

## EAST LYNNE THEATER COMPANY'S 2012 MAINSTAGE SEASON

*“Spinning Tales” is the theme played out on the mainstage: Ruth Draper raised the bar on storytelling with her monologues; Edgar Allan Poe wrote the first detective stories before the word “detective” was even created; Roi Cooper Mergue and Walter Hackett’s farce about advertising a product that may – or may not – exist.*

**Performance Days:** Wednesday thru Saturday unless otherwise listed.

**Venue:** First Presbyterian Church in Cape May, 500 Hughes St. (corner Decatur and Hughes)

**Tickets:** \$30 general; \$25 senior; \$15 student; ages 12 and under free (unless otherwise listed)

**Season tickets:** 4 shows for \$80; may be used in several way! See 4 different shows, or bring friends and family to see 1 to 3 different shows. Make checks out and mail to:  
East Lynne Theater Company, 121 Fourth Ave., West Cape May, NJ 08204

March 16-17: Fri.-Sat. at 8:00: **Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Norwood Builder**, the return of ELTC’s popular 1930’s radio-style productions with live sound effects and commercials, adapted by Gayle Stahlhuth, based on the story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. All of the evidence points to a young lawyer as a murderer. But is he being set up, or is he the murderer after all. It’s an exciting puzzle for Holmes and Watson. (Tkts: \$25 general; \$15 student; ages 12 & under free.)

June 13-July 21: Wed.-Sat. at 8:30 (except no show on Wed. July 4; added show on Sun. July 8): **Ruth Draper’s Company of Characters** Before the solo shows of Lily Tomlin and Whoopi Goldberg, there was the originator of the “character monologue,” Ruth Draper. For forty years, throughout the world, she performed humorous and touching scenes with great precision. ELTC is only the second production company - ever - to be allowed to produce this incredible material since Draper’s death. Performers are Karen Case Cook and Suzanne Dawson under the direction of Gayle Stahlhuth.

Mon., July 2 at 8:00: **Storybook Theater: A New Twist to Old Fables**, the Student Workshop Production. Twelve students, ages 11-17 meet for 9 sessions from June 19-July 2. The performance is free and open to the public – and it’s standing room only!

July 25-Sept. 1: Wed.-Sat. at 8:30: **The Poe Mysteries**, a World Premiere, adapted by James Rana, based on “Murders of the Rue Morgue,” “The Mystery of Marie Roget,” and “The Purloined Letter.” Follow the adventures of Auguste Dupin as he solves macabre mysteries in Paris of the 1840s, as created by Edgar Allan Poe. A cast of 6 portray 50 characters in these haunting tales. (From Oct. 24-28, the show goes to Ocean Professional Theatre in Barnegat for 7 performances.)

Sun. Aug. 12 at 8:30: **Cape May Opry: Nashville Comes to Jersey!** Barry Tischler has rounded up an evening of talented musicians you won’t want to miss! (All tickets: \$20)

Sept. 19-Oct. 13: Wed.-Sat. at 8:00 (except no show on Wed. Oct. 3; added show on Sun. Oct. 7 at 7:30): **It Pays to Advertise** by Roi Cooper Mergue and Walter C. Hackett was a hit when it opened on Broadway in September of 1914, and the Metropolitan Playhouse in NYC had a great success with its 2009 production. This screwball comedy was twice made into a movie: a silent in 1919, and in 1931 with Carole Lombard. The premise – and promise – that anything can be sold in America is at its core, but it also examines the very nature and romance of advertising and its influence. All it takes is one adventurous young man to announce, “Advertising is responsible for everything!” and he and his two friends are off and running in this delightfully sly farce, with a cast of 10.

Nov. 2 and 3: Fri.-Sat. at 8:00: **Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Norwood Builder** (\$25; \$15)

Nov. 23, 24, Dec. 2, 7, 8, 9, and 14 at 8:00; 2:00 matinee on Sat. Dec. 8: **Louisa May Alcott’s Christmas**. Three of Alcott’s tales, including the opening of *Little Women* are beautifully brought to life in storytelling fashion by Gayle Stahlhuth. A holiday treat for the whole family. (Tickets: \$25 general; \$15 student; ages 12 and under free.)

**Tales of Victorians:** stories read at various venues on Thursdays during the summer and Saturdays in the fall at 4:00PM; **Ghosts of Christmas Past Trolley Rides** in November and December, in partnership with Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and Humanities.

**Classic Silent Films with live organ accompaniment performed by Wayne Zimmerman**

Presented with The Cape May Film Festival

Tickets: \$15

Sun. Aug. 5 at 8:30 – film tbd; Sat. Sept. 8 at 8:00 – film tbd; Sun. Oct. 14 at 8:00 – “Nosferatu”

## THE STAGES FESTIVAL AND OTHER ELTC MARCH EVENTS

March 2-3: **Playwriting Get-Away** hosted by The Henry Sawyer Inn

\* Sun., March 11 at 5:00: **Cuentos Del Arbol** (Tree Tales) a delightful bi-lingual musical drawn from Spanish and Latin-American folklore, from Pushcart Players. ELTC is proud to bring this show, admission-free, to The First Presbyterian Church. Contact ELTC for reservations.

March 9-10: **Murder Mystery Weekend** hosted by The Henry Sawyer Inn

Tues., March 13 at 1:00: **100 Years of Wildwood** at Glenwood Avenue Elementary School, 2900 New York Ave., corner of Glenwood and New York Avenues in Wildwood. The performance is open to the community and admission-free. In 1912, Wildwood became a city. To help celebrate this, ELTC teaching artists Gayle Stahlhuth and Grace Wright will spend eight days, with three fifth-grade classes, helping students to research, write, and rehearse scenes about Wildwood. This performance is the outcome of this in-school residency. (Marketing is funded through NJTA's "Stages Festival" but the residency itself is directly funded through a grant from **Target**, an organization that since 1946, has given 5% of its income to the communities they serve.)

March 16-17: **Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Norwood Builder** in Cape May

\* Sat., March 17 at 2:00: **Victorian Magic** at the Long Beach Island Branch, 217 S. Central Ave., Surf City, NJ. Robert Aberdeen regales the audience with his amazing sleight-of-hand. Admission-Free. For reservations and details call the library at 609-494-2480. (Funding thru NJTA "Stages Festival.")

\* Sun., Mar 18 at 3:00: **Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Norwood Builder** at Ocean County Library, 101 Washington St., Toms River, NJ. Admission-Free. For reservations and details call the library at 732-295-1555. (Funding thru library and NJTA.)

\* Tues., March 20 at 7:00: **Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Norwood Builder** at Ocean County Library, 112 Burr St., Barnegat, NJ. Admission-Free. For reservations and details, call the library at 609-698-3331. (Funding thru NJTA "Stages Festival.")

\* Fri., March 23 from 6:30-9:30: **Free Acting Class** for Ages 16 on Up, taught by Tom Byrn, who was in ELTC's recent production of *He and She*, receiving an excellent review in "The Wall Street Journal." He has worked with many Philadelphia area theater companies, and was a member of the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble for eleven years. His focus for the class will be improvisation and the basics of scene work. Reservations recommended. Contact ELTC at 609-884-5898. Funding provided by NJTA's "Stages.")

March 23-24: **Murder Mystery Weekend** hosted by The Henry Sawyer Inn

\* Sun., March 24 at 1:30: **Victorian Magic** at Ocean County Library, Point Pleasant Borough Branch, 843 Beaver Dam Rd., Pt. Pleasant, NJ. Admission-Free. Contact the library at 732-295-1555 for reservations and details.

\* Sun., March 24 at 2:00: **Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Norwood Builder** at The Mahwah Public Library, 100 Ridge Rd., Mahwah, NJ. Admission-Free. Call the library at 201-529-9027 for reservations and details.

\* Tues., March 27 at 7:00: **Victorian Magic** at Upper Shores Branch of the Ocean County Library, 112 Jersey Ave., Lavallette, NJ. Admission-Free. Call the library at 732-793-3996 for reservations and information. )

\* Thursday, March 29 at 7:00: **The Wizard of Oz** performed by students at West Cape May Elementary School, 301 Moore St. in West Cape May. After six sessions with ELTC teaching artists, fourth through sixth grade students will perform an adaptation of L. Frank Baum's classic tale. The performance is admission-free and open to the public.

\* **Funding Through New Jersey Theatre Alliance's "Stages Festival."**

To learn more, go to [www.stagesfestival.org](http://www.stagesfestival.org).



To contact East Lynne Theater Company:  
609-884-5898 [www.eastlynnetheater.org](http://www.eastlynnetheater.org)  
In residence at The First Presbyterian Church  
500 Hughes St., Cape May, NJ 08204