

Sherlockian Theatrical Society

A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

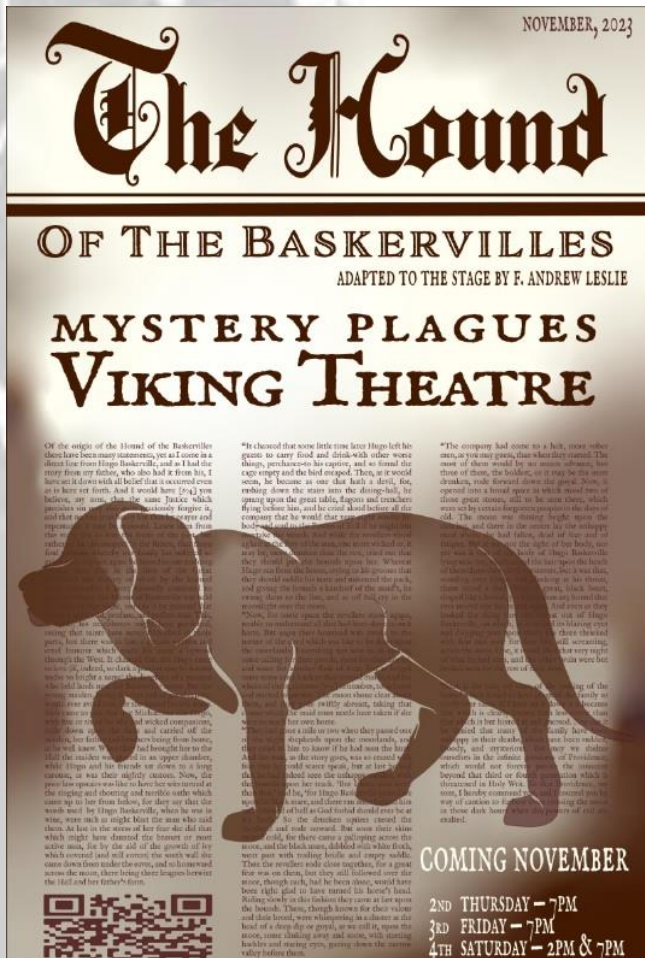
Number 22

Nov.03 2023

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" Adapted for the stage by Andrew Leslie Bryan, Texas

ON a blustery Friday night sans the bright lights of Texas High School football, yours truly, Uncritic #001 headed back to the land of the Texas A & M Aggies - Bryan/College Station to attend the Bryan High School's Black Box Theatre performance of 'The Hound of the Baskerville.' With most of the student body on or near the gridiron, those that chose to see the play were most likely warmer and equally satisfied. This high school theatre seats about 100 and was three-quarters full.

Forest Gamble directs the student cast along with the audience through the moors where our hero (or her-o) Sherlock Holmes (Naomi Forester) and the ever faithful Dr. Watson (Camden Adams) must solve one of the perplexing cases of his career. Joined on stage by Dr. Mortimer (Riley Fry), Sir Henry (Gavin Neff), J. Stapleton (Cody Wise), Beryl Stapleton (Grace Dubose), Barrymore (Brady Rich), Mrs. Barrymore (Kai Kirk) and Laura Lyons (Jillian Ezra), this action packed drama keeps everyone on their toes. Stage manager Sophia Paetz and her assistants kept everything flowing smoothly. It never falls into the Great Grimpen Mire of mediocracy, even this Sherlockian was kept on his toes. The sitting rooms at 221B easily transitioned in to Baskerville Hall. Baskerville Hall was



simply transformed into Grimpen Mire by a few drop-cloths over the furniture. This was an efficient and creative use of the stage area.

The play which runs for 3 days, November 2, 3, and 4 at 7:00 pm and a Saturday matinee at 2:00 is well worth attending even on such a short notice. High school performances can be such a treat when they are well done. This one surely fits that bill. It would be a delight if the Beacon Society to see so many young people enjoying The Master. After the performance, the Beacon Society's information was given to the director.

Every so often during the night I would expect to hear a comedic line uttered but this was not the case. I hold these thoughts due to having seen that other Baskerville play often in the past few years. This was a serious production on a treat to see.

Never forget, 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.

Flower Mound, TX
November 4, 2023