

FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

Kentwood Players presents



Dracula

The Vampire Play Dramatized by
Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston

Directed by
Shawn K. Summerer

Produced by
Alison Mattiza and
Elizabeth Summerer

September 10 ~ October 16, 2010

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.

Westchester Playhouse ~ 8301 Hindry Avenue ~ Los Angeles, CA 90045

www.kentwoodplayers.org ~ (310) 645-5156

Tickets: \$18 ~ \$2 discount for students, seniors and servicemen

Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Dracula

by **Hamilton Deane** and **John L. Balderston**
from **Bram Stoker's** novel

Director

Shawn K. Summerer

Producers

Alison Mattiza and **Elizabeth Bouton-Summerer**

Set Design

Tony Pereslete

Lighting Design

Robert Davis

Costume Design

Sheridan Cole Crawford
and **Jon Sparks**

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Miss Wells	MarLee Candell
Jonathan Harker	Daniele Manzin
Dr. Seward	Ken MacFarlane
Abraham Van Helsing	Ben Lupejkis
Renfield.....	Paul Guay
Butterworth.....	Jeffrey Olin
Lucy Seward	Samantha Barrios
Count Dracula.....	Gary Shaw

Scenes and Settings

Act I	Library in Dr. Seward's Sanitorium Purley, England - Evening
Act II	Lucy's Boudoir. Evening of the following Day
Act III	Scene 1 The same as Act I. Thirty two hours later (shortly before sunrise)
	Scene 2 A vault. Just after sunrise

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Act I & II
and a 10-minute intermission between Act II & III

Decaf coffee will be served at the first intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Director's Statement

In the summer of 1816, a bizarre climate abnormality overtook England, trapping a group of friends and authors in the home of poet Percy Shelley. Among the group was Lord Byron, his physician John Polidori, and Percy's wife Mary. During their extended enclosure, the friends took to passing the time by telling spooky stories and eventually writing their own. From this came Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein, or The Modern Prometheus* and the first known vampire tale, John Polidori's short story "The Vampyre".

Over 80 years later, in 1897, Bram Stoker took the vampire genre to a new level with his novel *Dracula*. Termed an "epistolary novel", *Dracula* is told entirely through personal letters, ships logs, diary entries, and the like. The concept being that the reader is more likely to believe the story when it is corroborated by multiple sources.

Although critically praised, *Dracula* was not immediately successful commercially. It wasn't until 1924 when Hamilton Deane purchased the rights to the story for adaptation to the stage did the novel begin to gain popularity. And now it stands as one of the premiere Gothic novels, studied in classrooms around the world.

Hamilton Deane's initial adaptation altered a number of aspects from the book in order to make it work on the English stage, eliminating and consolidating characters and locales. Then, in 1927, Deane's script was adapted by John L. Balderston for American audiences and it was changed even further. This is the version that is most often performed today.

The role of *Dracula* has a very rich history as well. In the original 1924 production, Deane intended to play the role himself, but later opted for Van Helsing, opening the title role up to Raymond Huntley. But it wasn't until the 1927 production on Broadway that Béla Lugosi filled the role and has since become the quintessential *Dracula*.

Over the decades that followed, *Dracula*, the character and the story, has seen countless deaths, re-births, parodies, and sequels. From the seductive and suave Christopher Lee *Dracula*, to the bumbling clutz portrayed by Leslie Nielsen in Mel Brooks' *Dracula: Dead and Loving It* (1995). There was even a kung-fu *Dracula* in *Legend of the 7 Golden Vampires* (1974) and a funky exploitative *Dracula* in *Blacula* (1972).

But audiences continue to return to the beginning to remind themselves about what made this story so chilling and frightening in the first place. Remember, the original stage production was deemed so shocking, that audience members routinely had to step outside to settle their nerves. Yet they always came back for more...

About the Cast



Samantha Barrios (Lucy) is thrilled to make her Los Angeles theatrical debut with Kentwood Players!! Other theatre credits include Shelby in *Steel Magnolias*, SueEllen Smith-Barney-Fife in *Honky Tonk Angels III*, Magenta in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Yitzak in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, and New York audiences will most fondly remember her as the “wickedly funny” Olivia in *Twelfth Night*. Sam was born in Venezuela, raised mostly in the Sooner state and is still part NYer. She is the proud mother of Rex – her Yorkie. Samantha received her BFA from Webster Conservatory. Loves and hugs!



MarLee Candell (Miss Wells) is performing with Kentwood Players for the first time and is enjoying it thoroughly. She has been a jack-of-all-trades in the entertainment industry for over two decades with credits as a singer, dancer, actor, figure skater, puppeteer, and magician’s assistant on three continents. Most recently, she played the lead role in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* at Repertory East in Newhall. She is also an accomplished voiceover artist; so if you are ever in Florida at a certain theme park and hear a voice telling you that “The white zone is for loading and unloading only”, it just might be MarLee.



Paul Guay (Renfield) conceived and co-wrote *Liar, Liar*, at the time of its release the sixth-highest-grossing comedy in history and the recipient of an Honorable Mention in *Scr(i)pt* magazine’s list of the Best Scripts of the Past 10 Years. He also co-wrote *The Little Rascals* and *Heartbreakers*. His film roles include a Texas john in a Nevada whorehouse run by *Star Trek*’s Nichelle Nichols in *Lady Magdalene’s*; a multiple-personality killer in *Playhouse*; and a priest to cult icon P.J. Soles in *Pee Stains and Other Disasters*. With three dozen plays in his rearview mirror, he returned to the stage in January in the Morgan-Wixson production of *Run For Your Wife* after an acclaimed absence of 22 years. In his spare time, he is a script consultant.



Ben Lupejkis (Van Helsing) is a multiple Marcom Masque award winner in all aspects of theatre. There is irony in this current role: Ben recently received his doctorate from USC, so he is indeed a doctor playing a doctor. Ha! Over a 37 year career favorite roles he’s played are Lovin’ Al in *Working*, the Chairman in *Drood*, Buddy in *Follies*, Bellomy in *Fantasticks*, Don John in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Bennie Davis in *Getting Out*, Kulygin in *Three Sisters*, and Sydney Black in *Light Up the Sky*. Thanks Pattie (my better half), the skippers, Shawn, Elizabeth (his better half), and Alison for this great opportunity.



Ken MacFarlane (Seward) – Earlier this year Ken appeared at Kentwood as Flan in *Six Degrees of Separation*. His other Los Angeles theatre credits include *True West*, *The Misanthrope*, *Enemy of the People*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Hamlet* and *JB*, as well as the title roles in the world premieres of *Godislav* and *The Crown of Minos*. His film credits include *Caesar & Otto’s Summer Camp Massacre*, *Change For Food*, *The Golem*, *Empire Builders*, *Annabelle* and due to be released this fall *The Millennium Bug*.



Daniele Manzin (Harker), a Seattle native, has called Los Angeles home for over 4 years. He recently graduated from Occidental College with a BA in theater. Daniele was busy this summer with *Decide: A Sorta Musical*, which was a part of the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and *PinocchiOklahoma* at the Occidental Childrens Theater. Daniele has always been fascinated with the supernatural. His biggest dream is to be in a low-budget horror film or be in a remake of *Ghostbusters*. Daniele is very excited to be involved in such a thrilling play, and honored to work with such a beautiful community of thespians.



Jeffrey Olin (Butterworth) is very pleased to be portraying the attendant Mr. Butterworth. Butterworth is such a fun character to play. Jeffrey greatly enjoys working with his excellent castmates under the equally excellent direction of Shawn Summerer. He looks forward to many future projects with Kentwood Players. Jeffrey's love of acting brought him to southern California just over a decade ago from the Washington, D.C. area. He graduated from the prestigious UCLA School of Theater, Film, & Television with honors. Jeffrey has since studied improv comedy at The Groundlings School. He's also studied commercial and animation

voiceover at Voicetrax West.



Gary Shaw (Dracula) is "happily at home" to be appearing in his first production with Kentwood Players. No stranger to the theater, some of his past credits include such shows as *The Elephant Man* (Ross), *Man of La Mancha* (Pedro), *Our Town* (Editor Webb) and *Oklahoma!* (Jud). In addition to his stage work, Gary's strong vocal presence is certainly well known throughout the entertainment industry, having announced for such prestigious events as the *BAFTA Awards* (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) and the star-studded *One Night Only* in Palm Springs.

Gary is also busy at work, writing a one-man show as well as developing a cabaret act. As far as always playing the bad guy he says, "I love it. I have a certain empathy for them. Like most villains, they are simply just misunderstood."

About the Director

Shawn K. Summerer – Originally from Michigan, Shawn got his start in theatre playing "The Letter K" in preschool. He received his BFA in Film Writing from USC and is currently represented by Circle of 10 Talent. This is Shawn's directorial debut at Kentwood, but has directed children's theatre productions including *Oliver*, *King and I*, and *Joseph....* As an actor, his favorite roles include Big Daddy in *Sweet Charity*, Pedro in *Man of La Mancha*, David in *Company*, Tommy in *Annie Get Your Gun*, Neville in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and Edmund in *A Murder is Announced*. DOORBELL.

About the Producers

Alison Mattiza is very excited to be part of the crew of *Dracula*. She thanks her very good friends Elizabeth and Shawn for allowing her to join such a wonderful production! Alison has been a Kentwood member for about 15 years now and is currently on the board as well. Her love goes out to Van and Jack for supporting her theater habit. Alison also enjoys performing and has appeared in such KP productions as *Guys & Dolls* (Adelaide), *Working* (Housewife), and *City of Angels* (Oolie/Donna). This one is for Melanie.

Elizabeth Bouton-Summerer was last seen onstage as Edwin Drood with her husband Shawn – now comes the challenge of producing! Other favorite roles on the Kentwood stage are Molly Brown, Gabby/Bobbi in *City of Angels* and her first role 10 years ago, Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense*. Ali you rock! Shawn I'm so proud of you! Thanks to the cast and crew – FLAMES MM!

About the Designers

Tony Pereslete (Set Design) celebrates 10 years at Kentwood with the mystery and suspense of *Dracula*. It has been a privilege to work with this fine cast and crew.

Robert Davis (Lighting Design) – Robert is pleased to add *Dracula* to his list of lighting credits with Kentwood Players. Previous lighting designs include last season’s *The Tale of the Allergist’s Wife*, as well as *The Most Happy Fella* and *A Murder is Announced*. He has a special fondness for macabre plays, having portrayed Van Helsing in a production of *The Passion of Dracula* and Igor in *The Diaries of Frankenstein* (where he literally died on stage opening weekend, thank you Anaheim paramedics). Congratulations to Shawn and Gary, and much love to JP. For Mel, who found her light.

Sheridan Cole Crawford (Costume Design) – Sheridan has done a lot of jobs around Kentwood, including costumes for about ten shows, from *Lost in Yonkers* to the recent *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Co-designer Jon has made this show a treat to work on, and the cast has been terrific.

Jon Sparks (Costume Design) – Jon Sparks (Co-Costumer) Jon is happy to be working with Shawn, Elizabeth and Sheridan on this production of *Dracula*. His costume credits include *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *Anything Goes*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Company*, and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Set designer credits include *Carousel*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Company*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, and *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *The Fantasticks*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Damn Yankees*. Wigs credits include *Carousel*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Grease*, *Damn Yankees*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *She Loves Me*, *Sordid Lives*, *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*, *City of Angels*, *Play On*, *A Little Night Music*, *Unsinkable Molly Brown*, *Cinderella*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* GMKL-FLAMES-PIE.

Dedication
For Melanie McBride
1972-2010

Kentwood Players’ Board of Directors 2010-2011

President	Ben Lupejkis
Vice President / Membership	Susan Weisbarth
Secretary	Alison Mattiza
Treasurer	Catherine Rahm
Box Office	Julia Maggs
House Manager	Russell Ham
Production Manager	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete
Technical Manager	John Beckwith
Publicity	Shari Barrett
Programs and Postcards	Tom Brophrey
Bulletin	Jenny Boone
Season Tickets	Virginia Mekkelson
Special Theatre Parties	Calia Mintzer-Wolf
Workshop and Scheduling	Margie Bates
Plays Committee Chairperson	Maria Pavone
Plays Committee	Patricia Butler, Gail Bernardi

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Tiffany McQuay
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Patricia Butler
Dialect Coach	Drew Fitzsimmons
Script Supervisor	Elizabeth Bouton-Summerer, Ron Edwards
Booth Crew.....	Kirk Larson, Virginia Mekkelson and Tom Hass
Sound Design.....	John McQuay, Victor Reinhardt
Set Decoration Design	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete
Original Graphic Design	Liz Reinhardt
Lobby Design	Marcy Agreen
Master Builder	Tony Pereslete
Set Construction	Jim Crawford, Bob Pereslete, Ben Lupejkis, Victor Reinhardt
Costume Construction	Maria Cohen, Julia Maggs
Properties.....	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete
Special Effects	Victor Reinhardt
Publicity Photos.....	Liz Reinhardt
Audition Assistance	Jeanne Spain, Max Helder Stormes
Hospitality Coordinator.....	Selene Young
Box Office	Cynthia Adent

Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Marcy Agreen, Miriam Amster, Samantha Barrios, Carol Becker, Lauren Billingsley, Jordan Bland, Scott Briscoe, Barbara Brophrey, Tom Brophrey, Patricia Butler, MarLee Cardell, Arlene Cohen, Maria E. Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Robert Davis, Adam Dunberger, Hal Fisher, Andrew Fitzsimmons, Paul Guay, Russell Ham, Jayne Hamil, Shirley Hatton, Betty Hayes, Susan Knight, Will Knight, Ben Lupejkis, Julia Maggs, Lori A. Marple-Pereslete, Alison Mattiza, Ken MacFarlane, Dennis McNett, Virginia Mekkelson, Melvin Miller, Calia Mintzer Wolf, Fred Mintzer Wolf, Jeffrey Olin, Robert Pereslete, Tony Pereslete, Judy Polak, Lee Polak, Linda Reinhardt, Victor Reinhardt, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Gary Shaw, Jon Sparks, Jeremy Speed Schwartz, Max Stormes, Elizabeth B. Summerer, Shawn Summerer

Special Thanks

Robyn Rothstein, Will Meister, Drew Fitzsimmons, Victor Reinhardt, Ron Edwards, Diana Mann, Gail Bernardi

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent, and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. *Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

Kentwood Players is a Member of the
LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

You are invited to meet and greet cast members
after the performance in the Green Room.

Please use the outside stairway at the rear of the theater.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website

www.kentwoodplayers.org

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

Annie, a Musical
Book by Thomas Meehan
Music by Charles Strouse
Lyrics by Martin Charnin
November 5 – December 11, 2010
Director: Susan Goldman Weisbarth

The Farndale ... Murder Mystery, A Comedy
By David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jr
January 14 – February 19, 2011
Director: Scott Martin

Parade, a Musical
Book by Alfred Uhry
Music and Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown
March 18 – April 23, 2011
Director: Ben Lupejkis

Squabbles
A Comedy by Marshall Karp
May 20 – June 25, 2011
Director: Gail Bernardi

Special Theatre Parties

A special Theatre Party planned for your organization or group can be a financial success as well as an entertaining evening (or matinee) at the theatre. For further information call:
Calia Mintzer-Wolf (310) 837-3609

Reservations are Necessary

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm TUESDAY – SATURDAY
Reservations MUST be paid for by cash, check, member coupon, season subscriber coupon or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER one week after they are made.

Season Ticket Order Form

Season Subscriptions are good for SIX (6) CONSECUTIVE productions, and you may start your subscriptions with the show of your choice.

Please allow 4 weeks for processing of your order.

Circle One:

Jan/Feb

Mar/Apr

May/June

Jul/Aug

Sep/Oct

Nov/Dec

Please send me ___ subscriptions at \$60.00 each. Total _____*

*Please note, the Entertainment Coupon is not applicable toward the purchase of Season Tickets.

Name

Address

Apt

City & Zip Code

Phone Number

Make check or money order payable to Kentwood Players

Mail to: Kentwood Players Attn: Season Tickets, 8301 Hindry Ave., Westchester, CA 90045-3205
Phone: (310) 645-5156

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope



Kentwood Kids Announces

AUDITIONS for their upcoming production of

Alice in Wonderland

a play with music

adapted from Lewis Carroll's classic story

Directed and Produced by Jeremy Speed Schwartz &
Meredith M. Sweeney

Performances Saturdays November 20th & 27th
AND December 4th & 11th at 11:00am & 2:00pm

**Auditions October 2nd & October 3rd 10:00am to
12:00pm at the Westchester Playhouse!**

Email kentwoodkids@kentwoodplayers.org
for questions and copies of the script!

< YOUR AD HERE! >

Advertise in Kentwood's programs and reach out to over 1,000 people per show, six shows per season!
Contact Tom Brophey (310-839-0868) with any questions or to place an ad.

AD RATES

Ad Size	Dimensions	Cost (entire season)
Full Page (includes one season ticket)	5" x 8"	\$ 400
1/2 Page	5" x 4"	\$ 250
1/3 Page	5" x 2.6"	\$ 150

Come worship with us!
Congregational Church of the Messiah

7300 West Manchester Avenue
Sunday Worship at 10:00 am
Dr. David L. Gray, Minister

E-mail: messiah1907@sbcglobal.net

Phone 310.670.2242

Westchester Watch Works

6207 W. 87th St., Westchester In the heart of the Westchester Triangle

Specializing in Sales and Service of Fine Timepieces

ESQ & Luminox Swiss-Citizen-Tommy Bahama-Skagen Denmark-Casio-Ceres and more

\$5 off with this ad (With Purchase of \$25 or more)

Locksmith & Key Services Available - LCO #4301 - Personalized Gifts and Engraving services
Westchester family owned and operated. All work done on premises. Westchesterwatchworks.com

We Need Your Help

In 1949, a group of dedicated performers came together to provide quality theatre at an affordable price for the Westchester community. More than 50 years later, the Kentwood Players are still going strong.

From Shakespeare to Simon, from Sondheim to Hammerstein, we have worked diligently, putting in countless volunteer hours, keeping our prices low enough to allow all in our community access to a magical evening or matinee in the theatre.

Now, we need your help. We have some critical improvements that will be beyond what we as a small community theatre can manage. We need a new roof, a new heating and air conditioning system, and most of our facility needs to be updated. For the first time in our history, we are asking our wonderful patrons and dedicated community members to partner with us and become sponsors of our beloved theatre.

There are many ways you can help. Of course, we welcome your contributions no matter how large or small. Together we can keep quality theatre in Westchester at prices that are still affordable for our audiences. Please take a look at our sponsorship opportunities and if we can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

THANK YOU FROM THE KENTWOOD PLAYERS

Donation envelopes can be found in our lobby.

Founders Circle – \$2,500-\$5,000

- 4 Season tickets
- Listing in our program for an entire season
- A seat bearing your name in our theatre
- Your name on a permanent plaque in our lobby
- Invitation to our special sponsors party

Encore Patrons – \$500 - \$999

- 4 Season tickets
- Listing in our program for an entire season

Kentwood Angels – \$1,000-\$2,499

- 4 Season tickets
- Listing in our program for an entire season
- Your name on a permanent plaque in our lobby
- Invitation to our special party

Spotlight Supporters – \$250-\$499

- 2 Season tickets
 - Listing in our program for an entire season
-

Donations of any size will receive recognition in our programs along with our heartfelt thanks. Kentwood Players is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Special Thanks to our
2009-10 Capital Campaign Donors

Founders Circle
Westchester Women's Club

- Kentwood Angels -
Mr. and Mrs. William Carter

- Spotlight Supporters -
Jan and Steven Burrin
Bonnie Butler
Joe and Gina Earnest
Grant Francis
Elizabeth and David Friedman
Richard and Eileen Garson

- Friends -
Baker
William and Eileen Brabender
Christine Mencini
Nancy Olmstead
Dorothy Sobelman
Shirley Spiegel
Frances and Bill Stoeckle
Leonard Wagner



Faith Judy Wisansky, GRI, SRES®
REALTOR®
faith@homes4everyone.com



Prudential

California Realty

3130 Wilshire Blvd., #100, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Bus 310 829-0629 Fax 310 829-7541

Direct 310 255-3418 Cell 310 918-1442

www.homes4everyone.com

🏠 An independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. DRE # 01080034



South Bay New Orleans Jazz Club

Invites You To Join Us For A Meeting.

Second Sunday of Month at 12:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Hall

214 Avenue I, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

larryc4@yahoo.com

For information please call Larry Cosgrove 310 568-8596