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CATCO Presents Mystery Thriller *Holmes and Watson* May 29-June 16

Contemporary spin true to legend of British sleuth and his sidekick Dr. Watson

Sherlock Holmes is dead ... or is he? The world knows the great detective went over the falls at Reichenbach with his nemesis Professor Moriarty. But as Holmes' body was never retrieved, several frauds, fakes and charlatans have since come forward to lay claim to his identity, including three mad men in an asylum. It is left to Dr. Watson to disprove them.

“Anything about Sherlock Holmes is a favorite of Columbus audiences based on the success of CATCO’s 2017 presentation of *Ken Ludwig’s Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*, so it is with pleasure we close our 2018-19 season with a contemporary spin on the fate of the legendary British sleuth,” said CATCO Producing Director and director of *Holmes and Watson*. “This 2016 work by Jeffrey Hatcher, full of plot twists and a nail-biter until the end, will not disappoint Holmes and Watson fans – and stays true to the suspenseful tradition of Holmes and Watson.”

“A truly smashing play full of twists and turns that will keep you on the edge of your seat ...,” said *TalkinBroadway.com*. An amazing must-see cliffhanger,” according to *BroadwayWorld.com*.

CATCO will present *Holmes and Watson* in the Van Fleet Theatre, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave., May 29-June 16, 2019.

Performing in *Holmes and Watson* is a veteran cast of Ohio actors, including some who are new to the CATCO stage. They are:

Kevin Carty (Holmes 2), who returns to the CATCO stage, where he was last seen as Harry Truman in *The Final Table*. Previous CATCO productions include, *I Love You You’re Perfect Now Change*, *The Fantastics*, as well as *Seussical the Musical* and *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown* at Phoenix Theater for Children. He has also directed shows at CATCO is Kids, Reality Theater, Columbus Children’s Theatre, Opera Columbus, and several area high schools, and, for the last 10 years, has portrayed the role of the clown wearing Big Red Shoes.

Scott Clay (Orderly), who has performed with several central Ohio theatre companies, including CATCO, Evolution Theatre, Actors Theatre, and Columbus Civic Theatre. Recent Credits include

Gillette in *The Games Afoot*, Charles in *Blythe Spirit*, and Ensemble in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*.

Jeff Haffner (Holmes 3), who is making his CATCO debut. He is an adjunct instructor of theatre at Ashland University, and also the video host for the Cleveland Orchestra's Music Explorers program. Recent credits: *The End of the Tour* (Seat of the Pants Productions), *Yankee Tavern* (none too fragile Theatre), *Equivocation* (Rubber City Theatre), and *Shear Madness*.

Becca Kravitz (Matron), a recent transplant from Chicago, who appeared in CATCO's 2018-19 season opener, *Breaking the Code*, and performed in Schiller Park last summer with Actors' Theatre of Columbus.

Jon Osbeck (Dr. Watson), an actor, writer and director, who has worked in screen and stage production for more than 15 years. Recent credits at CATCO include *Next Fall* and *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*. Screen credits include *The Public* (2017), *A Kind of Murder* (2016), *Goat* (2016) and *The Christmas Spirit* (2013). Additional stage credits include *A Riff on Hamlet*, *Looped*, *Frozen*, *Hungry Hearts* and *Stones in His Pockets*.

Charlie Rowe (Holmes 1), who began studying acting in 2015 by taking various classes at Broadway2LA Acting Studio and is making his CATCO debut. Since that time he has performed in *Throne of Oz* at CATCO is Kids and Stage Right Theatrics' *Ferguson: Truth Matters*, and at the second and third annual Conservative Theatre Festival. He has also studied improv at the Nest Theatre.

Ralph Scott (Dr. Evans), a graduate of The Second City in Chicago, who has performed in *Breaking the Code*, *The Realistic Joneses*, *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*, *The Three Trials Of Oscar Wilde*, *The Final Table*, *Next Fall*, *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*, *My Name Is Asher Lev*, *Evie's Waltz*, *The Foursome* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at CATCO. In addition to numerous regional and national commercial works, Scott is active in independent movies locally and throughout the Midwest.

Anderson's directing credits at CATCO include plays as diverse as the central Ohio premiere and first non-touring production in Ohio of *Fun Home*, as well as *Life Sucks.*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Eubie!*, *Aspects of Love*, *Educating Rita*, world premiere of *Henry Ford's Model E*, *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, and the highly acclaimed production of Doug Wright's *I Am My Own Wife*. He has also directed *Candide* and *Hair* at The Ohio State University Theatre Department; *Big River* and *Pippin* at Actors Theatre; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at New Harmony Theatre; and *Greater Tuna*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Assassins* at the former Players Theatre Columbus, where he served as Associate Producing Director.

Holmes and Watson ticket prices are Wednesdays (performance time 11 a.m.) \$20; Thursdays, \$30; Sundays, \$35; and Fridays and Saturdays, \$40. Student tickets can be purchased for \$15 for any performance based on availability and valid I.D. All tickets can be purchased online at www.catcoistheatre.org, at the box office at 39 E. State St. next to the Ohio theatre, by calling 614.469.0939, visiting ticketmaster.com or calling or visiting any central Ohio Ticketmaster location.

The presenting sponsors for *Holmes and Watson* are Peter and Robin Hersha.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' 34th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Helen E. Sandfort Arts-in-Education and Florence E.K. Hurd Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library; and media sponsor is WOSU public media. CATCO is Kids' presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit catco.org.

Season subscriptions for CATCO and CATCO is Kids are now available. For details, visit catco.org/subscribe, or contact the box office at 614.469.0939.

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages with CATCO is Kids, CATCO's imaginative, captivating theatre program for central Ohio's young theatre lovers and their families. Together, the theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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