

# **Million Dollar Quartet**

book by **Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux**

original concept and direction by **Floyd Mutrux**

inspired

by **Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and**

**Carl Perkins**

directed by **Emily A. Rollie**

June 19 – July 26, 2026

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Smith

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Told through the perspective of visionary music producer and founder of Sun Records, Sam Phillips, *Million Dollar Quartet* captures the essence, ethos, and veritable magic of a singular day in history: December 4, 1956. On that Tuesday afternoon, Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, and Carl Perkins – each of whom had and would shape the sound of American popular music – unexpectedly came together at Sun Studio in Memphis, Tennessee.

This production explores not only the music of a generation, but the spirit of reinvention that defined it.

These artists blurred boundaries between gospel, country,

rhythm and blues, and rock and roll at a time when America itself was wrestling with questions of identity and change. Their music crossed cultural and social lines, challenged expectations, and gave voice to a new generation eager to be heard.

What moves me most about this story is not just the music – though the music is extraordinary –but the humanity within it. We see these artists in their youth, each facing a crossroad in their careers. As such, we see their music and humanity as they wrestle with fear, ambition, ego, faith, loneliness, joy, and the desperate hope that what they are creating matters.

As a director, I am drawn to stories about ensemble and characters facing the potential of transformation, moments when they do not yet fully know who they will become but

have the sense that everything is about to change. *Million Dollar Quartet* captures exactly that feeling – a powerful sense of potential and possibility. The show reminds us that history is often made in spontaneous moments of risk and bold creativity – and very often those moments are made more profound when shared in community with others.

Ultimately, this production celebrates the connective power of live music. There is something uniquely joyful about witnessing performers create music together in real time: listening, responding, harmonizing, and pushing one another toward something greater. While this story may be rooted in history, my hope is that it also feels deeply alive, fueled by the energy and electricity of incredibly talented artists discovering themselves and connecting with each

other in real time. An energy that offers a glimpse of the humanity and joy that comes from creating together.

- Director Emily A. Rollie, PhD

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS

Born in England, **Colin Escott** lives near Nashville, Tennessee. He is the author of *Good Rockin' Tonight: Sun Records and the Birth of Rock 'n' Roll*, the first in-depth account of the Sun Records story. His book *Hank Williams – The Biography* has been adapted into the movie *I Saw the Light*, starring Tom Hiddleston and Elizabeth Olsen. His multi-CD box set, *The Complete Hank Williams*, won a Grammy, and another of his productions, *B.B. King – King of the Blues*, was nominated for a Grammy. *Million Dollar Quartet* received three Tony nominations, including Best Book and Best Musical. Escott was part of the writing/producing team adapting the show for CMT/Viacom. The first season aired in 2016.

**Floyd Mutrux** apprenticed at the Alley Theatre in Houston and worked at Second City in Chicago; he attended Columbia University. He has conceived, written, directed, or produced 50 films, including *Dusty and Sweets McGee*; *Freebie and the Bean*; *Aloha, Bobby and Rose*; *The Hollywood Knights*; *American Hot Wax*; *Dick Tracy*; *American Me*; *Blood In, Blood Out*; *There Goes My Baby*; and *Mulholland Falls*. With his wife Birgitte, he is preparing a new film *Moon Over Memphis* (a rock-and-roll Field of Dreams.) He also cowrote the musical *Baby It's You!* With Colin Escott and helped adapt *Sun Records*, the new television series based on *Million Dollar Quartet*. *Million Dollar Quartet* received three Tony Award nominations in 2010, including best book and best musical.

FEATURED GALLERY ARTISTS MIA SCHULTE AND  
JUDITH SMITH

**Mia Schulte: Artist Statement**

My art is a reflection of all of the influences in my life. I often think about a painting long before the image materializes. I look to nature for my forms and shapes, and look to my emotions/experiences for my image.

I work on the floor so that I can have a 360-degree view and feel closer to the work. I often apply multiple layers combining the various mediums such as acrylic, ink, pastel, charcoal, etc. The painting evolves with each new layer as I proceed to clarify the message/feeling that I want to express. I am interested in painting about my impressions of a place/experience, and thoughts about life in general.

Having studied and worked in various styles, I found that when I began working from memories, it was as if I had found home.

### **Judith Smith: Artist Statement**

Coming from a background in medical illustration, drawing has always been my strength. Pastels afford me the opportunity of drawing and painting at the same time. I love the direct involvement of pigment between hand and paper. For me, pastel is the only medium that truly captures and employs the electricity and intensity of color in painting. It is indeed “Magic Dust”! I use it now as an integral part of my mixed media work and also in my encaustic paintings.

Whatever I choose as subject matter, my focus follows form and color, then line, and always beauty. I believe that

beauty is inseparable from power and content; these are important considerations in my work.

# Million Dollar Quartet

Book by COLIN ESCOTT and FLOYD MUTRUX

Directed by EMILY A. ROLLIE

## CAST

Jerry Lee Lewis.....Wyatt Brownell

Carl Perkins.....Maverick McCarl

Johnny Cash.....Nathan Roberts

Elvis Presley.....Ben Bailey

Sam Phillips.....Casey Raiha

Dyanne.....Becca Bailey

Brother Jay.....Nick Rawson

Fluke.....Will Madison

Substitute Brother Jay.....Tommy Hawthorne

## CREATIVE TEAM

Director.....Emily A. Rollie

Musical Director.....Stephanie Layton

Choreographer.....Jessica Low

Scenic & Lighting Design.....Christina Barrigan

Costume Design.....Jason Kramer

Sound Design.....Keith Jewell

Properties Design.....Dan Wolff

Hair/Wig/Makeup Design.....Bridget House

Dialect Coach.....Grace Helmcke

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager.....Celeste Elaine

Assistant Stage Manager.....Tommy McGee

Light/Sound Board Operator.....Logan Simpson

Sound Engineer.....Michael Gray

Spot Operator 1.....Blake Becker

Spot Operator 2.....Bella Peregrino

Properties Master.....Daniel Wolff

Wig Maintenance.....Bridget House

**TIME & PLACE:** December 4, 1956. Sun Studios,  
Memphis, Tennessee

**SHOW LENGTH:** 90 minutes without an intermission

**SPECIAL THANKS** Volunteer Carpenter Rich Kalman,  
Andy Garness, Nick Rawson and Ed Salerno

**The video or audio recording of this performance by  
any means is strictly prohibited.**

Originally developed and produced by Relevant

Theatricals, John Cossette Productions and Northern  
Lights, Inc. at the Goodman Theatre,

Robert Falls, Artistic Director - Roche Shulfer, Executive  
Director and transferred to

The Apollo Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2008

Produced by the Village Theatre, Issaquah, Washington,  
Robb Hunt, Producer - Steve Tompkins, Artistic Director,

2007 and Seaside Music Theater, Daytona Beach, FL,  
Tippin Davidson, Producer - Lester Malizia, Artistic  
Director, 2006

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and Shanna Paxton Photography

## CAST

### **Wyatt Brownell** (he/him) - Jerry Lee Lewis

Wyatt is a Texas based actor, musician, songwriter and playwright. A Louisiana native (born just one hour west of Jerry Lee's hometown of Ferriday), Wyatt looks forward to bringing some authentic southern charm in his seventh production as "The Killer." When he's not tickling the ivories, Wyatt is developing new theatrical works. His current project, the cajun/folk historical drama Man of the People: The Trials of Huey Long was performed in concert as part of the 2025 Chicago Musical Theatre Festival. Recent roles include; Huey Long in Man of the People, Tucker Yelldell in TEXAS Outdoor Musical!, and Tranio in Taming of the Shrew. @geauxwyatt

**Maverick McCarl** (he/him) - Carl Perkins

Maverick is thrilled to be a part of Million Dollar Quartet for the first time. Years ago this show inspired him to pick up his guitar with the dream of performing in it one day. For the past few years, he has been acting and composing at Central Washington University. Recent credits include Jud Fry in Oklahoma! with Manestage Theatre Company and Ernst in Spring Awakening with Central Theatre Ensemble. Maverick wants to thank his family and friends for their unwavering support and encouragement. He hopes you have fun watching this incredible show!

**Nathan Roberts** (he/him) - Johnny Cash

Nathan was the final Johnny Cash in Norwegian Cruise Line's long running production of Million Dollar Quartet, where he worked directly with the Original Broadway

Creative Team. He often portrays Elvis as well! Selective MDQ: Meadow Brook Theatre, Phoenix Theatre Company, Capital Repertory Theatre, Sunflight Theatre, Alpine Theatre Project. Recent credits: West Side Story (Tony), Heartbreak Hotel (Elvis), 9 To 5 (Joe), Into The Woods (Cinderella's Prince/Wolf). Upcoming: MDQ at Maine State Music Theatre & The Public Theatre. REP: Resolute Artists Agency. NathanMichaelRoberts.com

**Ben Bailey** (he/him) - Elvis Presley

Ben Bailey is so excited to make his Harlequin Productions debut! Ben is currently working at Walt Disney World with Actors' Equity Association in the Frozen SingAlong alongside his wonderful wife and cast mate, Becca Bailey! Credits: Elvis Presley (Million Dollar Quartet) Interlakes Theatre, Carl Perkins (Million Dollar

Quartet) Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre, Tommy Ross (Carrie: The Musical) TheatreZone, and Sky (Mamma Mia!) Suncoast Broadway. Elvis Presley and the music of Sun Records has always been such an inspiration for him and he is so honored to get to bring this story to Olympia, Washington! @benianbailey

**Casey Raiha** (he/him) - Sam Phillips

Casey returns to the role of Sam Phillips for the fourth time, AND his fourth show at the State Theater! Previous roles at Harlequin: Annas in Jesus Christ Superstar, and Brad Majors in The Rocky Horror Show. Local credits: Cinderella's Prince in Into The Woods (5th Avenue Theatre), Barry Mann in Beautiful (Village Theatre), and Georg in She Loves Me (Renton Civic Theatre). Casey is also a Voice Actor, and can be heard on any Alexa device

in the world, via the Amazon Storytime app. “Love to Caitlin and my folks!” [www.CaseyRaiha.com](http://www.CaseyRaiha.com)

**Becca Bailey** (she/her) - Dyanne

Becca Bailey is thrilled to make her Harlequin Productions debut! And to be in Washington for the first time! She lives in Orlando, FL with her husband, Ben Bailey. She is currently working fulltime at Walt Disney World with Actors' Equity Association at the Frozen Sing-Along and she recently performed at Epcot's International Festival of the Holidays. Credits: Dyanne (Million Dollar Quartet) ECTC, Orlando Shakes, Red Girl (SHOUT! The Mod Musical) Ocean City Theatre Company, and Karen (Mean Girls) The Ren. [www.beccabaileyyy.com](http://www.beccabaileyyy.com) @beccabaileyyy

**Nick Rawson** (he/him) - Brother Jay

Nick Rawson, BA is a musician who lives in Olympia, WA on the ancestral lands of the st'əč'as ("Steh-Chass") of the Squaxin Island Tribe. After completing undergraduate studies at The Evergreen State College and Berklee College of Music, he's spent the last decade as freelance musician, performing with local groups including Vendredi's Bag, Eden Lane, Mud Bay Jugglers, Olympia Jamgrass Collective, Ethan Tucker Band, Yarrow, Denim Protégé, Generifus, Olympia Symphony Orchestra, and Vanguard Revival Orchestra West. Infinity thanks to my teachers Kathy Dorgan, Chip Schooler, Anna Jensen, Susan Hagen, Drew Buchman, Chico Herbison, James Schneider, and Zae Tinaza.

**Will Madison** (he/him) - Fluke

Will Madison is a Tumwater local who has been playing music for most of his life. Will currently plays in the Black Hills HS jazz band, SPSCC Big Band, and recently won 1st place in multiple percussion at the 2026 WIAA state solo competition in Ellensburg. Will would like to thank his family, friends, and everyone on his street, for tolerating his daily jam sessions in the garage.

## CREATIVE TEAM

### **Emily A. Rollie** (she/her) - *Director*

Emily A. Rollie is a director and intimacy choreographer based in Washington State, returning to Harlequin after directing *POTUS* in 2025 and *Pride & Prejudice* in 2024.

Emily has directed in venues around the country, including productions of *The Wolves*, *Everybody*, *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson*, *Into the Woods*, and *Footloose*. She is the former artistic director for Independent Actors Theatre, a “purposefully nomadic” company known for its *short Women’s Play Festival* (the plays are short, not the women!). Emily teaches performance at Central Washington University and is faculty with Theatrical Intimacy Education, a founding member of PNW Theatrical

Intimacy Collective, and a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

**Stephanie Layton** (she/her) - *Music Director*

Stephanie is a multi-instrumentalist who splits time between her hometown of Olympia & (occasionally) NYC, where she spent over a decade living. Recent musician credits include Harlequin's *A Christmas Carol* (music director) and *Sweeney Todd* (vocal director), 2023's & 2024's *WTF Cabaret* at Williamstown Theater Festival, *Let's Fall in Love* at Florida Repertory Theater & drums/percussion gadgets for Bill Irwin's clown act at NYC's Irish Arts Center. As a vocalist she has appeared at Joe's Pub, the Rainbow Room & Carnegie Hall (technically; it was a very fancy bat mitzvah gig with her

jazz band), and as an accompanist she has played auditions or rehearsals for countless Broadway shows, national tours & regional productions. She is thrilled to be once again putting the "carol" in *A Christmas Carol* after having held down the alto line in last year's production.

[edenlanejazz.com](http://edenlanejazz.com)

**Jessica Low** (she/her) - *Choreographer*

Jessica is a Director, Choreographer, Performer, and Teaching Artist who holds a Bachelor of Arts in Drama from the University of Washington. Credits include: The 5th Avenue, Village Theatre, ACT, Arizona Theatre Company, Seattle Children's Theatre, Showtunes, ArtsWest, and The Bigfork Summer Playhouse. Previous Harlequin credits: *RENT*, *Cabaret*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*,

and *Roots of Rock*. She won the 2014 Gregory Award for Outstanding Choreography for Sound Theatre Company's *The Wild Party*. [jessicaannlow.com](http://jessicaannlow.com)

**Christina Barrigan** (she/her) - *Scenic and Lighting*

*Design*

Christina Barrigan is delighted to be back with Harlequin Productions with these designs for *Million Dollar Quartet*. Past work with Harlequin includes *Wait Until Dark* (2026), *POTUS* and *RENT* (2025), *What the Constitution Means to Me* (2024), *Cabaret* (2024), *This Flat Earth* (2022), and *Blackbird* (2019). Her other work includes The Actors' Theatre of Louisville's *La Egoista*, B Street Theatre's *Pickelball*, *Prince of Lightning: The Story of Young Nicola Tesla Boy Genius*, *Insertion*, *The Last Wide Open*, *Lovers*

*and Executioners, Byhalia, MS, and Holmes and Watson*  
and The Village Theatre's *Welcome Back Holiday Concert*;  
Seattle Gilbert and Sullivan Society's *Pirates of Penzance*,  
and with Wyoming Theatre Festival: *The Resolute*,  
*Another Roll of the Dice*, and *Hollywood, Nebraska*. She is  
also a resident teaching artist at Central Washington  
University, where she works on MainStage shows and new  
works. @barrigandesign

**Jason Kramer** (he/him) - *Costume Design*

Based in Seattle, this is Jason's fourth show at Harlequin,  
having previously designed for *Wait Until Dark*, *POTUS*  
and *RENT*—and he's thrilled to be here. He's a costume  
designer who loves collaboration, believes joy is essential,

and aims to make everyone feel seen (and maybe a little fabulous).

**Keith Jewell** (they/them) - *Sound Design*

Sound is all around us, yet nearly always invisible. It contributes to a sense of place, sets mood, and provides valuable cues about the world we inhabit. Keith grew up on a diet of audio stories from NPR, ZBS, Jim Copp, Bergman and Proctor, and old-time radio. This led to a passion for using sound to tell stories. From a 1993 puppet show adaptation of King Lear in the Star Wars universe, through over a hundred and thirty other productions, Keith has had the pleasure of getting to work with the exceptional designers, actors, and directors here at Harlequin for twenty-one seasons, as well as sixteen

seasons at Saint Martin's University. You also may have seen their work in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not." Recent and favorite Sound Designer credits here include *Murder on the Orient Express*, *RENT*, *Is This A Room*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Cabaret*, *Deathtrap*, *Hundred Days*, *Fun Home*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Murder for Two*, and *August: Osage County*.

**Dan Wolff** (he/him) - *Properties Design*

Daniel comes from a background in practical design. He holds a degree in Wooden Furniture

Design and a diploma in Fine Arts. His first job upon immigrating to the USA from Australia was

as a wooden boat builder, and he still builds boats today. He's excited for his third season working with Harlequin Productions.

**Bridget House** (she/her) - *Wig, Hair and Makeup Design*

While Bridget and her family may be new to the Olympia area, she is not new to a love of theater. Having been the Hair and Makeup Director for The Liberty Theater in Dayton, WA for 7 years, she has worked on productions such as *Oliver*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Music Man*, *Christmas Carol*, and *Annie*. She's excited to jump into theater again in her new community and has truly enjoyed her experiences with Harlequin and the players she has met. Bridget is a salon owner in Tumwater, calling The Craft salon her home.

**Grace Helmcke** (she/her) - *Dialect Coach*

Grace has been coaching dialects in the Pacific Northwest for six years, specializing in coaching theatrical productions and individuals in European and American accents. You may have seen her work at SecondStory Rep, Edmonds Driftwood Players and Reboot Theatre. She believes dialects are a part of identity and that we as storytellers have a duty to share these identities authentically. She's delighted to be working with Harlequin for the first time and hopes you enjoy the show!

**PRODUCTION TEAM**

**Celeste Elaine** (she/her) - *Stage Manager*

Million Dollar Quartet marks Celeste's twelfth production with Harlequin. A multi-hyphenate theatre artist, her past

productions here include Building Madness, Fun Home, Sovereignty, The Revolutionists, A Christmas Carol (2022, 2023), Deathtrap, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged), Cabaret, Ms. Holmes and Ms. Watson - Apt. 2B and Where the Summit Meets the Stars. Elsewhere, her choreography has been seen at area theaters and colleges, and she occasionally enjoys acting as well. Other favorite works include Bug, Urinetown, and Company. When not Stage Managing, Celeste spends her time enjoying matcha green tea and interior decorating her space.

**Tommy McGee** (he/him) - *Assistant Stage Manager*

Tommy is ecstatic to be working for Harlequin once again. Tommy has been working with Harlequin since 2016 as has been on the backstage of Harlequin doing everything

from spotlight, to sound cues, to assistant stage managing. When Tommy is not backstage at Harlequin, he can be found indulging in his hobbies of writing and creating culinary delights.

Lists of Individual Donors, Administrative Staff, Board Members, Underwriters and other Sponsors is available upon request. Please contact Brennan Tucker at [brennan@harlequinproductions.org](mailto:brennan@harlequinproductions.org)