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DRACULA

A Comedy of Terrors

Adapted by **GORDON GREENBERG & STEVE ROSEN**

Directed by **GEORGE DINSMORE**

**OCTOBER
3-4, 9-11,
16-19 at
7:30 PM
and
5, 12, 19
at 3 PM**



**All shows performed
at Chapin Theatre
Company
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chapintheatre.org**

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Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

CHAPIN THEATRE COMPANY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the delightfully unhinged world of *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* at Chapin Theatre Company! As the director of this wild, campy ride, I'm thrilled to invite you into our gothic playground where Bram Stoker's classic tale gets an uproarious makeover, infused with the spirit of Mel Brooks, Monty Python, and *The 39 Steps*.

I've always been intrigued by vampire movies. The idea of eternal life, at the cost of humanity itself, is never something I would actually entertain, but despite that forfeiture it is fun to toy with the idea, in a less lethal way. So when I heard the show was selected I was immediately intrigued. I didn't get to dwell long though before I was asked to direct it. To be honest, I was surprised to be asked. I have directed shorts before, but this is a whole different ball game.

Fortunately, I am surrounded by an amazing creative team who designed and built our beautiful set, as well as costumes, lights, sounds, projections, and props. Not to mention my phenomenal cast who masterfully juggles a dizzying array of characters, bringing to life a hilarious take on the iconic vampire saga as they lead you through a tale that's as seductive as it is sidesplitting.

Still, between laughs we get to explore a bit about the challenges of immortality for Dracula himself, as well as the mere humans around him. Is living too long just as bad as dying too soon? Or... maybe it's mostly about the laughs. Hopefully my directorial debut will speak to you one way or another. So, sit back, let your guard down (but maybe keep a garlic clove handy), and surrender to the joyous chaos of *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*. Thank you for joining us for this fang-tastic adventure!

George Dinsmore

CAST & CREW (in alphabetical order)

George Dinsmore the fang-tastic director of *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*, brings his electrifying flair back to Chapin Theatre Company! A versatile performer and director, George has dazzled as Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Stacey Jaxx in *Rock of Ages*, and Sherlock Holmes in *Hound of the Baskervilles*. He is also a company member of the SC Shakespeare Company. Voted Columbia's Sexiest IT Guy, he's emceed Blowfish Baseball for eight seasons and the 10 Minute-ish Play Festival for five. His credits span film (*Faith's Song*), TV (*Secrets in Plain Sight*), and voiceovers. This November, catch him reprising his role in the heartwarming *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*. With his passion for theatre, razor-sharp wit, and knack for quick-change chaos, George is the perfect maestro for this hilarious, gender-bending vampire spoof. Offstage, he's likely strumming his guitar or outrunning Transylvanian wolves!
GeorgeDinsmore.com

David Fichter (*Dr. Wallace Westfeldt, Renfield, and Sea Captain*) owes many thanks to George for believing he could be part of this illustrious group of thespians as we bring "life" to the pages of Bram Stoker's world renowned novel *Dracula*. Primarily an actor in comedies such as Tim in *Noises Off*, Trevor in *The Play the Goes Wrong*, Jackie in *The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical*, and of course Steve in *Off Brand* by Lou Clyde. David is ecstatic to explore the dramatic and hone his sense of gravitas.

Already looking to break away from the hems and haws of the farcical and dive deep into the tears and fears of the tragic, when George mentioned it would be a faithful telling of the novel, a la last year's *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, as an aspiring audio book artist, and avid reader, he couldn't give up the chance... The chance.. to guide the next generation of readers as they join alongside Harker as he traipses thru the Carpathian woods on the way to Castle Dracula...

Chris Harre (*Sound Design*) Husband, father of three, audio engineer and musician.

CAST & CREW (in alphabetical order)

Josh Kern (*Dracula*) is grateful for the opportunity to bring yet another character to life on the Chapin Theatre stage. Josh has taken on such roles as Stephon in *Stilt Girl*, Sammy in *The Wedding Singer*, Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Paul Bratter in *Barefoot in the Park*, and ensemble of *Beauty and the Beast*. By day Josh is a massage therapist at Just What You Kneaded Mobile Massage Therapy and Lotus Day Spa. He hopes you enjoy this fang-tastic show!

Debra Kiser (*Van Helsing and Mina Westfeldt*) This is Debra's sixth year performing at Chapin Theatre Company. She previously appeared as Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress* and as Grace, the drunk murderess, and in Chapin's 10 Minute-ish Play Festival, *Taking Care of Business*, where she was voted Favorite Actress. Debra feels she is now in her "Cloris Leachman years" by playing these two different characters in *Dracula*. She has always enjoyed doing different accents and Dr. Van Helsing allows her to do her German accent for the first time on stage. When not appearing on stage, she enjoys entertaining with family and friends.

Kelsey McGarrigan (*Stage Manager*) is delighted to make her stage management debut with *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*. She was last seen on stage at Workshop Theatre in *The Producers* (Ensemble) and has performed with Chapin Theatre Company in *Once Upon a Mattress* (Lady Lucille), *Descendants the Musical* (Fairy Godmother), *37 Postcards* (Gillian), and more. Offstage, Kelsey works in Student Affairs at USC and is studying theatre and dance. She is grateful to this incredible cast and production team and thanks her mom and friends for their constant support.

Katie Mixon (*Lucy Westfeldt, Kitty Rutherford, and Carriage Driver*) feels like it was love at first bite when she first read for Actor 3; a role she can really sink her teeth into! Katie has many passions in her life - theatre, animals, travel and learning. She is a teacher for The SC Governor's School for

the Arts & Humanities and Newberry College, Company Member at SC Shakespeare, and Actor-Manager for Elsewhere Shakespeare. Katie was one of the founders of Sappraiwan Elephant Sanctuary in Thailand—managing humane and enriching care for senior Asian Elephants. Katie has her masters in Classical Theatre from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Some of Katie's favorite roles have been: Beatrice, Lady MacBeth, & Rosalind for the SCSC, Sandra in *The Play That Goes Wrong* at Town Theatre, Polonius for *Elsewhere Shakespeare*, Suze in *Fairview* at TRUSTUS, and Veta Louise in *Harvey* at Workshop. Katie was voted Best Actress in Columbia 2023. To George, for trusting her in this role she says, "Fang you. Fang you very much!" KatieMixon.com

Ivy Munnerlyn (*Lighting Designer*) is a Clemson University Performing Arts graduate with over ten years of theatre experience. She teaches theatre at Batesburg-Leesville High School and performs locally as both an actor and lead vocalist for Last Impression. Ivy thanks her family, friends, students, and the Chapin Theatre Company team for their support.

Frank Thompson (*Johnathan Harker, Bosun, Gravedigger, and Lords Cavendish, Worthington & Havemercy*) is excited to be part of such an amazing cast and crew! This has been an outstanding year for him at CTC, having appeared as Billy Flynn in *Chicago* and The Minstrel in *Once Upon a Mattress*, and directed last spring's *Barefoot in the Park*. His other stage credits include Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, Harold Hill in *The Music Man*, and Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*, among others. Many thanks to George for being such an outstanding director and good friend.

Don't miss these upcoming shows from Chapin Theatre Company!

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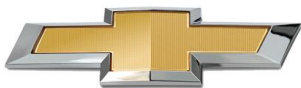
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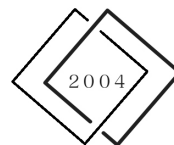


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