

TAPROOT THEATRE



C O M P A N Y

Scott L. Nolte

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kill Date: December 31, 2009

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TAPROOT THEATRE PRESENTS *SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE CHRISTMAS CAROL*

World premiere by local playwright opens November 27

SEATTLE – October 15, 2009 – Holiday traditions are getting a twist with the world premiere of *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol* at Taproot Theatre Company. Written by local playwright John Longenbaugh and directed by Scott Nolte, this is a mystery that will delight the entire family. These then are the facts: The year, 1894. The date, Christmas Eve. The location, 221B Baker Street. After being presumed dead for three years, a hardened Sherlock Holmes resurfaces, turning his back on the people who need him most. Three unexpected callers arrive on Christmas Eve uncovering clues from the detective's past, present and future. Can they save Holmes and his world from a dire end? They must "do it all in one night" to accomplish the task. *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol* opens on November 27 and runs through December 30, with low-price previews on November 20 & 21, plus a pay-what-you-can performance on November 25.

In *The Final Problem*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote what he believed would be the final story in his series about his legendary detective. In this story, Sherlock Holmes faces his nemesis Professor Moriarty at Reichenbach Falls, and tumbles into the roaring rapids below. Outraged at the hero's death and at the series' end, fans demanded that the writer bring Holmes back and continue writing. So, the Holmes stories can be filed in two categories: before the incident at Reichenbach Falls, and the years following the fall, starting in 1894, when Holmes reappeared in *The Adventure of the Empty House*. But what happened between 1891 and 1894, the "missing years," which are one of the great unsolved mysteries of the time? Where did Holmes go? What really happened to him? And what could that mean for the future? Uncover the startling answers in this world premiere production.

Playwright John Longenbaugh has been involved in the Seattle theatre scene for years. Formerly writing about Seattle theatre in a column in *Seattle Weekly*, Longenbaugh is now the media relations manager at 5th Avenue Theatre.

Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol features Terry Moore as Sherlock Holmes, David Nail as Watson and Alex Robertson as Moriarty, plus David Dorrian, Aaron Lamb, Jesse Notehelfer, Pam Nolte and Eric Riedmann. The production team includes scenic and sound designer Mark Lund, costume designer Sarah Burch Gordon and lighting designer Jody Briggs. Sarah Dale Rice serves as stage manager and Judy Naegeli as dramaturg.

***Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol* Fact Sheet**

"Puzzles, enigmas—I never understood your delight in such things. Well then: let's see if you can solve the riddle of who you are, and what you will become." – Moriarty

WHAT: *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol* by John Longenbaugh, directed by Scott Nolte

DESCRIPTION: These then are the facts: The year, 1894. The date, Christmas Eve. The location, 221B Baker Street. After being presumed dead for three years, a hardened Sherlock Holmes resurfaces, turning his back on the people who need him most. Three unexpected callers arrive on Christmas Eve uncovering clues from the detective's past, present and future. Can they save Holmes and his world from a dire end? They must "do it all in one night" to accomplish the task. A mystery full of Christmas spirits your whole family will enjoy.

WHEN: November 20 through December 30, 2009. Previews: November 20 & 21. Pay-what-you-can (PWYC) performance: November 25. Opening Night with Reception: November 27.

SCHEDULE: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 8:00 p.m.; Saturday matinee, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Taproot Theatre, 204 N. 85th St. in Seattle.

TICKETS: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday matinees, \$26-28; Friday and Saturday evenings, \$30-33; preview performances, \$20-22. Senior matinee performance on December 2 is \$20. \$20 Tuesdays on December 1 (sold out!), 8 and 15.

Tickets for the pay-what-you-can performance on November 25 go on sale day of show at the box office only. A limited supply of \$10 tickets will be offered from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. on November 25 for that evening's performance. Regular pay-what-you-can tickets will go on sale at 5:00 p.m. on November 25. Limit 6 tickets per person between 12:00 and 5:00 p.m., and 4 tickets per person after 5:00 p.m.

For tickets contact Taproot Theatre's box office at (206) 781-9707. Group rates are available. For groups, call (206) 781-9708.

CALENDAR:

Fri.	November 20	8:00 p.m.	Preview
Sat.	November 21	8:00 p.m.	Preview
Tues.	November 24	7:30 p.m.	Special Private Performance
Wed.	November 25	7:30 p.m.	Post-play Discussion, PWYC
Thurs.	November 26		Thanksgiving Day, no performance
Fri.	November 27	8:00 p.m.	Opening Night with Reception
Sat.	November 28	2:00 p.m.	
Sat.	November 28	8:00 p.m.	
Tues.	December 1	7:30 p.m.	\$20 Tuesday (sold out!)
Wed.	December 2	2:00 p.m.	Senior Matinee
Wed.	December 2	7:30 p.m.	Dinner & Theatre, Post-play Discussion
Thurs.	December 3	7:30 p.m.	
Fri.	December 4	8:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 5	2:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 5	8:00 p.m.	
Tues.	December 8	7:30 p.m.	\$20 Tuesday
Wed.	December 9	7:30 p.m.	Dinner & Theatre, Post-play Discussion
Thurs.	December 10	7:30 p.m.	
Fri.	December 11	8:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 12	2:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 12	8:00 p.m.	
Tues.	December 15	7:30 p.m.	\$20 Tuesday
Wed.	December 16	7:30 p.m.	Post-play Discussion
Thurs.	December 17	7:30 p.m.	
Fri.	December 18	8:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 19	2:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 19	8:00 p.m.	
Tues.	December 22	7:30 p.m.	
Wed.	December 23	7:30 p.m.	Post-play Discussion
Thurs.	December 24		Christmas Eve, no performance
Fri.	December 25		Christmas Day, no performance
Sat.	December 26	2:00 p.m.	
Sat.	December 26	8:00 p.m.	
Tues.	December 29	7:30 p.m.	
Wed.	December 30	7:30 p.m.	Closing Night

ABOUT TAPROOT THEATRE COMPANY

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Mainstage Productions, Touring Productions and Acting Studio. Taproot exists to create theatre that explores the beauty and questions of life while bringing hope to our search for meaning. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS), and the Greenwood-Phinney Chamber of Commerce.

Support for Taproot Theatre's 2009 season is generously provided by The Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, ArtsFund, 4Culture, Washington State Arts Commission, PONCHO and Nesholm Family Foundation. Thanks to The Upper Crust, our Opening Night sponsor.

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