Just about every English-speaking reader knows the name Sherlock Holmes. Nearly as many know that the master detective and his pal Watson were created by British writer Arthur Conan Doyle. But not nearly as many know that Doyle resisted putting Holmes on the stage and that the first Sherlock play, premiering in 1899, was primarily written by an American, William Gillette (1853-1937). Gillette appeared in his signature role more than 1300 times, and it was actually the playwright/actor who created the Holmes costume of the famous cloak, deerstalker hat, and meerschaum pipe. In addition, Gillette is credited with devising realistic stage settings and special effects and, as an actor, putting forth the “Illusion of the First Time” (which we try to give you in each of our performances).

Similarly, many Sunset audience members recognize the name of Ken Ludwig as the quintessential writer of farce; you have enjoyed Sunset’s productions of “Lend Me a Tenor,” “A Comedy of Tenors,” “Moon Over Buffalo,” and “Leading Ladies.” But I’ll bet most of you don’t know that Ludwig is also a Folger Shakespeare scholar and a lover of mysteries. In “The Game’s Afoot,” Ludwig blends his skills in mystery and comic writing. His play takes place in Gillette’s mansion, a place you can still visit in Connecticut today.

As a cast and production staff, we have had a wonderful time bringing Ludwig’s words and Sherlock’s character alive on the stage. Thanks to all of them, on stage and off, as well as the ever-so-supportive Playhouse staff, for making my job so easy and so much fun! Now, dear audience, it’s your turn; enjoy the show!

Carol Dolphin, Director

P.S. Note that gun shots will be fired both on stage and from the audience. Please don’t be alarmed.
Welcome to Sunset Playhouse

Policies
Please silence all cell phones and do not text during the performance. Cameras and recording equipment are not permitted in the theater without explicit permission from Sunset Playhouse. Latecomers will be seated in vacant seats towards the rear of the auditorium at an appropriate pause in the action. They may move to their regular seats at intermission. Sunset Playhouse is a smoke-free environment.

Box Office Information
Tuesday 1 PM - 7 PM, Wednesday - Friday 1 PM - 5 PM, and Saturdays open 1 hour prior to any performance for purchase of tickets for that evening’s show only and through intermission. (262) 782-4430.

Tickets may be purchased in person or over the phone during Box Office hours. Tickets may also be purchased 24/7 at SunsetPlayhouse.com. Note: there is a $1 per ticket fee for phone orders and a $3 per ticket fee for online orders. All sales are final – no refunds. Exchanges must be done in advance of ticketed performance and will only be made if tickets are available, for a different performance of the same show.

Prices for 2019-20 Season

Adult Tickets
Plays & Musical MainStage ........... $22
SideNotes ................................ $24
Musicals & Holiday Show .......... $26

Senior/Student/Military
Plays and Musical MainStage ....... $20
SideNotes ................................ $22
Musicals & Holiday Show .......... $24

Value Night/Child (under 12)
Plays ........................................ $11
Musicals & Holiday Show .......... $13

Group Sales
Bring your group of 10 or more to Sunset and SAVE!
Plays, Musical MainStage ............ $17
Musicals, Holiday Show, SideNotes ........................................ $21

Contact Stephanie at 262-782-4431 x291 for more information and to book your group today.

Parking
There is ample parking in the Sunset Playhouse lot located next to the theater.

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A Sunset Playhouse Special Event

And All That Jazz

December 31, 2019

Come on babe, why don’t we paint the town! Dress up in your holiday finery and join us for a gala New Year’s Eve celebration in Sunset’s Studio Theater. Hostess Becky Spice and her special guests will sing holiday favorites and the classic standards you love.

Enjoy appetizers, desserts, a full cash bar, and a complimentary champagne toast at midnight.

Performed in the Marla Eichmann Studio Theater.
Seating limited to 88 guests.

Last year was a sell-out - don’t wait to get your tickets.

Furlan Auditorium Production

The Marvelous Wonderettes

January 16 - February 1, 2020

It’s the 1958 Springfield High School prom where we meet Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy, and Suzy. As we learn about their lives and loves, the girls serenade us with classic ‘50s hits, including “Lollipop,” “Dream Lover,” “Stupid Cupid,” and “Lipstick on Your Collar.”

Originating at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, this joyful jukebox musical has entertained audiences Off-Broadway and around the country for 20 years and now makes its Playhouse debut!

For tickets call our box office at 262-782-4430 or visit our website at SunsetPlayhouse.com
**Cast**

William Gillette ................................................................. Paul Weir
Martha Gillette ................................................................. Joan End
Felix Geisel ................................................................. Scott Korman
Aggie Wheeler ................................................................. Emma Losey
Madge Geisel ................................................................. Maggie Marks
Simon Bright ................................................................. Rob Kuhnen
Daria Chase ................................................................. Ramsey Schlissel
Inspector Goring ............................................................ Susan Zuern
Shooter ........................................................................... Mitchell Losey

**Production Team**

Director ........................................................................... Carol Dolphin
Scenic Designer ............................................................. Matt Carr
Costume Designer .......................................................... Jazmin Aurora Medina
Lighting Designer ............................................................ John R. Dolphin
Sound Designer ............................................................... Jan Pritzl
Wig Designer ..................................................................... Dana Rochester
Fight Director ................................................................. Christopher Elst
Fight Captain ..................................................................... Maggie Marks
Prop Mistresses ............................................................... Beth Bland
Stage Manager .................................................................. Merry Jaeger

Photography and video/audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited. The audience is asked to silence mobile phones and refrain from using all electronic devices during the performance. Please NO texting.

*Sunset Playhouse would like to thank the following volunteers for their time and commitment:*

Scene Shop Coordinator ................................................. Pat Westen
Properties Coordinator .................................................. Beth Bland
Master Carpenter ............................................................ Duane Bauer
Sound Engineer ............................................................... Jan Pritzl
Musical MainStage Producer ........................................... Susan Loveridge
SideNotes Producers ...................................................... Peggy Peterson Ryan
After Sunset Producer ..................................................... Becky Spice
Building & Grounds ......................................................... Rudy Miskowitch, Jan Pritzl, Alan Schimel
Setting
The living room of the mansion of William Gillette near East Haddam, Connecticut

ACT I
Scene 1: The Palace Theatre; New York City, December 1936
Scene 2: The home of William Gillette, two weeks later; Christmas Eve, 1936
Scene 3: One hour later

ACT II
Scene 1: Immediately following
Scene 2: Five minutes later

Time
December 1936

THERE WILL BE ON 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

NOTE:
All weapons used in this production are theatrical props.
All gunshots are sound effects.
Meet The Cast and Production Team

BETH BLAND
(Properties Mistress) – A Sunset volunteer for seven years, Beth believes that much of the fun of working behind the scenes is creating the “world” in which the actors move—whether it’s props, stage managing, costumes, lights and sound, or wielding a paintbrush. She has also appeared on stage, most recently as a strangler in THREE MURDERS AND IT’S ONLY MONDAY and Woman at Lemonade Stand in THE CUPCAKE KILLER.

MATT CARR (Set Designer/Technical Director) – Matt is happy to be in his second year here at Sunset as Set Designer and Technical Director. He has enjoyed all his Playhouse experiences, especially working with the volunteers who help make these shows so wonderful. Matt is always looking forward to the next show and many more Sunset seasons. He would like to thank his wife and family for their love and support.

CAROL DOLPHIN
(Director) – Carol is always happy to return to her Sunset family where she last directed A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED. She has been active as a Sunset volunteer for more than 50 years—yes, 50; she’s old—directing, acting, back stage, front of house, on the Board, Life Member. Favorite directorial challenges: AND THEN THERE WERE NONE, AN INSPECTOR CALLS, BLITHE SPIRIT, THE CRUCIBLE, WIT. Favorite roles: Mother Miriam Ruth (AGNES OF GOD), Mme. Arcati (BLITHE SPIRIT), Lady Bracknell (IMPORTANCE/EARNEST), Grandma Kurnitz (LOST IN YONKERS). Professor Emerita in theater from UW-Waukesha, Carol also enjoys the roles of joyful retiree, passionate traveler, Alverno College volunteer, and proud grandmother.

JOHN R. DOLPHIN
(Lighting Designer) – While working for Mid-West Scenic in 1956, John began his long association with this organization (then the Elm Grove Players), providing stage sets and lighting design. In the years since, he has served on the board of directors (including vice president and president), resident lighting designer, set designer, and Life Member. After 45 years as president and co-owner of Mid-West, he retired and formed his own company, Candela LLC. Recent Sunset credits include GUYS AND DOLLS, SHERLOCK HOLMES, THE ADDAMS FAMILY, and GYPSY. For other companies: THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME and JEKYLL AND HYDE. Upcoming: lighting design for ALL MY SONS, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, and WILD OATS! His lighting design services have also been provided to Barry College (Roma GA), the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and two major performance spaces in the Ukraine.

CHRISTOPHER ELST (Fight Director) A prominent member of several national theater organizations and an advocate for new and safer practices for theaters nationwide, Christopher has performed, directed, and designed violence and intimacy for professional theaters across the country, including

JOAN END (Martha Gillette) – Joan is thrilled to return to Sunset where she last appeared as Aida in OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS. Recent credits include MOTHERS AND SONS with the Boulevard Theatre and THE ROYAL FAMILY with Windfall Theatre. Thanks to Carol and the cast for this fun “whodunit” experience. Love and thanks to family, friends, and to all of you for coming to the show! Happy Holidays!

MERRY L. JAEGGER (Stage Manager) – Merry has played various backstage roles at Sunset, most recently stage managing RABBIT HOLE for the After Sunset Studio Series. Also involved with SummerStage of Delafield, she recently stage managed its production of RUMORS.

Merry is honored to be in the company of this talented and fun-loving cast and crew. Special thanks and love to Scott.

SCOTT KORMAN (Felix Geisel) – Scott is elated to be in his ninth Sunset production since 2015, having recently appeared in LEADING LADIES (Butch), THE CURIOUS SAVAGE (Hannibal), ANY NUMBER CAN DIE (Edgars), and ROOM SERVICE (Gribble). The Marquette alumnus loves performing on the Playhouse stage and hopes for many more shows in the years to come. Thanks to Carol and the entire cast and crew!

ROB KUHNEN (Simon Bright) – Rob is returning to Sunset for only the second time, honored and grateful to be working under the direction of Carol Dolphin, especially on the ‘big stage,” for the first time. A Theater minor at Colorado Christian University, he most recently had the title role in TARTUFFE at The Village Playhouse in West Allis. Rob’s other memorable shows include AUGUST OSAGE COUNTY; 1776; MAJOR BARBARA; AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE; TOBIT; and LOVE, HOPE, AND...
CHARITY. Love and thanks to C, G, and E for their continued love and support.

**EMMA LOSEY (Aggie Wheeler)** – Emma returns to the Playhouse after playing June in THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER. You also may have seen her as Cinderella in DISENCHANTED THE MUSICAL. Other favorite roles include Blanche (A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE), Janet (THE DROWSY CHAPERONE), Belle (BEAUTY AND THE BEAST), and Abigail (THE CRUCIBLE).

**MITCHELL LOSEY (Shooter/Tech)** – Tonight marks Mitchell’s Sunset Playhouse debut. He minored in theater at UW-Platteville where he played Garry (NOISES OFF), a Gangster (DROWSY CHAPERONE), and Reverend Hale (THE CRUCIBLE). Mitchell recently appeared as Sir Bedevere in Waukesha West High School’s alumni production of SPAMALOT.

**MAGGIE MARKS (Madge Geisel)** – Making her Sunset Playhouse debut, Maggie was most recently seen in Renaissance Theaterworks Brink New Play Festival in both the BRIEFS and STITCHED WITH A SICKLE AND A HAMMER. Other recent credits include THE TEMPEST and RICHARD III with Bard and Bourbon (now Mad Rouges) and THE LAST CYCLIST at Cardinal Stritch. Big thanks to her family!

**JAZMIN AURORA MEDINA (Costume Designer)** – Jazmin, a professional costume designer throughout Wisconsin and Illinois, is thrilled to make her Sunset debut. Recently, she was one of thirty-four emerging American designers selected for the 2019 Prague Quadrennial for her costume design of EURYDICE at UW-Waukesha. Jazmin’s many credits include Milwaukee Chamber Theatre and First Stage Children’s Theater.

**Dana Rochester (Wig Designer)** – Currently an instructor of hair and makeup at UWM, Dana is also the director of hair and makeup at the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

**RAMSEY SCHLISSEL (Daria Chase)** – Ramsey loves to take on interesting and dynamic roles. Her diverse credits include Dr. Sweet (BUG),
Margery (HAND OF GOD), Miss Hannigan (ANNIE), Vixen (REINDEER MONOLOGUES), Milady (THREE MUSKETEERS), Lorraine (THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER), and Ms. Jurado (LA RAZA EN VIETNAM). As a homeschooling mom and dairy goat farmer, she has a passion for learning, risks, and adventure and, while in California, made her living with a traveling improv troupe. Ramsey last studied with Mojo Dojo in Milwaukee. Thank you to family, Carol, and the rest of the Sunset team for their support.

PAUL WEIR (William Gillette) – Paul returns to the Playhouse following his appearance last year in ROOM SERVICE. In addition to Sunset, his nearly 80-show area resume covers plays with The Village Playhouse, Grant Park Players, West Allis Players, Racine Theatre Guild, Cream City Theater, Greendale Community Theater, Over Our Head Players, and Lake Country Playhouse. Merry Christmas and enjoy the show!

SUSAN ZUERN (Inspector Goring) – Although Susan can usually be found lurking around backstage, every so often she will put on a costume and step out into the light to say a few lines. Thanks, Carol!

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Sunset Playhouse acknowledges the individuals, corporations, & foundations whose generosity confirms the importance of live theater in our community. In recognition of this support & encouragement, we proudly list their names in thanks.

This list reflects those who donated to Sunset Playhouse from November 1, 2018 to November 1, 2019.

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- Hohing, Laura

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- Anonymous
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- Esposito & Knudsen Family
- Pulitzer, Jan & Karen A Rowan
- Werra, Nora & Jude
- Weston, Mark & Pat

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- Seaver, Raymond & Christine

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- Warchol, Patricia
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- Manegold, Robert & Carol
- Mater, Annie & Paul
- Orth, Robert
- Pire, Thomas
- Russell, Ray
- Schubert, Darrin & Kim
- Schubert, Darrin & Kim
- Smith, Kenneth & Candace
- Warchol, Patricia
- Yanicke, Georgia

**Stage Managers ($25-$99)**
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- Wood, Eileen Pepper
- Wilala, Marion
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- Whalen, Gloria & Robert
- Waznaik, Robert & Debra
- Wegener, Craig
- Weitenbeck, Mark
- Wenzel, Thomas & Karen
- West, Paul & Kathy
- Whalen, Gloria & Robert
- White, George
- Wilala, Marion
- Wood, Eileen Pepper
- Zellmer, Kathleen

**Playwrights ($500-$999)**
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The Game's Afoot
**Sunset Playhouse Mission Statement**

The Sunset Playhouse is a not-for-profit Performing Arts Center serving the greater Milwaukee community by producing quality entertainment and education. This is accomplished through: nurturing talent, engaging volunteers, providing education and entertainment outreach through the School of the Arts and creating a perfect balance of Community Theater and professional entertainment.

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Board Members at Large ................................................................. Carol Anderson, Claire Boles, Bob Dude, Jim Loveridge, Nikki Lueck, Lee Szczepanski
Ex Officio Board Member ................................................................. David DeAngelis

**Sunset Playhouse Staff**

Artistic Director .................................................................................. Nancy Visintainer-Armstrong
Technical Director .............................................................................. Matt Carr
Education Director .............................................................................. Erika Navin
Finance Manager ................................................................................ Paul Armstrong
Office Manager/Production & Membership Coordinator .................. Ann Mather
Box Office Manager ........................................................................... Stephanie Rejman Staufenbeil
Volunteer Coordinator ........................................................................ Dana Strothenke
Web Manager ...................................................................................... Catherine Wilson
Administrative Assistant ...................................................................... Christine White
Lead House Manager .......................................................................... Carol Komassa
Front of House Coordinator ............................................................... Lyndsey Sippel
Box Office/Front of House Staff ......................................................... Jennifer Allen, Jackie Bach, Shannon Franklin, Donna Harris, Kristen Kubisiak, Barbara Stier, Christine White

Event Staff ......................................................................................... Barbara Stier, Tim Karth, Molly Schaefer

Our office may be reached at 262-782-4430. Please visit our website: SunsetPlayhouse.com.

**VOLUNTEER AT SUNSET PLAYHOUSE**

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities in areas such as costumes, painting, construction, props, helping with mailings and office work, handing out flyers and more, please contact our Office Manager/Volunteer Coordinator, Ann Mather at 262-782-4431x221 or email her at amather@sunsetplayhouse.com.
Furlan Auditorium Productions

September 5 - 22, 2019  
October 10 - November 3, 2019  
December 5 - 22, 2019  
January 18 - February 1, 2020  
February 27 - March 15, 2020  
April 23 - May 10, 2020  
June 4 - 21, 2020  
July 16 - August 9, 2020

A COMEDY OF TENORS  
MAMMA MIA!  
THE GAME’S AFOOT  
THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES  
NOISES OFF  
CABARET  
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK  
WEST SIDE STORY

Musical MainStage Concert Series

September 16 - 17, 2019  
October 21 - 22, 2019  
December 16 - 17, 2019  
January 27 - 28, 2020  
March 2 - 3, 2020  
April 27 - 28, 2020

PETER, PAUL, MARY, & FRIENDS  
BARRY & BETTE: LOOKS LIKE WE MADE IT  
THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT: MOVIE MUSIC  
PEACEFUL, EASY FEELING: THE EAGLES  
HAL PRINCE: FROM FIDDLER TO PHANTOM  
THE BEAT GOES ON: ROCK CLASSICS

SideNotes Cabaret Series

September 29 - September 29, 2019  
December 4 - 8, 2019  
February 13 - 16, 2020  
March 19 - 22, 2020  
May 7 - 10, 2020  
June 11 - 14, 2020

CROWN JEWELS OF JAZZ  
UNFORGETTABLE: NAT KING COLE  
BACKSTAGE BROADWAY  
RHODES ROADHOUSE ROWDIES  
NOBODY DOES IT BETTER: THE CHICAGO SINGERS  
THE START OF SOMETHING BIG: STEVE & CYDIE

After Sunset Studio Series

September 12 - 15, 2019  
February 6 - 9, 2020  
April 2 - 5, 2020

DOUBT  
FRANKIE & JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE  
THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Special Events

October 25 - 27, 2019  
November 30, 2019  
December 31, 2019  
April 5, 2020  
May 16, 2020

ILLUSIONS IN THE NIGHT  
THE JAYNE TAYLOR CHRISTMAS SHOW  
ALL THAT JAZZ: NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATION  
60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION SHOW  
MUSICAL MAINSTAGE: RISING STAR REUNION

bug in a rug Children’s Theater

November 13 - 16, 2019  
February 15 - 22, 2020  
May 13 - 16, 2020

SUPER  
ROCK ‘N’ ROLL MOME  
LITTLE RED RIDING HOODIE

Celebrate Sunset’s Sparkling Sixtieth Season!

The Game’s Afoot 19
Sunset Playhouse Giving Legacy Society

Bequests and other planned gifts have a profound and lasting effect on the artistic quality our patrons have come to expect from our productions and on the future of our theater. If you would like to join us in building that future, please consider naming Sunset Playhouse as a beneficiary of your will or trust, IRA or other retirement plan, life insurance policy, land or property, life income or other planned gift.

Sunset Playhouse has received a very generous donation as our first legacy gift. You, too, can take advantage of this kind and memorable opportunity.

For more information, please contact Marla Eichmann at meichmann@sunsetplayhouse.com or call 262-782-4431 to set up a time to meet and discuss our Legacy Society.

Support Sunset Playhouse

Donations

Sunset Playhouse is largely supported by the generous gifts of our audience and funding organizations. All donations to Sunset Playhouse are considered tax deductible contributions to a 501(c)3 nonprofit institution. As you know, the cost to produce theater is not covered by ticket sales alone. We would be extremely grateful if you helped us close that financial gap to ensure quality productions and education for years to come. All donors will be acknowledged in our playbills.

Other Financial Support

There are many great opportunities to sponsor a Furlan Auditorium Production, Musical MainStage Concert, A SideNotes Cabaret Show or a bug in a rug Children’s Theater Show. A sponsor is recognized in the show’s program, in the advertisements and eblasts for the show and on Sunset’s website. A sponsor of a Furlan Auditorium Production receives 50 tickets to the show and the use of the Marla Eichmann Studio Theater for a pre-show reception.

Please call Nancy Visintainer-Armstrong, Artistic Director, at 262-782-4431x234 to talk about ways that you can support Sunset Playhouse.

Gift Certificates Make The Perfect Gift!

Receive a ticket voucher for select 19-20 performances with every $50 Gift Certificate purchase!

Entertainment Begins at Sunset!

262.782.4430
SunsetPlayhouse.com