

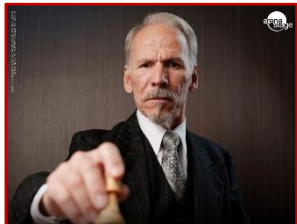
Meeting Notes

December 14, 2024



Reported by Carla Coupe

On Saturday, December 14th, The Red Circle celebrated the holidays by sailing down the Nile. . . at Washington's venerable Arena Stage. Almost 60 of us gathered to see the world premiere production of Ken Ludwig's adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Death on the Nile*—a not-to-be-missed staging of a classic mystery. A pdf of the program is available [here](#).



The production was held in Arena's Kreeger Theatre, where the audience was treated to an exciting, funny, and occasionally touching play. At the request of the Christie estate, Ken Ludwig penned this fast-moving and thrilling script, punctuated by his trademark humor. The characters are deftly drawn, and his clever use of comedy provides much-needed relief from the tension inherent in the plot of a

murder mystery. All the actors performed brilliantly, especially Armando Durán as detective Hercule Poirot, and newcomer Olivia Cygan as spoiled heiress Linnet Ridgeway. The sets were beautifully conceived, evoking the glamor and elegance of the period. The costumes? Oh, the costumes! Evening gowns in glorious cuts and fabrics, true to the courtier styles of the 1930s, elevated the appearance of luxury and extravagance.

Reviews of the play are available at the following links:



[The Washington Post](#)

[DC Theater Arts](#)

[Broadway World](#)

[Georgetown](#)

After the play, we were treated to a talk-back with Ken Ludwig, who joined his Red Circle friends to answer questions about his process, the background for this play and his other productions. Although we had to stop because the staff needed to set up for the evening performance, we appreciated Ken taking the time to speak with us and to share some of his experiences as a playwright. We all look forward to his next production. Thank you, Ken!

We'd also like to thank members of the Arena Stage staff, including house manager Bruce Perry and the folks in the Group Sales office. They were very helpful in coordinating the tickets and making our afternoon at the theatre a memorable experience.

