

THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES



The project

The hound of the Baskervilles is a story written by sir Arthur Conan Doyle. First we read the beginning of the story. Sir Charles Baskerville has been killed. Everybody thinks that he died of natural causes. But Dr Mortimer does not agree. That's why he wants Sherlock Holmes to investigate. Sherlock Holmes starts to ask questions to sir Charles's family. At the same time Dr Mortimer says that a curse was on the Baskervilles family. Just before dying sir Charles was anxious and scared because of this curse. It's an ancient story about Hugo of Baskerville, sir Charles's ancestor. One day he fell in love with a girl. But because of his reputation the girl's father didn't want Hugo to marry her. So he kidnapped and kept her at Baskerville hall. But one day she decided to run away. When Hugo learned that, he decided to bring her back. And when Hugo's friends didn't see him come back they went to look for him and found the dead body of the girl and a beast, which looked as if it had come from hell. During this project we studied the story in different ways. First we saw a video on Sherlock Holmes to know more about him because it's the most important character in the book. After that we studied a text about the curse of the Baskervilles and the different characters who were in this story, as Mr Stapleton, the butterfly collector, Dr Mortimer: the doctor and friend of sir Henry of Baskerville and many others. We also read a description of Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson. To finish we saw a comic trip on the curse. I enjoyed working on this project because it was interesting to learn more about English heroes. Moreover we always read famous French book, so reading a famous English book was a great experience. To finish I like reading detective novels.

Benjamin

Our impressions about the play

Last Friday, I saw at the theater The Hound of the Baskerville which is a play inspired by Conan Doyle's story. It was in a little theater that I didn't know but it was nice to discover a new place in Paris. The company was "theatre en anglais" and all the actors were good. They were only four but they did an amazing job, I didn't recognize the same actor in two different characters. They completely changed their voices and attitudes. David Stanley played the main character: Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were interpreted by Dominic Gould. Camille Lecointre played all the female roles, and Serge O'Sullivan, Stapleton or Henry Baskerville. Lucille O'Flanagan did an excellent job as a director.

The story takes place on the moor in Baskerville Hall where three months ago, Charles Baskerville was killed. Dr Watson came here to solve the crime. Who killed Charles Baskerville? Why did somebody kill him? If you want the answer, come and watch the play.

When the play started, I immediately discovered all the sound and light effects. Behind the actors, on the stage, there was a screen which helped you to understand the play which was good if you didn't know all the English words. Well, the language wasn't a problem. They spoke very clearly, so I understood all the words. Throughout the play, you can imagine what Sherlock Holmes's work was and try to solve the crime. I enjoyed watching it but I think some people didn't like it because the humour was exaggerated and there were a lot of stereotypes. Finally I had a nice moment and not too long (only one hour and a half with a break of 20 min). I recommend it but only for teenagers (who speak English) or their parents. If you are a young adult, I am not sure you will like this play. It should be considered a family play. If you want to watch it, go on the website of L'Alhambra theatre to buy your tickets (only 16 euros) and I hope you will enjoy it.

Alix

I would like to make a quick review of "The Hound of the Baskerville" which I saw last Friday, on the 1st of April at the Alhambra Theater in Paris. David Stanley had the role of Sherlock Holmes, Dominic Gould was Dr Watson and Serge O'Sullivan had two roles: Stapleton and Henry Baskerville. It was really nice, because the interpretation was original, I mean it was not boring, but lively and funny, that's why I recommend you watch it. But before I would like to sum up the plot for you. Henry Baskerville is a very rich Canadian who has a big house called Baskerville Hall. And the most important thing is that Stapleton will inherit Henry's fortune if this character dies. We can immediately guess Stapleton's idea: kill Sir Henry to get this money. But the problem is that Sir Henry wears the clothes of another character. This complicated story brings a lot of fun, that's why I recommend it. This is the subject of Sherlock Holmes's investigation. I won't say more not to spoil the play for you.

One of the funniest parts in this play is when they use anachronisms. They speak about a railway to join U.K and France (shuttle)! I really enjoyed this part because it shows that they aren't prisoners of the story, they speak about many different things. The actors are ridiculous, and many clichés are put into the story. Dr Watson always has his umbrella because it often rains in England. There is the servant who always asks people if they want tea.

If all that had not been there, I would have found the story very boring. They were also very close to the audience; they were walking in all the room! We were part of the story, all that made me really laugh, so you just have to see it.

New-York Times, 04/05/2016

Charl lie

I am going to speak about the play *The Hound of the Baskervilles* that I saw last Friday in a theatre of Paris: the Alhambra theatre. *Th atre en Anglais* is the name of the company which performs the play. This company is directed by Lucille O'Flanagan and the main actors are David Stanley who played Sherlock Holmes, Dominic Gould who acted the character of Dr Watson, Camille Lecointre who played all the female roles and Serge O'Sullivan who played at the same time Stapleton and Henry Baskerville.

I will sum up the plot briefly. So, first the story takes place in Dartmoor: a real place in England where you can easily lose your way because of the thick mist and the bad weather. This story written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is well written with the famous detective Sherlock Holmes helped by his friend Dr Watson. They have to solve a mystery of the curse of the Baskervilles. This family has been plagued for a long time by a terrible hound who killed several people in their family. Sir Charles Baskerville recently died of a heart attack because he was crazed with fear in front of the huge hound. Sherlock Holmes thanks to several clues, solves the crime and finds that the culprit is Jack Stapleton who released this horrible hound to frighten the family of the Baskervilles. Actually, it was because Stapleton wanted to inherit the property of the Baskervilles.

Now, from my point of view the actors played the different characters very well. Even if one actor had to play several characters, they managed well by changing their voices, their body attitudes... For me the play wouldn't have been as funny if they hadn't made all the comic scenes. The play was very funny nearly all the time because they made fun with stereotypical behaviours of English people, Canadian and French people. It was the main good aspect of the play. However, in my opinion the detective and police aspect of the play was not developed enough. So, I recommend this play for its comic aspect.

Cl ment

Last Friday, I saw « the Hound of the Baskervilles » . That was a great experience because it was the first real theatre play I had seen in my life. There was a good atmosphere because before the start of the play, the actors were with us and talked with us. I immediately saw who was who because the costumes were very well chosen. I didn't expect at all the character of Mrs Hudson but it was a bit funny. There was a great ambiance and the actors and the audience were very close. When I arrived at the Alhambra, I asked myself how the actors could play on this ridiculous stage but finally, it was OK. They all used different voices and body language to play the different characters like Sherlock holmes who also played the policeman, the kind of taxi with horses... There is another unexpected element which is that we didn't see Sherlock Holmes a lot and that the main character was Watson. There were some bad aspects like the hound which was a bit ridiculous with its red eyes. The sound effects were good because they helped the creation of the atmosphere but one of the things that shocked me is that the background of the Moor was not scary at all and was always the same but at different moments of the day. I think I understood the play well but not everything, and something that helped me a lot is the different costumes and accents of all the characters. I had a great impression of the play and it corresponded perfectly to what I expected. If I had to change something, I would change the hound which was ridiculous and which just appeared at the end of the story and died killed by a bullet.

Léo

This article is about the play "The Hound of the Baskervilles". This play is telling the story of the Baskervilles, a family who lives in Dartmoor. They have been cursed since the death of their ancestor, Hugo Baskervilles who fell in love with a girl but she didn't want to marry him because of his bad reputation. That's why he kidnapped her but she escaped and stayed hidden on the moor. When he found her, she was dead. He was killed in the same way as the girl : killed by an enormous hound. Since that time, some members of the family have believed in this curse and have been worried about it. The head of the family, Sir Charles Baskervilles was found dead in the garden so Sir Henry Baskervilles, the next heir of Baskerville Hall comes to London to ask the famous detective Sherlock Holmes to solve this case. Here is the beginning of the play.

This play was staged by the company "Théâtre en Anglais" and directed by Lucille O'Flanagan. I saw it on Friday, April 1st in a theatre in Paris called l'Alhambra. In this play you can see David Stanley as the famous detective Sherlock Holmes, Dominic Gould as the assistant and doctor Watson. You can also see Camille Lecointre who plays all the female roles and Serge O'Sullivan who plays Stapleton and Henry Baskervilles.

Personally, I really love the Sherlock Holmes's stories. This play is faithful to the book, but with humour, which makes the play more pleasant to see. I recommend this play to the Sherlock Holmes lovers and also teenagers. I think this is not adapted to young children because it's sometimes a bit complicated to understand but it's a very good play and the actors are really good too.

Lisa Jourdain

"The hound of the Baskervilles" is one of the most popular stories of Sherlock Holmes, written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. This story was adapted in a theatre play by the "Théâtre en Anglais" company that I saw on Friday 1st of April. Sherlock Holmes was played by David Stanley, Dr Watson by Dominic Gould and Stapleton and Henry Baskerville were both played by Serge O'Sullivan. All the female roles were played by the same actress, Camille Lecointre. Lucille O'Flanagan is the director of this company.

As in every Sherlock Holmes's story, the famous London investigator has to solve a murder, this time, Sir Charles Baskerville, Sir Henry's uncle, has been murdered in Baskerville hall, near the moor known for the legend of the hound. Also, the Baskerville family is victim of a curse linked to this huge hound. That's why Dr Watson goes to Baskerville hall to solve the crime. He meets Stapleton, a butterfly collector who is a member of Baskerville family, so he wants to inherit. That's why he tries to kill Sir Henry who is said to be the only heir of Sir Charles. Thanks to Dr Watson, Sherlock Holmes can solve the crime and save Sir Henry from being killed. The detective discovers that Stapleton killed Sir Charles with a gigantic hound which also attacked Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson who killed the beast. Stapleton dies at the end of the story.

The actors made some jokes and I think the play wouldn't have been funny and even boring sometimes without these jokes. A screen was used to represent the setting of the scenes and helped to understand where some scenes took place: some were on the moor, others in Baskerville hall... and even the hound was shown on the screen. But honestly, the beast wasn't realistic at all and could have been more frightening. Apart from that detail, there were a lot of stereotypes about English people such as their suits.

To conclude, if you love Sherlock Holmes stories you should go and see the play. But if you aren't interested in these stories I don't recommend this play.

Nathalie

Last Friday, I went to the theatre to see « The Hound of the Baskervilles » with my classmates and teachers. It was a small theatre, the play began at 8.30 pm. The story was interesting with mysterious aspects, at the beginning we learnt that Sir Charles Baskerville had died in a mysterious way and that Sir Henry would inherit. Dr Watson went to Baskerville hall with Sir Henry to protect him but Sherlock Holmes stayed in London. Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were presented as two stereotypical Englishmen. Mrs Hudson was also presented as an English woman asking people if they wanted tea, which was very funny. Sir Henry Baskerville was the opposite of them, he was a caricature of an American.

Later we also met the Barrymores, who were a bit weird characters as Jack Stapleton, the butterfly collector. Some actors were playing many roles, so in my opinion they were a bit exaggerating each of them but were switching accents, which was amazing. Costumes were also very helpful to recognise each characters, they were stereotypical but corresponded to the character interpreted.

A screen in the background was also used to situate the scene and help me to understand. Thanks to the screen the atmosphere of the play could be changed rapidly and in an easy way, sometimes a cosy atmosphere with Sherlock Holmes' home and sometimes scary like on the moor with the smoke used to create fog.

Maybe the actors were overplaying a bit but the play was fun with some jokes on English or French people. I would just have changed the hound who was a bit ridiculous, but globally I spent a good moment.

Nicolas

The Hound of the Baskervilles is a story written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. This play was played by the Company « Théâtre en anglais ». There were four actors for many characters. David Stanley was Sherlock Holmes, Dominic Gould interpreted Doctor Watson who was the character the spectators saw the most and Camille Lecointre interpreted all the females roles, Serge O'Sullivan was Stapleton and Henry Baskerville. The Director of this company is Lucille O'Flanagan. I saw this play in the theatre 'L'Alhambra » in Paris in April. The play lasted nearly two hours .

This is the story of the Baskerville family. Sir Charles Baskerville died of a heart attack when he saw a monstrous dog. That's why Sir Henry Baskerville, the heir of this family went to Holmes' home in London to understand this mysterious death. So during the play, the spectators see Doctor Watson and Sherlock Holmes investigate to solve this case. In this play, there were nine characters, Watson, Holmes, Jack and Beryl Stapleton, Mr and Mrs Barrymore, Selden, Henry Baskerville and Mrs Hudson.

Personally I really liked this play for many reasons. First, there were many stereotypes and jokes, it made the spectators laugh. Behind the characters, there was a screen with the place where the characters were, it permitted to understand better. Then there were sound effects like the sound of the wind, to create a real atmosphere. The actors played their roles very well, they overplayed a bit, and it was easy to recognize the different characters thanks to their voices. But, unfortunately, the Hound was a bit ridiculous and didn't frighten the audience. If you want to spend time with your family, I think it's a good idea to see this play.

Paul C.

Today we are going to speak about the play *The Hound of the Baskervilles* which was played on Friday 1st April in Paris, at the Alhambra theatre. This play was presented by the company "Théâtre en anglais" with the actors David Stanley, Dominic Gould, Camille Lecointre and Serge O'Sullivan.

This play is an adaptation of the world known "The Hound of the Baskervilles" written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, where Sherlock Holmes has to solve different crimes. At the beginning, a man called Sir Henry of Baskerville and who comes from Canada arrives in Sherlock Holmes's house and wants him to solve the death of his uncle Sir Charles who died in weird conditions. Sherlock Holmes and the famous Doctor Watson have to go to the Baskerville hall situated in Dartmoor to find the murderer. In this hall, they find mysterious servants who are called Mr and Mrs Barrymore and who are not going to help them. The appearance of a big hound who has been frightening the population since a Baskerville ancestor was found dead, murdered by an enormous beast, also makes the search difficult.

For me, this play is a very good interpretation of the book. The performance of the actors is perfect and there is no overplay. Camille Lecointre did a very impressive performance of the various characters that she is supposed to play. We can see that the company who realised this play has not got a lot of money but it is not important because of the actors who realise little "special effects" with every day objects as an umbrella to represent a wheel. The director Lucille O'Flanagan decided to use smoke to represent different places where the play takes place.

To conclude, we can see that this play is really worth seeing and that the only bad point is not because of the play but because of the Alhambra theatre where there is no room for the legs.

Paul H.

Last Friday, I saw the play « The Hound of the Baskervilles » at the theatre « L'Alambra » at Paris. I'm going to give you my opinion about this play and explain what I liked most, what I disliked and why. Firstly, I found the plot very good. It allowed us to have some suspense and guess things during the play. Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson were presented as I imagined them. They were joking all the time and were good friends. I was not surprised by the way they were presented. The things that surprised me were the songs. I didn't expect songs during the play. At the beginning of the play the first song conveyed a frightening atmosphere, it illustrated well the moor's atmosphere. Every time the actors played another character, they totally changed their attitude and adapted it to the state of mind of the character they were playing. For example, when David Stanley played Sherlock Holmes, he was more energetic than when he played Mr. Barrymore.

Secondly, the set of the play was very original and totally unexpected. There was a big screen behind the stage which helped to create atmospheres and made the play more understandable. Everything was there to create a realistic atmosphere. There was fog when the atmosphere needed to be gloomy, big lights when the characters were at home or frightening music when they were in the middle of the moor. The screen and the costumes permitted to create every atmosphere which was necessary. I think that it helped to understand the play, it allowed us to better situate the characters and the places.

To conclude, I found the play interesting and it corresponded to the idea I had of the story, the attitudes of the characters, their body language and their accents. I found some things a bit disappointing such as the representation of the hound, which was not realistic at all, the hound was not scary at all. Globally I enjoyed this play and I think it was a very good idea to see it.

Sacha M.

Last Friday, I saw *The Hound of the Baskerville* in English. This play is an adaptation of the book of Arthur Conan Doyle, one of the stories of the famous Sherlock Holmes.

For me, it was a really nice performance but I found that at the beginning of the play, they didn't speak loud enough. Apart from that, the performance of the actors was really interesting. In particular, Camille Lecointre, who played all the women roles, played with the different English accents for her different roles.

I could easily understand the change of characters with the costumes. Sometimes these actors played different roles and without all these costumes, I would not have understood.

The actors were often trying to make some jokes or other funny things but I found that the audience didn't react a lot. I have been part of a drama club and I know how it is when the audience doesn't react so I found them really brave.

For the atmosphere, the screen really helped to create an atmosphere and with it we understood where the characters were and we felt a little bit like at the cinema in front of a movie.

I found interesting and funny to use some props to create other things for example when they used the umbrella like a cart wheel or the chair for a little tree.

I loved when they used the screen to play with their shadows. I found that was a nice idea and maybe they should have used it more. I found stupid to sing « he is an Englishman ». I didn't find that funny, besides, it was a theatre play not a musical. To finish, I found the play interesting but too long and, at the end, a little bit boring.

Juliette



It is a play inspired by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's novel. It was played on Friday the 1st of April 2016, at the Alhambra theatre, in Paris. The company which staged this play is "Théâtre en Anglais". The actors were David Stanley, who played Sherlock Holmes, Dominic Gould, who was Dr Watson, Camille Lecointre who interpreted every female role, and, finally, Serge O'Sullivan, who played both Stapleton and Sir Henry Baskerville. The director is Lucille O' Flanagan.

The play tells the story of the hound on the Baskervilles, as it is said in the title. The story begins at Holmes's house, where Sir Henry Baskervilles asks for Holmes and Watson's help, because his uncle, Charles Baskerville, died of a heart attack, and he suspects his death might be linked to the curse of the Baskervilles. So Dr Watson goes to Charles's house with Sir Henry to find out what the cause of his death was. He discovers that Mr and Mrs Barrymore (the servants of the house) bring Sir Henry's old clothes to Mrs Barrymore's brother, who lives on the moor. He also meets Stapleton. That man looks like he couldn't live without his sister. Stapleton has a mistress. Later, Sherlock, who is under cover, meets Dr Watson to solve the case. Together, they discover that

Stapleton wants to be Sir Charles's heir, so he said his wife was his sister. This way, he could be loved by his mistress and she could do everything he wanted her to do. He asked her to say to Charles to meet her at the gate of the moor, and there, Stapleton's hound scared him to death. Holmes and Watson think that Stapleton wants to kill Sir Henry. They are right, but he kills Mrs Barrymore's brother, thinking that it is Henry. At the end, Stapleton and the hound die.

I think that it was an amusing play, because of the jokes that the actors made to make the play funnier. They managed to make us laugh even though it was a serious case and a serious story. That is why I recommend it to you, if you want to spend a nice evening.

Marion

Last Friday, I went to see « The Hound of the Baskervilles », a famous play written by Conan Doyle at the "Alhambra theatre" in Paris. The play started at 8:30 pm and finished around 10:30 pm. The main actors were David Stanley (S.Holmes), Dominic Gould (Dr Watson), Camille Lecointe (the females roles), and Serge O' Sullivan (Stapleton / Henry Baskerville). The play was directed by Lucille O' Flanagan and the company was "Theatre en Anglais".

It's the story of a man called Sir Charles of Baskerville who dies near his castle in Baskerville. Then in London, Dr Mortimer is telling the facts of the the death of Charles of Baskervilles and the story about the Hound of Baskervilles to Sherlock Holmes. He thinks it is an interesting story. That's why Holmes and Dr Watson want to solve this mystery. Sir Henry of Baskerville, the nephew and heir of Charles inherits his castle. So, he comes to London from Canada to meet Holmes and Watson and together, they go to Baskerville Hall by train. He meets some strange people like Stapleton's family, the Baskervilles, Selden (an escaped killer) ... But who is the culprit? And what is exactly the Hound of Baskerville?

In my opinion, the global play was a success and the actors are very good.

The actors were also imaginative. For example, they just took an umbrella, and they created the wheels of the carriage!

Another success is that the play was very funny. We were not bored at all! There was a screen behind the characters on stage which helped us to understand the play.

Indeed, the screen showed the different places where the characters were.

However, the Hound could have been more frightening.

Pierre