several interesting sites" becomes historical sketches featuring miners, madams, explorers, and gunfighters.

### **Prizes**

For the teams that solve our mysteries and those that add to the performance in other creative ways, we have added a line of products to strengthen the audience's experience. From candy-filled mugs to embroidered sport shirts, we'll reward your clients!

### **Digital Photography**

We'll add action shots of characters with your audience members and post them on our internal website with a URL That will only be supplied to you. Link this URL to your corporate intranet or email to the attendees.

*We've developed alternate approaches for different audience sizes:*

**Audiences From 10 to 25 People**

Murder Mysteries in this range have cast sizes from 1 to 3 actors. These are usually done in a "Bed and Breakfast" setting over a weekend, so audience members are given parts to play while the cast facilitates the unfolding of the story. At the end, the cast evaluates written solutions and closes the show by revealing suspects' motives and announcing both winning and losing teams.

**Audiences From 26 to 50 People**

Murder Mysteries in this range have cast sizes from 3 to 5 actors. For these performances the "murder" has already been committed, so during the show the cast mingles with the audience, stages scenes with each other; organizes teams of audience members, grants interviews to the audience members, evaluates written solutions, and closes the show by revealing suspects' motives and announcing both winning and losing teams.

**Audiences From 51 to 250 People**

Murder Mysteries in this range have cast sizes from 6 to 9 actors. During the show the cast mingles with the audience, stages scenes with each other, commits a "murder", organizes teams of audience members, grants interviews to the audience members, evaluates written solutions, and closes the show by revealing suspects' motives and announcing both winning and losing teams.

**Audiences From 251 to 1000 People**

Murder Mysteries and Melodramas in this range have cast sizes from 7 to 12 actors. Most of the clues in this type of performance must be delivered from a stage, so during a Mystery show the cast mingles with the audience, stages scenes with each other; commits a "murder", organizes teams of audience members, evaluates written or verbal solutions, and closes the show by revealing suspects' motives and announcing both winning and losing teams.

***We have a flexible price structure:***

Our standard price for a Murder Mystery performed in Colorado Springs, Colorado during evening hours for an audience of 100 people - using a cast of 8 persons - is typically the same or less than the price of a band.

We usually ask that you include our cast in your count for the meal associated with the show - sharing dinner with your audience allows us to provide continuity in the entertainment. However, under some circumstances (such a high per-person cost for the meal) we'll substitute a per-diem cost for food and eat elsewhere.

For travel outside of Colorado Springs we add a mileage cost. Within the state of Colorado that's a per Mile charge. Outside the state of Colorado the travel cost is the actual price of commercial transportation. If travel is more than 100 miles from Colorado Springs, we ask that housing be provided for the cast.

Our rates are slightly higher for daytime shows than for evening shows.

For larger audiences we add more cast - our overall price goes up but the rate per person goes down. For smaller audiences we use a smaller cast - our overall price goes down but the rate per person goes up.

In any case, please contact us for an exact quote.

***We're easy to contact:***

**Telephone:** 719.447-1699

**E-Mail** Send a message to [Whodunit@iex.net](mailto:Whodunit@iex.net)

**The Web** Logon to our homepage at <http://www.RedHerringProductions.Com/>