

Sherlockian Theatrical Society



A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

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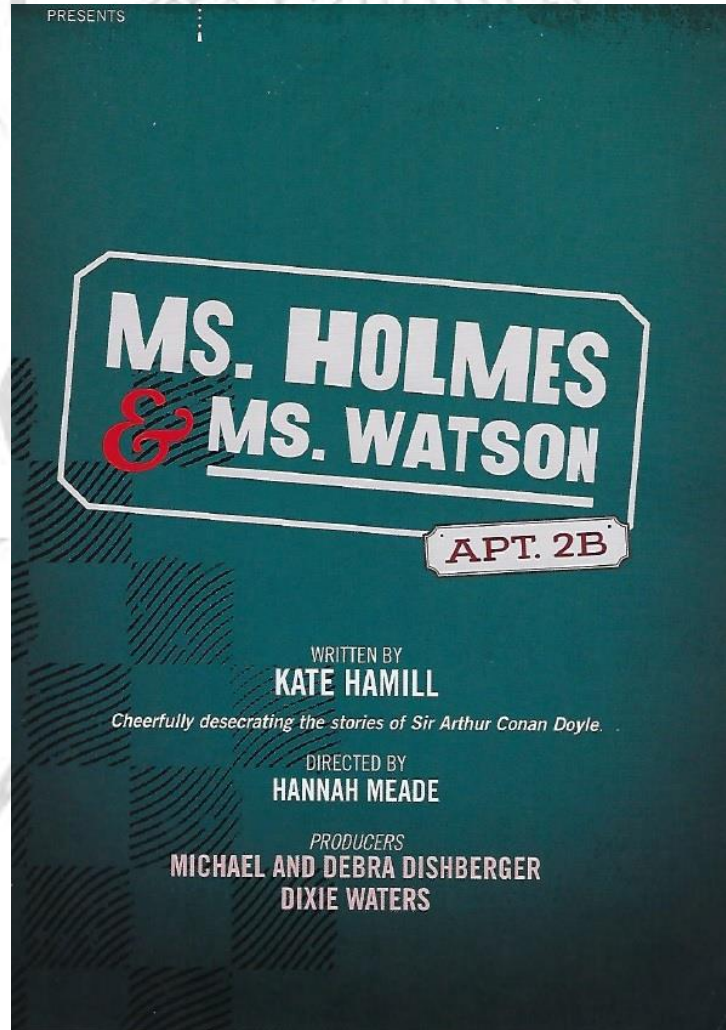
"Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson - Apt. 2B"

By Kate Hamill

Houston, TX

What better way to spend Friday night alone than with Holmes and Watson. This is exactly what Uncritic #001 did. Wife out of town, the other Uncritics unavailable, car full of petrol, and money to burn, it was off to The Stages in Houston. This is another Theatre-in-the-round, actually in the square that seats approximately 180 and on this night about three-quarters full. Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson - Apt. 2B is a darkly comic, fast-paced play that focuses on the reluctant female roommates of Sherlock Holmes (Rose Morrigan) and Dr. Joan Watson (Heather Hall).

Our dynamic duos emerge from a post pandemic fog as a quasi-dysfunctional Odd Couple cast together by a scheming Mrs. Hudson (Mai Lê) who is trying to rent her upstairs apartment, 2B to Watson, who appeared after answering an ad for a room 'To Let.' She soon discovers an annoying Shirley Holmes who insists on being called Sherlock. Ms. Lê, who also plays Irene Adler,



has a disreputable job as sex worker. She is being pursued by Elliot Monk (Christopher Szeto-Joe), a character that acts just like a real-life person with the same E.M. initials. At one point he enters the stage wearing a Trump mask offering money for votes. Mr. Monk is running for senate and Ms. Adler has a 'questionable hard-drive' thus the reason for his pursuit of her. Mr. Szeto-Joe also plays Inspector Lestrade and Professor Moriarty. Lestrade tries continually to draw to Watson's attention to his romantic jesters, and he continues to fail at this effort. The romantic intentions between Holmes and Ms. Adler leave little to consider. Ah but is this merely acting?

Director Hannah Meade has this fast-paced hilarious cast of characters constantly moving across the stage, delivering their lines toward each of the four sides of the audience. There are plenty of one-liners that keep everyone holding their sides from laughing so hard. One line about Holmes being difficult to live with was 'he plays his simulated, air-violin at all hours of the night'. There are double-crosses, crossing out double-double crosses. But fear not though, our hero or in this case our heroine saves the day and may just have found a permanent roommate in the process.

The props were minimal at the least. Most of the time, a single couch was all that was on stage. This was wheeled off and a bathtub with a body in it appears. Hats off to Afsaneh Aayani for his scenic design.

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
Oct. 25, 2024

