

*The Portable*

# Norothy Parker

PERFORMED BY:

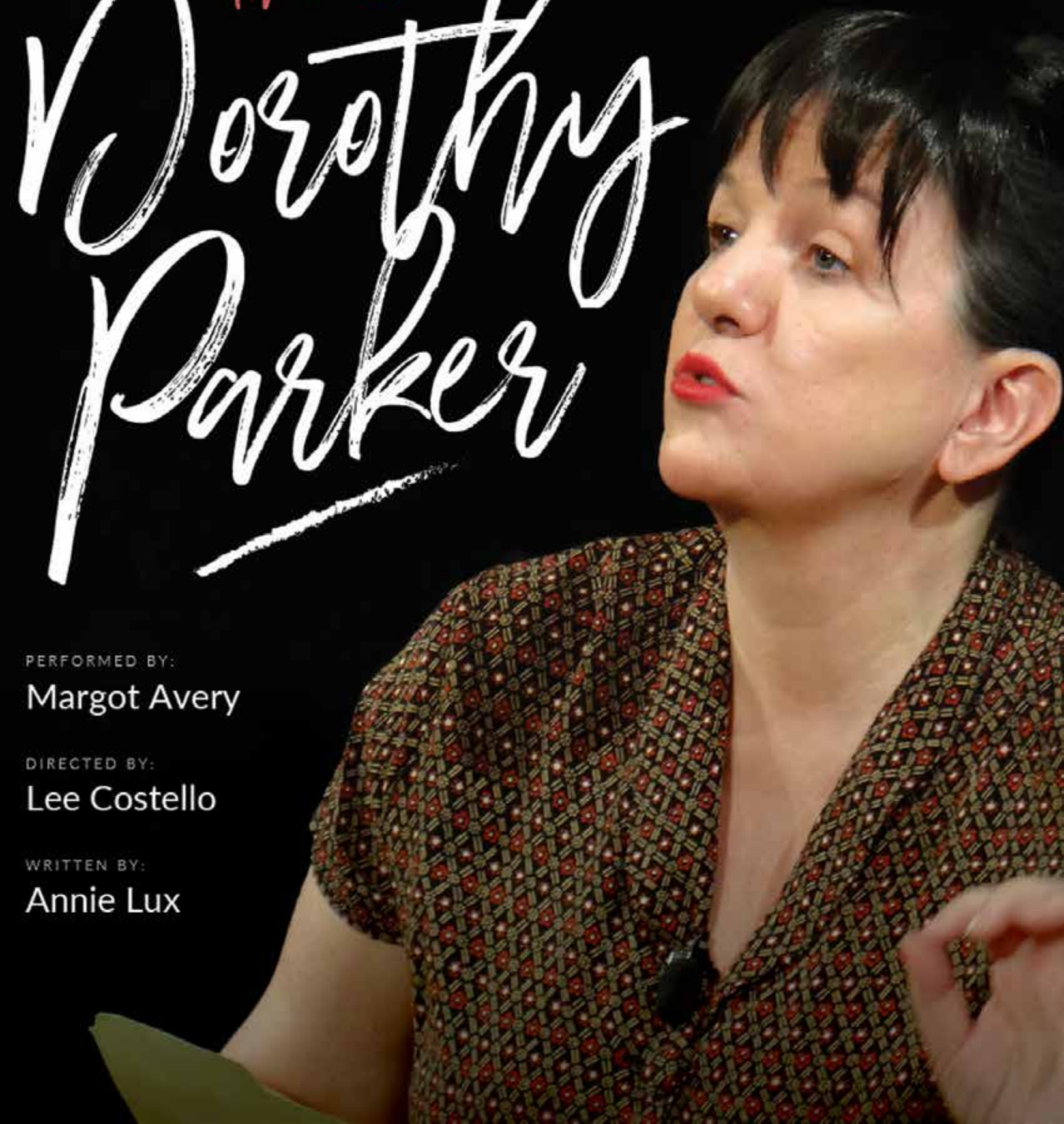
Margot Avery

DIRECTED BY:

Lee Costello

WRITTEN BY:

Annie Lux



## The Premise



The year is 1943; the place, a hotel apartment in New York City. Dorothy Parker--famed for her wit and her presence at the legendary Algonquin Round Table--sorts through

her works, looking back on her life: her many loves and heartbreaks, her famous friends (Lillian Hellman, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway), the wits of the Round Table (Alexander Woollcott, Robert Benchley...), the founding of *The New Yorker*, and her time as a Hollywood screenwriter, as she prepares her famous collection for Viking Press:

***The Portable Dorothy Parker.***

"I hate writing. I love having written."

## The History

*The Portable Dorothy Parker* is the result of a labor of love by playwright Annie Lux, director Lee Costello, and actress Margot Avery. The play was conceived in December 2005, when Lee and Annie, who'd worked together years earlier, reconnected in Margot's NYC living room. Since

then, they have been striving to bring Dorothy Parker alive for theater audiences the world over.

Primarily developed at Ensemble Studio Theatre in New York City, *The Portable Dorothy Parker* has been presented at the Hollywood Fringe, the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, FringeNYC, the Pittsburgh Fringe (where it won the Selke Award for best show), and at the 2017 & 2023 Edinburgh Fringe Festivals (nominated for an Offie in '23), as well as in theaters in New York, Los Angeles, Santa Fe, Seattle, Richmond, and London.

[www.ThePortableDorothyParker.com](http://www.ThePortableDorothyParker.com)

The Press

"I don't care what people say about me as long as it isn't true."

"...almost as good as being a fly on the wall..."

--the magazine, New Mexico

"This portrait of Dot Parker, reminiscing on the who's who of her era, has legs."

--LA Weekly

"I like to imagine that this well written (Annie Lux), carefully directed (Lee Costello) and so well performed (Margot Avery) show would have made the lady of words herself smile and laugh more than a few times.

--Arts Reviews Edinburgh

"...an exceptionally talented performer, with a solid script. Directed with deft and care."

--Corr Blimey, Edinburgh

"Margot Avery as Dorothy Parker gives a riveting, hilarious performance which is entirely believable and incredibly entertaining."

--British Theatre Guide

"Annie Lux's script combs Parker's life, ... with a deftness of touch which encourages a three-dimensional assessment of the woman..."

--Broadway Baby, Edinburgh

"The play is staged simply but effectively by director Lee Costello ... This allows Avery to carry the show with her composure and her handling of Parker's language."

--The Post and Courier, Charleston

"The work of artists such as Lux & Avery will help ensure that Dorothy Parker is remembered for far more than a joke about glasses."

--Hy Reviews, New York

"Everything merges by the end of this entrancing hour into a sensitive and nuanced biographical portrait of Parker."

--Exeunt Magazine

"Margot Avery does well to capture the wry cynicism of the poet as well as her many anxieties, reciting her best known works with a humorous sass and swagger."

--The List, Edinburgh

"there was more to Parker than famous friends and a sharp brain, which is what The Portable Dorothy Parker aims to highlight."

--Charleston City Paper

"If you are a Dorothy Parker connoisseur, do not skip this performance."

--Pittsburgh in the Round

"It's fun and funny because it ... captures Parker gossiping about her friends, peers, and rivals."

--Medium, Seattle

"An entertaining and often touching hour-and-a-quarter."

--Pasatiempo, Santa Fe New Mexican

"This is the type of tightly written, keenly directed, subtly performed piece that is a pleasure to breathe in."

--Front Row Center, NY

"you're in for a wild, dishy ride through early twentieth-century American letters."

--Theatre is Easy, NY

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"Beauty is only skin deep but ugly goes clean to the bone."

*The photos*



photos by Fredda Tone



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For more information or to book this show please contact Margot Avery:  
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