

PRODUCTION TEAM

Set and Sound Design Michelle Blanchard
Light Design Tracey Richardson
Props/Costume Shoppers ... Michelle Blanchard; RM Decker; Doug Donald
Props Construction Michelle Blanchard; Tracey Richardson
Sound Board Operator Mandy Brosius
Set and Stage Load-in Michelle Blanchard; RM Decker; Doug Donald;
Ali Levasseur; Tracey Richardson; Gene Tully
House Load-in RM Decker; Emergence of Spirit Volunteers
Marketing and Publicity Ryan Michael Decker
House Manager Whitney Arnold
Ushers and Bar Staff Voices and DCFAS Volunteers

TRAINWRECK PRODUCTIONS

Artistic Director Ryan Michael Decker
Associate Artistic Director Gwen Beatty
Managing Director Kylie Weitz
Community Members At-Large Whitney Arnold; Mandy Brosius

UPCOMING EVENT

MACABARET

by **Scott Keys and Rob Hartmann**

A half-hour spooky, spoofy cabaret at DCFAS's Halloween Party.
Presented by very special arrangement with Rob Hartmann (www.robhartmann.com).
HALLOWEEN, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 8:00 PM, NASH GALLERY, \$5 SUGGESTED

SEASON VI SPONSORS

ART GUMBO – DUBUQUE FISCAL
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DUBUQUE COUNTY FINE ARTS SOCIETY FISCAL
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FLY-BY-NIGHT PRODUCTIONS IN-KIND
GRAND OPERA HOUSE IN-KIND
NASH GALLERY IN-KIND
VOICES PRODUCTIONS IN-KIND

WWW.TRAINWRECKPRODUCTIONS.ORG



presents...

RED

by **John Logan**

directed by **Michelle Blanchard**

featuring...

Doug Donald
as Mark Rothko

Ryan Decker
as Ken

technical direction by **Tracey Richardson**

September 24 & 25, 2014 **Voices Warehouse**

*Trainwreck Productions is an affiliate of the Dubuque County Fine Arts Society (DCFAS).
DCFAS is a volunteer-driven 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts organization serving the
Dubuque, Iowa community with low or no cost arts experiences.*

*RED premiered at the Donmar Warehouse Theatre, London on December 3, 2009,
Michael Grandage, Artistic Director.*

*Original Broadway Production Produced by Arielle Tepper Madover,
Stephanie P. McClelland, Matthew Byam Shaw, Neal Street Productions,
Fox Theatricals, Ruth Hendel/Barbara Whitman, Philip Hagemann/Murray Rosenthal
and The Donmar Warehouse.*

*Likenesses of the Rothko Seagram Mural Panels used with permission.
© 1998 Kate Rothko Prizel and Christopher Rothko / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.*

Produced in collaboration with Voices Productions for Voices X: Make Your Mark.

RED is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

THIS EVENING'S PERFORMANCE WILL HAVE NO INTERMISSION.

BIOS

MICHELLE BLANCHARD (Director) is excited to be making her Dubuque Directorial debut with *RED*. While best known in Dubuque for her costuming, Michelle spent much of her professional career as a Stage Manager for various regional theaters and tours. She has also assistant directed, production managed, company managed, and been the crew chief for several regional as well as touring productions. She is happy to have officially unpacked her suitcases for the last time in Dubuque, and would like to thank Tracey Richardson for giving her a reason to do so and for being her Technical Director in theatre and in life. She would also like to thank Doug Donald and Lenore Howard for their constant support and guidance, Ryan Decker and the Trainwreck board for this golden opportunity and the Voices "crew" (especially Ali and Gene) for making this show a reality. Enjoy the show!

DOUG DONALD (Mark Rothko), after acting and directing for such professional companies as The Ice House Theatre, Old Creamery Theatre, and Timberlake Playhouse, Doug has been an active member of the Dubuque theatre scene since 1979, when he came to town to direct for the Fine Arts Players and The Five Flags Theatre Company. In 1982 he co-founded Fly-By-Night Productions with his wife, Lenore; and served as the Artistic Director of the company for 18 years. In 2000 Doug became the Director of Theatre for Loras College. At this time he is on sabbatical from Loras so he can work on developing a number of projects; including *Blacklight Shakespeare*, an original play he developed for Voices From The Warehouse District 2007, and a yet untitled one-man production that explores different concepts about deities. Among his over 125 acting roles he would include playing Mark Rothko as one of the highlights. He dedicates this performance to his wife, Lenore, and his daughter, Caitlin.

RYAN MICHAEL DECKER (Ken/TWP Artistic Director) is a professional, regional actor, director, and teaching artist. He has acted and directed in numerous productions in theatre, film, and television, classical to contemporary, plays, musicals, original, and devised pieces. Ryan would like to thank Michelle, Doug, and Tracey for their amazing generosity and making *RED* such an incredible production and collaboration to be a part of. He would also like to thank Tim and Voices Productions for inviting Trainwreck to be a part of their lineup of outstanding artistic programming. Finally, Ryan would like to thank Amanda for all of her love and support which makes everything possible. In the months to come, Ryan will be directing *Miracle on 34th Street* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* at the Grand Opera House. His portfolio is available online at www.RyanDecker.net.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DUBUQUE COUNTY FINE ARTS SOCIETY

President Ali Levasseur
Vice-President Trish Feldman-Jansen
Treasurer Sunil Malapati
Secretary Paul Kohl
Directors Bibi Burke; Mike Ironside; Samantha Jones;
Ian Loar; Robert Murphy; Art Roche; Mark Wahlert

MARK ROTHKO

Born Marcus Rotkovitch in the town of Dvinsk, Latvia, then part of the Russian Empire, Mark Rothko immigrated to the United States with his family at the age of ten, settling in Portland, Oregon. A gifted student, Rothko attended Yale University on scholarship from 1921-23, but disillusioned by the social milieu and financial hardship, he dropped out and moved to New York to "bum around and starve a bit." A chance invitation from a friend brought him to a drawing class at the Art Students League where he discovered his love of art. He took two classes there but was otherwise self-taught. Rothko painted in a figurative style for nearly twenty years, his portraits and depictions of urban life baring the soul of those living through The Great Depression in New York. The painter Milton Avery offered Rothko both artistic and nutritional nourishment during these lean years. In the 1930s, Rothko exhibited with The Ten, a close-knit group of nine (!) American painters, which included fellow Avery acolyte, Adolph Gottlieb. Success was moderate at best but the group provided important incubation for the Abstract Expressionist school to come. The war years brought with it an influx of European surrealists, influencing most of the New York painters, among them Rothko, to take on a neo-surrealist style. Rothko experimented with mythic and symbolic painting for five years before moving to pure abstraction in the mid 1940s and ultimately to his signature style of two or three rectangles floating in fields of saturated color in 1949. Beginning in the early 1950s Rothko was heralded, along with Jackson Pollock, Willem deKooning, Franz Kline and others, as the standard bearers of the New American Painting--a truly American art that was not simply a derivative of European styles. By the late 1950s, Rothko was a celebrated (if not wealthy) artist, winning him three mural commissions that would dominate the latter part of his career. Only in the last of these, The Rothko Chapel in Houston was he able to realize his dream of a truly contemplative environment in which to interact deeply with his artwork. *RED* presents a fictionalized account of Rothko's frustrated first attempt to create such a space in New York's Four Season's restaurant. Rothko sought to create art that was timeless; paintings that expressed basic human concerns and emotions that remain constant not merely across decades but across generations and epochs. He looked to communicate with his viewer at the most elemental level and through his artwork, have a conversation that was intense, personal and, above all, honest. A viewer's tears in front of one of his paintings told him he had succeeded. While creating a deeply expressive body of work and garnering critical acclaim, Rothko battled depression and his brilliant career ended in suicide in 1970.

SPECIAL THANKS

TRAINWRECK PRODUCTIONS WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK...

Amanda Adams
Caitlin Donald
Lenore Howard
Ali Levasseur
Tim McNamara
Tracey Richardson
Gene Tully

Fly-By-Night Productions
The Grand Opera House
The Loras Players
Nash Gallery
TH, 365ink, & Julien's Journal
Voices Productions
YOU, OUR AUDIENCE!