

Walk Straight Into Laguna Beach's Delightfully Twisted "Trap"
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The story of "Trap" follows a strange investigation in which every audience member of a high school play falls unconscious except for one. The play follows the case through a compilation of interviews, security camera footage, and flashbacks.

Parker Bryan does an excellent job in her portrayal of Angela. The already ominous atmosphere thickens with the tremors in Bryan's voice as she phones 911 from the theater, reporting that "everyone" has been hurt. Later in the production, Bryan's worried expressions and labored breathing increase with the pace of the piano as Angela chokes out the only four words she can remember from the night of the crime; "The play's not over."

Flashing back to the 1940s, Maris Morgan glides across the stage, light as a feather while her character, Norma expresses her elation at her new engagement to the man of her dreams. But when he is wrongly convicted and killed for a crime he did not commit, Morgan's movements shift from light and airy to heavy and pained, building in intensity until Norma quite literally takes her final breath, drowning herself and falling to the floor dead.

The entrancing routine danced by Morgan was choreographed by Morgan herself and Catherine Jordan. The two match each of Norma's movements to emotion, employing graceful ballet techniques to match Norma's bubbly and cheerful disposition earlier in the play, but later slowing the dancing down to emphasize her sorrow and descent into insanity.

The real audience of the show is sure to feel an indescribable pit in their stomach as they look at the eerily designed booklet by marketing team members Lauren Norrix, Sam O'Neill, Maris Morgan, Mallory Keller, and Ally Notarianni. Is the word "Trap" written with blood? Is it supposed to look glitched? Even I'm not sure. You'd have to attend the play to find out. Along with this spooky design, when audience members walk out of the theater to spend a short intermission, a "Trap" themed poster is seen to be defiled and stripped of color. Instead of reading the show's title, the poster reminds viewers of a familiar and important phrase; "The play's not over."

So I'll let you in on a secret...the play isn't a trap! I think. But either way, stop by Laguna Beach, for "Trap." It is truly a tale of horrifying delight!