

# ALLEY THEATRE

FOR RELEASE:

## **HOLMES AND WATSON** Continues the Journey of Sherlock Holmes at the Alley Theatre, June 22 – July 22

*Mark Shanahan directs this new adventure full of twists and turns, by award-winning writer Jeffrey Hatcher*

HOUSTON, TX – The Alley Theatre and interim artistic director James Black announce the cast and crew of the new Sherlock Holmes adventure *Holmes and Watson* by **Jeffrey Hatcher** and directed by **Mark Shanahan**. This version of the play was written for the Alley by Hatcher. Based on the characters of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *Holmes and Watson* plays the Hubbard Theatre June 22 – July 22, 2018. Tickets are available at [alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org) or by calling the Box Office at 713.220.5700.

*Holmes and Watson* begins three years after the mysterious death of beloved detective Sherlock Holmes off Reichenbach Falls. Dr. John H. Watson receives a telegram that suggests his old friend may still be alive. The mysterious wire was sent from a doctor who states that three patients in his asylum's care have each claimed to be the late Sherlock Holmes. Watson embarks on a journey to disprove these claims. Could Sherlock Holmes really be alive after all this time? *Holmes and Watson* is a riveting new adventure from award-winning writer Jeffrey Hatcher, author of *Sherlock Holmes* and *The Adventure of the Suicide Club* and the 2015 film *Mr. Holmes*.

The *Holmes and Watson* cast features Alley Resident Company Members **Elizabeth Bunch** as Matron/The Woman, **Chris Hutchison** as Prince of Wales, and **Jay Sullivan** as Sir Dighton.

Actor **Jeremy Webb** (Alley's *A Few Good Men*, *Dracula*) returns to the Theatre to take on the role of Watson while Alley veteran **David Matranga** (Alley's *All the Way*, *A Christmas Carol*) joins the cast as Orderly. The Alley welcomes visiting artists **Dan Domingues** (Off-Broadway's *The Enclave*, *Mother of Invention*) as Signor Fonseca, **Noble Shropshire** (Broadway's *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Royal National Theatre's *Not About Nightingales*) as Inspector/Moriarty, and **Rajeev Varma** (Netflix's "Brown Nation," Roundabout Theatre Company's *Indian Ink*) as Dr. Evans.

The *Holmes and Watson* creative team includes Director Mark Shanahan, Scenic Designer Jim Youmans, Costume Designer David C. Woolard, Lighting Designer Rui Rita, Sound Designer David Budries, Projection Designer Erin Teachman, and Stage Manager Kristen Larson.

Writer Jeffrey Hatcher, author of *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club*, wrote the screenplay to the 2015 film *Mr. Holmes*, which starred Ian McKellen. Hatcher has written more than 40 plays including Broadway's *Never Gonna Dance* (book) and Off-Broadway productions *Three Viewings* and *A Picasso* at Manhattan Theatre Club, *Scotland Road* and *The Turn of the Screw* at Primary Stages, and *Tuesdays with Morrie* (with Mitch Albom) at The Minetta Lane. Hatcher also wrote the screenplay for *Stage Beauty*, based on his play *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*. His additional film and TV credits include *Casanova*, *The Duchess*, and episodes of "Columbo."

Performances of *Holmes and Watson* are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. *Holmes and Watson* is recommended for general audiences.

**SPONSORS:** *Holmes and Watson* is sponsored in part by Premier Sponsor The Cullen Trust for the Performing Arts; Honorary Producers Anne and Albert Chao; Associate Producers John and Janet Carrig,

Butch and Carmen Mach, Connie and Roger Plank, and Thomas R. Walters and Hollis B. Kazmann; and Supporting Sponsors Ernst & Young and PriceWaterhouse Cooper. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2017-18 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre; Four Seasons Hotel Houston, the official hotel of the Alley Theatre; and Lynn Wyatt.

**TICKETS:** Tickets to *Holmes and Watson* are now on sale and start at \$26. Discounted tickets are available for military and senior, and any student, regardless of age, with a valid student ID for designated performances. Tickets can be ordered online ([alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org)) or by phone (713.220.5700).

**DESIGNER TALK:** An hour before the Sunday, June 24 matinee preview performance (2:30 p.m.) of *Holmes and Watson*, a member of the artistic staff will lead a discussion with the production's creative team to give audiences a behind-the-scenes look at the design process. These pre-show talks will offer audiences an exclusive opportunity to ask questions about the designer's work and learn how they brought the script to life. Designer Talks will take place in the Texas Room.

**TALKBACKS:** The Alley Theatre will present Artist TalkBacks following the Saturday, June 30 (2:30 p.m.) and Tuesday, July 3 (7:30 p.m.) performances of *Holmes and Watson*. These discussions will feature cast and artistic staff.

**PRESS PHOTOS:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/a3zujzwkcdl5hw1/AAATvc1cInHQhMeWeRbjQLZua?dl=0>

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**ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE**

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Interim Artistic Director James Black and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley produces up to 16 plays each year in its newly renovated theatre, ranging from the best current work, to re-invigorated classic plays, to new plays by contemporary writers. The Alley is home to a Resident Company of actors. In addition, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as Visiting Artists.

The renovation of the Hubbard Theatre at the Alley was completed in October 2015 – and created a new 774-seat state-of-the-art performance venue. Matched with the newly renovated 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre, the Alley offers nearly 500 performances each season. The Company reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance and education programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

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