

Sherlockian Theatrical Society



A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

Number 47

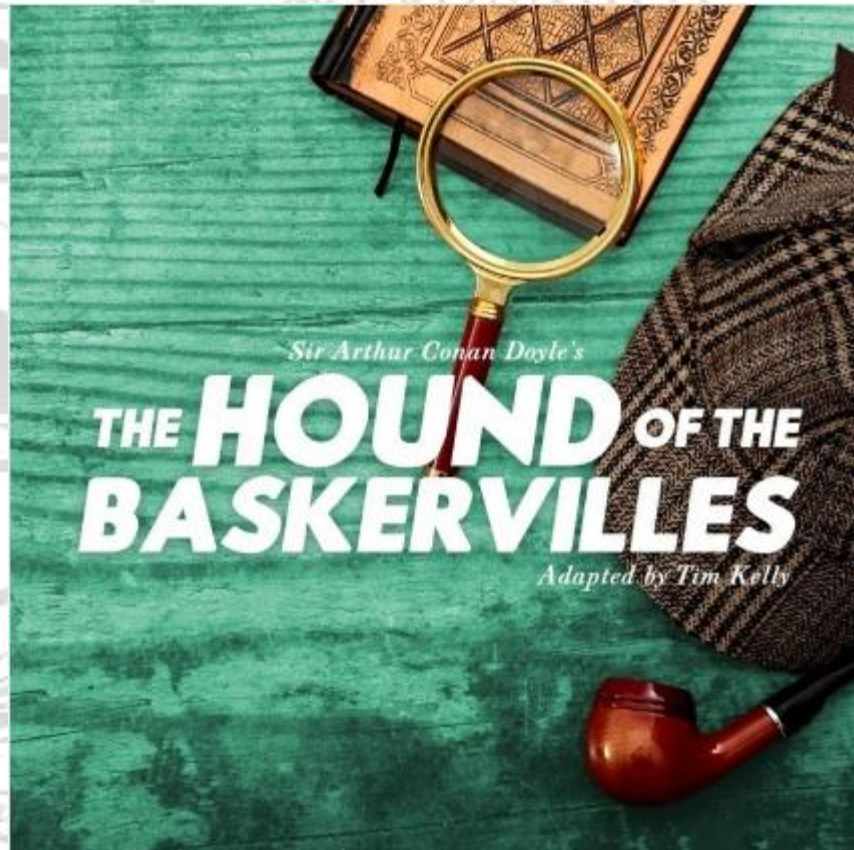
Feb. 23, 2025

"The Hound of the Baskervilles"

By Tim Kelly

San Angelo, Texas

ON a sunny Sunday morning, yours truly and Dean Clark (Uncritic #002) enjoyed a 4+ hour drive and traveled to San Angelo, Texas to the Angelo Civic Theatre. Somehow the drive reminded me of the Loudon Wainwright III song: "Dead Skunk". It must have been a rough Saturday night for those little black and white critters. There was not a five mile stretch on the entire journey where we did not see one of those flatten fellows. We smelled so many, I thought I was walking down a street in Manhattan where marijuana has been legalized, but I digress.



This was the serious play, not the one I usually review. I know we are a non-judgmental society and never say anything bad towards any production of Sherlock Holmes, so let me say right up front, the only disappointment I had was the theatre was experimenting with using a QR Code in place of a program. After the play, I was told by a

board member that in the future, programs would be returning. - Whew! The audience, shall I say, was of the mature type, so most were not computer savvy enough to upload a QRC.

The entire play is set in Baskerville Hall where we meet Lady Agatha (Emily Hill) and Dr. Watson (Tyler Tennell) where they are discussing the recent death of Sir Charles Baskerville. Our hero, Sherlock Holmes (Brent Jenkins) and Sir Henry (Kaden Wright) have just returned from the moors. They are confronted by Jack Stapleton (Tate McMillan) and his sister/wife Kathy Stapleton (Hera Olsen) accusing Sir Henry of ungentlemanly conduct. As the play unfolds, suspicions fall on the Barrymore's (Kraig Schell and Yvette Sherman) because of the money bequeathed them by Sir Charles and then to Laura Lyons (Shannon Dennis). The audience never actually sees the hound but it can be heard throughout the play.

The costumes were a bit of a quandary. In one scene, Watson appears on stage on skin-tight, white bellbottoms and a black turtleneck sweater. Both Lady Agatha and Laura Lyons wear mid-length skirts. In another scene Watson tells Sir Henry that he keeps getting Holmes' answering machine. Barrymore is discovered signaling Seldon with a 'flashlight' not a 'torch' as the British call them. The director (Ari Gallindo) explained to me that the play was set in 1971 thus the non-Victorian dress. This was the final production of this unusual but thoroughly enjoyable run. One lucky patron won the raffle, which was an original painting of the silhouette of Holmes in front of a full moon with a glowing Hound in the foreground. This was very nice painting, one that would have been right at home on a wall of Jerry Margolin's house (I hear he has plenty of wall space these days).

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
Feb. 24, 2025