

Sherlockian Theatrical Society

A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

Number 35

June 15, 2024

"Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Elusive Ear"

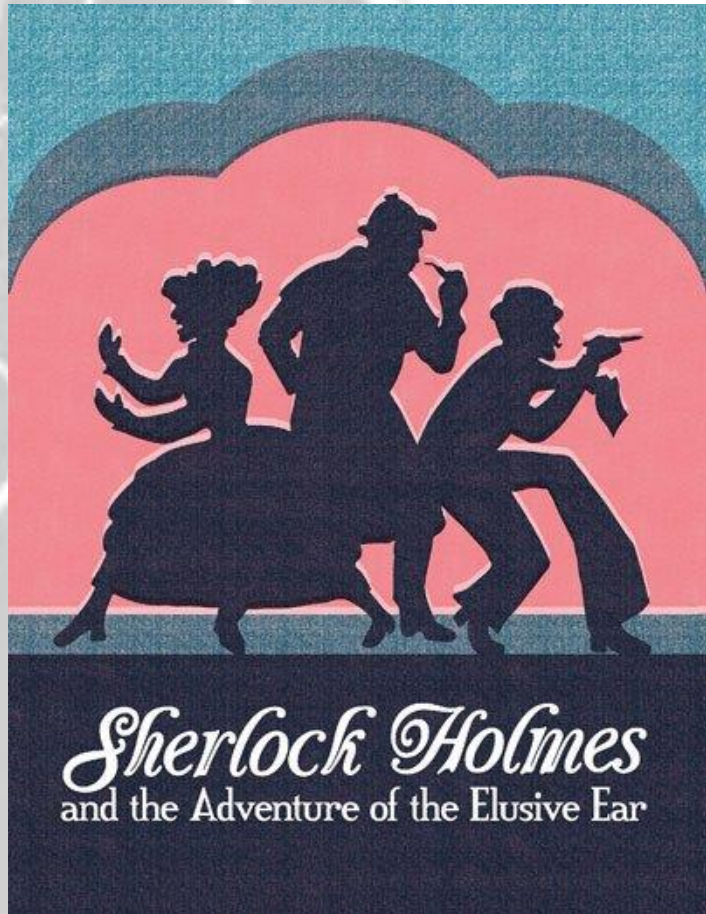
By David McGregor

Fort Worth, TX

ON Friday night, a large group of Uncritics (#001, 004, 009, and 011) met for dinner with playwright David McGregor at legendary Fort Worth restaurant, Joe T. Garcia's. This was the warm-up before we headed to Stage West Theatre to see their production of David's play, ***Sherlock Holmes and the Elusive Ear***. According to the theatre, this is the first of a trilogy of Sherlock Holmes plays they will be staging over the three seasons.

Our small army of Sherlockian theatre goers were joined with a sold-out crowd. Sherlock Holmes (John-Michael Marrs) and Dr. Watson (Brian Gonzales) were not the typical portrayal, in the comedic play. Their banter kept the audience on their toes. The audience learns very quickly that this play is going to be different when Mrs. Hudson (Dana Schultes) is revealed to be, in fact, Holmes' lover, Irene Adler. Watson has had to disguise this fact to buffer the sensitive Victorian readers.

When Vincent Van Gogh (Mitch Stephens) appears in need of Holmes to find his missing ear, he steals the show but only until Oscar Wilde (Philip Matthew Maxwell) shows up, where



he promptly steals the show. As long as we are talking about show stealers, we mustn't forget Marie Chartier (Kelsy Milbourn). Her surprise reveal lets her, in turn, steal the show. Well heck, let me just say all five actors steal the show when they were performing and perform they did. After the show, there was about 30-minutes of Q and A for David McGregor. He revealed that several of the scenes were ad-libs from the cast. One of those was Waton's reaction after drinking Absynthe of the first time. He had the audience rolling on the floor. We learned that with each performance, his response to the green liquor is different.

Stage West Theatre has a large stage and set designer Clare Floyd DeVries did a marvelous jobs of "cluttering" the stage. Director Jay Duffer has done a terrific job of interpreting Mr. McGregor's brilliant play. The entire play takes place in the sitting rooms at 221B Baker Street, so the action is ongoing and flows lovely from act to act. The only negative I can find is we, the audience, must wait an entire year before we are treated to so much fun once again.

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. 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
June 17, 2024



Mitch Stevenson; Brian Gonzales; John-Michael Marrs; Dana Schultes; Kelsey Mibourne; Phillip Matthew Maxwell