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# Dracula

Dramatized by

Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston

From Bram Stoker's Novel



## February

14, 15, 16

21, 22, 23

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# Dracula

Dramatized by:  
Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston  
From Bram Stoker's  
World Famous Novel, "Dracula"

Produced by special arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc.  
New York | Hollywood | London | Toronto

Directed by Norman Clerc



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The vampire, like no other monster or demon, exists in the twilight region between life and death. Driven to nourish its peculiar existence, the vampire stalks the earth seeking sustenance in human blood.

**Dracula** is a 1924 stage play adapted by Hamilton Deane from the novel of the same name by Bram Stoker, and substantially revised by John L. Balderston in 1927. It was the first adaptation of the novel authorized by Stoker's widow, and has influenced many subsequent adaptations.

The original production starred Raymond Huntley as Dracula; Deane had originally intended to play the title role himself, but in the event opted for the role of Van Helsing. This production toured England for three years before settling in London.

In 1927 the play was brought to Broadway by Horace Liveright, who hired John L. Balderston to revise the script for American audiences. The American production starred Bela Lugosi in his first major English-speaking role, with Edward Van Sloan as Van Helsing; both actors reprised their roles in the 1931 film version, which drew on the Deane-Balderston play.

This play is very special to me. I played Butterworth in a production presented in Germany in 1971 and was delighted to direct it for Hamburg Little Theatre in 1977. So it's been a long time since I've had the pleasure of seeing it on stage.

Vampires are popping up everywhere in the movies and on TV. Dracula has faced numerous foes in the last 84 years, including Van Helsing, Blade, Buffy, Billy the Kid, Abbott & Costello and even 'Abraham Lincoln Vampire Hunter.'. He has been spoofed (Love at First Bite, 1979), goofed (Dead and Loving it, 1995), and updated (Bram Stoker's Dracula, 1992). He played on Broadway (1977) in this very production with Frank Langella as Dracula.

We present to you the classic play that first introduced Dracula to the stage. Sit back and let the play move you to that dark place in your soul where anything is possible.



## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Dracula ... Aaron Sheppard

Van Helsing ... Gary Brown

Dr. Seward .... Rick Fleenor

Harker .....Jeremy Burns

Lucy .....Emily Alice Dunn

Renfield.....Ethan Lyvers

Attendant .....Patrick Rader

Maid.....Cassandra Phelps

## THE CREW

Director  
Norman Clerc

Assistant Director  
Jennifer Carpenter

Stage Manager  
Ethan Lyvers

Technical Director  
John Halstead

Costume Designer  
Kelly West

Light / Sound Operator  
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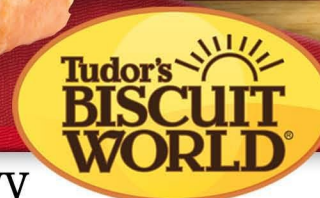


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## CAST BIOS

Aaron Sheppard (Dracula) began acting while attending Berea College performing in *Pygmalion* and *Measure for Measure*. He began performing in Charleston with the Light Opera Guild taking on numerous roles, including Chuck Cranston in *Footloose*, the Grinch in *Seussicle* and in the ensemble of *The Producers*. He has performed at the Alban in *The Glass Menagerie* and as Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing*. He has worked on and off stage at the Alban in *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and *Richard III*. He has found a wonderful home with the Alban and looks forward to the large fangs he must fill as Dracula.

Gary Brown (Van Helsing) has been active in regional theater for more years than he cares to remember. His leading roles have included Pizarro in *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*, Petruchio in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Claudius in *Hamlet*, and Lear in *King Lear* with the Charleston Stage Company, and Georges in *La Cage Aux Folles*, Fredrick in *A Little Night Music*, Rutledge in *1776*, and the Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance* with the Charleston Light Opera Guild. His most recent roles were Ben Loman in *Death of a Salesman* and Father March in *Little Women, the Musical* with the Greenbrier Valley Theater in Lewisburg, Napoleon in *Animal Farm* with the Charleston Stage Company, and W. O. Gant in *Look Homeward, Angel* and Don Armado in *Love's Labor's Lost* with the Mid-Ohio Valley Players in Marietta, Ohio. Playing Van Helsing gives him an opportunity to explore his pent-up search for understanding of the occult.

Rick Fleenor (Dr. Seward) he most recently appeared as Bamatabois in the Charleston Light Opera Guild's production of *Les Miserable*. He has also appeared as Herr Schultz in the ARTS production of *Cabaret*, Simon Zealotes in the CYAC show *Jesus Christ Superstar*, FDR in *Annie* for CLOG, and Felix Ungar in *The Odd Couple* with the Kanawha Players. He has performed in some 45 productions since his move to Charleston in 1991. Before that he worked with the Apollo Civic Theatre in Martinsburg and the Old Opera House in Charles Town. His two favorite roles are Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey* and Nicely Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls*. His favorite shows are *Damn Yankees*, *1776* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (which he did 4 times.)

Jeremy Burns (John Harker) is a West Virginian native who grew up in Boone County. He was a member of the first ever Boone County STAGE Production in which he portrayed the role of Kenickie in the play *Grease*. He recently fulfilled a dream of appearing not only in a movie, but in a movie with a comic book theme. You will be able to catch Jeremy as he portrays the role of a SHIELD STRIKE Team Member in *Captain America 2: The Winter Soldier* when it comes out in theatres on April 4, 2014.

Emily Alice Dunn (Lucy Harker) is a consummate theatre junkie, veteran of over 60 productions — both on and off stage — in various companies throughout the area, and a former board member of Charleston Stage Company. A few of her favorite previous roles include, for Charleston Stage Company: Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*, The Countess in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, Sissy in *A Piece of my Heart*, Bianca in *Othello*, Thomasina in *Sister Mary Ignatius*, The Other Woman in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, Panthino in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and Francesca in *Measure for Measure*; for Kanawha Players: Kate in *Art of Murder*; and for CTOC: Meg in *Little Women*. Emily Alice dedicates her performance to her ginger sister, Marlette Carter, a former "Lucy" herself.


Ethan Lyvers (Renfield) has played several roles in community theatre since he began in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The Charleston Light Opera Guild has given him the opportunity to be in the productions of *Hello Dolly* (ensemble), *Les Miserable* (Combeferre) and the Sesquicentennial production of the *Civil War* (Sam Taylor). He is a veteran of the Children's Theatre of Charleston and the Alban Arts Center. He has appeared in *Willy Wonka Jr.*, *The Lion, the Witch, and Wardrobe*, and *Richard III*. He was the Assistant Director for *Charlotte's Web* and *Proof* at the Alban Arts Center. He traveled to Ireland with the Appalachian Children's Choir and sang in the Concert Choir. He is a senior at Teay's Valley Christian School.

Patrick C. Rader (Butterworth) is 43 and from Cross Lanes, WV. He's always had a great appreciation for the theatre and the dramatic arts. He finds acting to be a great escape. The local talent is tremendous and he feels that it is a great honor and joy to work with this wonderfully talented cast.

Cassandra Phelps (Miss Wells) is proud to be joining the cast of *Dracula*. Cassandra lives in Charleston and is excited to be a part of the area's theatre groups. Her first role was with STAGE, in Madison, as the Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*. She was also recently a part of the ensemble for Charleston Light Opera Guild's production of *Les Miserable*. This is her first performance with the Alban. She enjoys making new friends from her performances and is very interested in being in future productions.

Norman (Director) started on stage while in High School in Hamburg, NY (a small community south of Buffalo) in the Hamburg Little Theatre's production of *Brigadoon*. He performed and directed with that group for over 40 years rising to be their President. He spent four years on active duty with the U.S. Navy and performed with the Guam Theatre Guild and the Port City Theatre in Bremerhaven, Germany. He is the current President of the Friends of the Alban and is proud to be a guiding hand with the group. The Alban has become a home and family away from home. He has also directed *The Glass Menagerie* and *Charlotte's Web* with the Alban and is looking forward to our 2014 Season.





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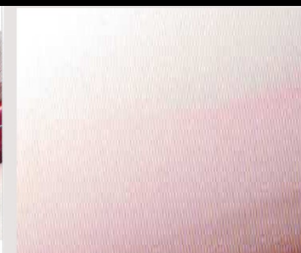
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# **THEATRE SCHEDULE**

## **ANTIGONE**

by Sophocles

April 25, 26, 27 and May 2, 3, 4

## **Lost in Yonkers**

by Neil Simon

June 20, 21, 22 and 27, 28, 29

## **The Legend of Sleeping Beauty**

Book, Music and Lyrics

Thomas W. Rieser, Alan W. Gill  
and Laura Derocher

August 15, 16, 17 and 22, 23, 24

## **Copenhagen**

By Michael Frayn

October 17, 18, 19 and 24, 25, 26

## **A Christmas Carol**

December 12, 13, 14 and 19, 20, 21

## **Brilliant Traces (2015)**

By Cindy Lou Johnson

February 13, 14, 15, and 20, 21, 22

## **Catch and Release (2015)**

By Jeremy Richter

April 17, 18, 19 and 24, 25, 26

## **Bell, Book and Candle (2015)**

By John Van Druten

June 5, 6, 7 and 12, 13, 14

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