

Streatham Theatre Company presents

ON THE AIR



6, 7, 8, 9 November
8pm (doors open 7.30pm)

The Studio @ Streatham Hill Theatre
Beacon Bingo
110 Streatham Hill, SW2 4RD

Tickets £8 | Concessions, Members £5

Whatever happens, the show must go on...

Souvenir Programme



www.streathamtheatre.org.uk

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to this our second Streatham Theatre Company production, once again staged in the historic Streatham Hill Theatre. Many thanks go to Beacon Bingo for letting us use this lovely space. STC have worked with Beacon Bingo to create a stage in this 'new' studio space which hopefully will be used for further events of ours and other local groups in the future.

STC's aim is to be the theatrical community of Streatham, open to everyone interested in theatre on stage and off stage, at whatever level of experience (or none). Having launched in only April this year, it's great to now have over 50 members and around 350 followers online. Plus we have staged a successful first production as part of the Streatham Festival 2013, and have held a series of readings, workshops and social events. If you've not already been to one of our popular 'second Tuesday' of the month events, we hope to see you soon.

This production has been a new experience for us. In our regular workshops we have found great interest and enjoyment in improvising and devising actions and dialogue. So we took a Sherlock Holmes radio script as a core, and built this show around it. Starting in October, we created the actors and production team who make the radio show. We devised their characters, back stories and chequered history with each other. We then put these characters in a stressful live anniversary radio broadcast, lit the blue touch paper and, well you will see the result.

It was a challenging but fun time. We hope you enjoy the result, which has two stories for the price of one! Whatever happens, the show must go on...

David Harvey, Director & Chairman, November 2013

PS. Do take advantage of Beacon Bingo's licensed bar in the main auditorium on the ground floor. There you can also see the beautiful original theatre. However, if you do, please keep voices low while games are in progress.

Our grateful thanks go to everyone who has helped

including: Vinters Studios, Streatham Action, Beacon Bingo, Network Theatre*,
our volunteer committee, our members and friends,
our patron Lord Michael Grade (Baron Grade of Yarmouth),
all our cast, crew and production team, our front of house team,
and of course you our valued audience.

***If you would like to hear a quality Sherlock Holmes Christmas audioplay, go to www.networktheatre.org/audioplays for a free download.**

The Show

A special live anniversary performance of a Sherlock Holmes story is performed in an historic radio theatre in front of a live audience. However in this stressful environment, the tensions and conflicts between the members of the radio cast and production team which have built up during the long running series come to a head. The off-mic drama threatens to interfere with the live broadcast, but whatever happens, once on the air, the show must go on...

*Radio script based on Sherlock Holmes stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
Play script devised by the company.*

The show runs for about an hour with no interval.

Cast

In order of appearance:

*Michael Stand (Sound Engineer)..... David Harvey
Dorothy (Tea Lady)Helen Mason
Carlton Dunkley (voicing Narrator, Reginald, Inspector and Henri).. Ende Lambe
Evie Digby (Production Assistant) Lucy Acfield
Lauren Anderson (voicing Gendarme and Prefect) Melanie Newman
Geraldine Lester (Producer, also voicing Yvette) Liz Burton
Sir Basil Cuthbert (voicing Holmes)..... Alan Scott
Chaz Taylor (voicing Watson)..... Matt Grater*

Production Team

*Director and Producer..... David Harvey
Script Associate Frances Bruce
Technical Manager David Harvey
Production Associate Terry Wynne
Lighting and get-in Dan Young & Emma Byrne
Front of House..... Members of STC
Poster designJessica Pigg
Costume, makeup and props..... Members of the company*

The Theatre Team



Photo: Andreina Sambucetti

Melanie Newman: Mel is a local resident who has lived in Streatham for 7 years. She is new to acting but did take part in the Streatham Theatre Company's first production, *Then and Now* at this year's Streatham Festival. She is also trying her hand at writing a play.

Helen Mason: Helen is a founder member of STC with a background in street theatre, improvisation and conventional theatre. She also directs and designs theatre sets. Her varied and colourful roles with a number of South London's companies include a pirate's Moll, pregnant housewife, Italian whore, middle-aged acrophobic obsessive, grieving widow and eighteenth century matriarch. As Dot the tea lady Helen is enjoying performing on her doorstep and looking forward to a nice cup of tea and the Racing Post!

Enda Lambe: Enda is a Streatham resident, living a short distance from this very theatre. This is Enda's second production with STC, having previously been cast as a dirty old man in *Then and Now*, our Streatham Festival show. This role is somewhat bigger, playing a character who plays several other characters, and doesn't involve wearing a dirty mac.

Alan Scott: Alan has been performing for more years than he wants to think about but this is his first with STC. He loves playing parts with different accents - an American spying for the Russians in *Pack of Lies*, Norfolk farmer in *Restoration* and Alan Bennett in *The Lady in the Van*. Most recently he was a 50 year old business man from Yorkshire in Alan Ayckbourn's *Time of My Life* (not difficult for someone from Yorkshire originally) and then went behind the scenes as the Director of *Under Milk Wood*.

Matt Grater: Matt grew up and went to school in Streatham (the same school as Roger Moore, but not in the same class - although, unlike Sir Roger, Matt can

raise both his eyebrows at the same time). He has spent most of his life working backstage in theatre, TV and rock & roll but has never acted before and thought the Streatham Theatre Company might be fun.

Liz Burton: Liz has been involved in amateur theatre for more years than she cares to remember and is particularly passionate about improvisation and devised work, so she is very happy to be able to take part. She is also a member of Common Touch Theatre in Battersea.

Lucy Acfield: Lucy has lived in Balham for 4 years and this is her first play with the Streatham Theatre Company. With a passion for acting and a background in the arts, she is keen to get involved in local theatre and is looking forward to returning to treading the boards.

David Harvey: Having been involved behind the scenes in amateur and fringe theatre with a number of companies over the years, David founded Streatham Theatre Company this year. Usually contributing as stage manager, technical manager or production manager, he has also taken on the role of director for this devised show. He has also stepped onto the stage as the Engineer.



The Studio @
Streatham Hill Theatre



The Radio Team



Photo: Andreina Sambucetti

Lauren Anderson: Lauren Anderson is a regular advisor to the popular TV show *Cozzers; Cameras; Chaos*, where she met its star, Chaz Taylor. A long time fan of Sherlock Holmes and his deductions she jumped at the opportunity to become involved in a small way in this production.

Dorothy: No-one can remember when Dorothy (Dot to her friends) began working at the studio. All they know is she makes a mean cuppa and knows everything about everyone. Strangely, no-one can remember her surname. If they could, they might realise that she is one of the sharpest unlicensed bookies on the circuit and has her fingers in all manner of illicit money-lending (and money-laundering) enterprises.

Carlton Dunkley: Carlton is a long standing member of the radio team, having been involved since day one. Starting as “general dogsbody” he has now become the regular Narrator as well as playing multiple roles, developing a wide range of voices and accents, of which he is proud. His interests include chemistry and pharmaceuticals, probability and statistics; pleasures which he likes to mix with work.

Sir Basil Cuthbert: Sir Basil was the face behind the mask of Orinoco Womble. After a stint in repertory he moved to Hollywood where he starred in *Star Wars* and *Night of the Living Dead*. West End credits include *Hair*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and *Stomp*. Now a stalwart of the RSC and the NT, he recently appeared in *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here* (eating maggots is not an experience to be repeated darling). His ambition is to win *Strictly Come Dancing*.

Chaz Taylor: Chaz Taylor is one of those rarities; an actor who's never been out of work. He's played in this radio drama since its first broadcast and, in

between doing voice-overs, lucrative product endorsements, chat shows and after-dinner speeches, he also now presents reality shows: *Rozzers R Us* and *Cozzers*; *Cameras*; *Chaos* on Channel 5, ensuring another rarity amongst actors - confidence and financial security. He has no time for the 'luvvies' in this business, but his major weakness, and his ultimate downfall, is his penchant for the opposite sex... the younger the better.

Geraldine Lester: Ever since she was a little girl Geraldine longed to be on the telly, preferably as David McCallum's glamorous *Girl from UNCLE*, but after you've been told more than a few times that you have a face for radio, you tend to take the hint. After numerous years' acting in radio, when she failed to win a Carlton Hobbes award, she moved over to the production side. That coincided with changes in personal circumstances that meant she has not moved far from her first show, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Still, after more than 20 years, she feels ready to spread her wings! The sky's the limit! Watch this space!

Evie Digby: Evie is a naive but likeable girl who is just starting her journey in the working world. She attained the position of production assistant through her mother who used to be a PA herself on the show. Radio is new to Evie and she is finding her feet. Although not the sharpest pencil in the tin, she has more of an impact on the cast and crew than she realises.

Michael Stand: Mike has been a studio engineer since the early days of quality radio drama, contributing to classic shows in the heydays of radio. Nowadays he just presses button for shows created as vehicles for modern celebrities. He welcomes this chance to go back to the good old ways of sound.



Holmes and Watson at the mic

Photo: Andreina Sambucetti

Regular Events

Streatham Theatre Company holds regular events on the second Tuesday of each month. Our [Second Tuesday Club](#) sessions are open to all, and cover a wide range of activities including play readings, workshops, quizzes and social events. In addition we will hold other events and activities at other times. Many events are free. Do come along, and if you have a suggestion for an activity please do let us know as below.

[Our next few dates for your diary](#) (more details on our website):

Second Tuesday Club: 12 November - Text interpretation workshop, then 10 December, 14 January, 11 February, 11 March and so on!

Productions

Our [programme of future productions](#) will be performed by our members in local venues for local audiences, plus we may take our shows 'on tour' to showcase Streatham's talent elsewhere. If you're interested in getting involved in any capacity, do get in touch as below. Our plans include:

March 2014: 'Playing with Sugar' - a special show dramatising reminiscences from local residents, created to mark the reopening of Streatham's Tate Library and Tudor Hall after their refurbishment, 125 years after the passing of the Streatham Free Public Library Act in 1889.

Membership

Membership is open to everyone (aged 18 or over), with a connection to Streatham, and whatever their level of experience in theatre - amateur, professional, audience or none. Annual subscriptions are only £10 - ask one of our team for an application form or contact us as below.

Contact

You'll find more on our website www.streathamtheatre.org.uk where you can also join our mailing list and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

You can email us on info@streathamtheatre.org.uk or call 020 3432 5710.

www.streathamtheatre.org.uk