

Sherlockian Theatrical Society

A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

Number 10

Aug. 14 2022

"Baskervilles: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery"

By Ken Ludwig
Bryan, Texas

ON Sunday, August 14, 2022, our caravan was loaded and pointed southeast toward Bryan, Texas. More specifically to the StageCenter Theatre to enjoy "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" by Ken Ludwig. This is the same play The Sherlockian Theatrical Society attended on March 26 this year at the Runway Theatre in Grapevine, Texas (see newsletter #6) The 3 ½ hour drive was uneventful.

The theatre is located in the old downtown section of Bryan, Texas. Bryan is most noted as being the next door neighbor to College Station, Texas, home of the Texas A & M University and the Aggies. This is where they keep the Master's Memory Maroon instead of green.

The sold-out 60 seat theatre featured four actors portraying multiple roles alongside Sherlock Holmes (Harold Presley) and Dr. Watson (Chris Rogers). Jennifer Hugh's set design was minimalist but extremely efficient and effective, bordering on absurd. Baily Rogers, the only female in the cast, was brilliant and this was her first time on stage. She flowed through portrayals of Laura Lyons, Beryl Stapleton, Mrs.

STAGECENTER
theatre

KEN LUDWIG'S
BASKERVILLE
A Sherlock Holmes Mystery
directed by Jennifer Hargis

Underwritten by

August 4 - 20
Sunday Matinee August 14th

Tickets & Information at stagecenter.net
218 North Bryan Avenue, Bryan, TX

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

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Barrymore, a Baker Street Irregular, and Hansom Cab driver, to name just a few of her roles. Tim Scott, pulled off the roles of a Catalan hotelier, Barrymore, Stapleton, Hugo Baskervilles and others, with an affectionous twinkle in his eye. With poetic license, Sir Henry Baskerville (J. Paul Teel) was from Texas and like to be called Hank. With a hilarious set of Tee in his mouth, his Charles Baskerville had the audience rolling in their seats. He also was Hugo Baskerville at one point. David House rounded out the cast as Lestrade, an Irregular, Station Master and the prisonor "Victor" not the usual Seldon. Chris Rogers (Dr. Watson) came across more in the Nigel Bruce vain. Harold Presley (Sherlock Holmes) was very convincing.

By far, this was the funniest and most enjoyable version of the play I have seen about a half dozen times. Director Jennifer Hargis notes 'If you're looking for a serious, mysterious, traditional Sherlock Holmes experience, well, uh, you're not going to find it here.' Sadly August 20th is the final day to see this grand farce set among the moors and find out about the footprints of a gigantic hound. Those lucky enough to attend will certainly not be disappointed.

As a reminder, The Sherlockian Theatrical Society is a non-judgmental society. It is our belief that any play about Sherlock Holmes is worth attending. Even if the cast is dead and the play is staged in the morgue, there could be something positive to say, like 'Wow, even under the stage lights, the players never broke a sweat.' We love Sherlock Holmes and we love live theater, so nothing will deter us off of our chosen path.

Break a leg!!!

Flower Mound, TX
August 15, 2022