

Sherlockian Theatrical Society



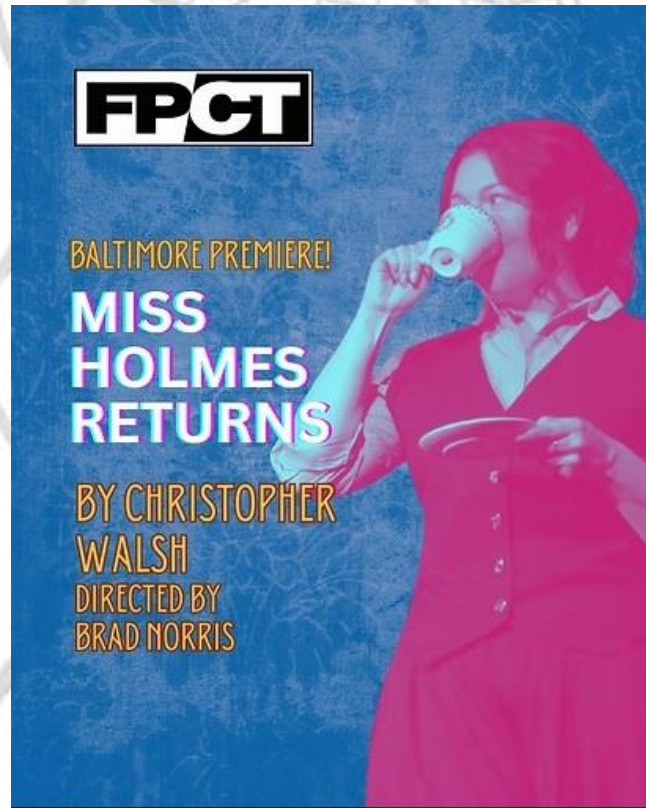
A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

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"Miss Holmes Returns"
By Christopher Walsh
Baltimore, MD

Christopher M. Walsh has written "Miss Holmes" (2016) and "Miss Holmes Returns" (2022), and the Fells Points Corner Theatre in Baltimore, Md., has produced both plays, with the same actors in the leading roles. Fells Point is a colorful and historic neighborhood in Baltimore, perhaps most famous in recent times for a restaurant called Bertha's Mussels, which opened in 1972 and (alas) closed in 2023. The non-profit community theater's first season opened in 1987, and they have continued with an ambitious program ever since. The theater is in the basement of an 1850 brick firehouse with about 120 comfortable seats and a bare-bones stage that works well on two levels.



Walsh is an actor as well as a playwright, and you read more about him and his work at his interesting website <https://christophermwash.com/miss-holmes>. Uncritic 003

has attended (and enjoyed) both of his Sherlockian plays, the second one on May 10, and you don't need to have seen the first play to enjoy the second one (but the theater did offer a staged reading of the first play during the current run.

Holmes and Watson are played by women, and "Miss Holmes Returns" involves them in Josephine Butler's campaign against the Britain's Contagious Disease Act (which allowed police to regard and mistreat women as prostitutes without evidence), and in investigating a series of murders and pursuing a mysterious professor who of course turns out to be Moriarty. Sharon Maguire essentially steals the show as Sherlock Holmes, supported by Emma Grace Dunabar as Dr. Dorothy Watson, Dominic Gladden as Geoffrey Lestrade, Katie Ganem as Mrs. Hudson, and half a dozen other energetic actors.

Walsh presents Holmes and Watson with feminist insight, and with attention paid to the Victorian era's sexism and racism, and is successful (according to a review in the Chicago Tribune) in suggesting that "being the world's greatest detective is even harder when one is metaphorically doing it backward and in high heels."

As a reminder, The Sherlockian Theatrical Society is a nonjudgmental 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!!!

Bethesda, MD
Mar. 11, 2026

