



Jeffrey Hatcher's History of Holmes

Playwright Jeffrey Hatcher's history with writing Sherlock Holmes spans theatre and film and goes back to 2011. Of the vastly adaptable character Sherlock Holmes, Hatcher has said, "it's something about the Victorian era... there's a high theatricality in terms of this is exactly what he looks like, feels like, sounds like, but there's also just enough of a gap into which you can fill other things. Those other things can be the actor's persona, or it can be the time period that it takes place in."

Hatcher's first play set in the Holmes universe was *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventures of the Suicide Club*, which premiered at the Arizona Theatre Company and went on to be a hit at the Alley Theatre in 2013.

Hatcher also wrote the screenplay for the 2015 film *Mr. Holmes*. The movie is based on the novel *A Slight Trick of the Mind* by Mitch Cullin. It stars Sir Ian McKellen as a 93-year-old Holmes who lives with a housekeeper (Laura Linney) and her son. Holmes struggles to remember details of his final case as a detective while his memory deteriorates with age.

Holmes and Watson, Hatcher's third venture into the world of Sherlock Holmes, had its world premiere at Arizona Theatre Company in 2017, and was subsequently produced at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. The Alley's production of *Holmes and Watson* is the third production of the play, and the first production of this version of the script.

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