

THE CLASSIC ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

2005 - Present

A Radio Series Broadcast Log By:
Stewart Wright

Initial Compilation: 02/01/2007

Last Update: 04/30/2019

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First Show: 11/20/2005
Last Show: 01/24/2016 — Series Complete
Number of Shows: Entire Series (See **EPISODE NOTES** and **SHOW LENGTH NOTES**.)
Audition Show: none

STATUS NOTE:

Effective Friday, March 31, 2017 Jim French Productions has ceased producing new shows.

Starting in July 2017, new episodes of *The Adventures of Harry Nile* and *The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* are being produced on a less frequent basis. These episodes will only be broadcast on Seattle radio station KIXI and they will be available for listening on the *Imagination Theatre* YouTube channel.

SERIES BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION:

The Classic Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes was produced by Jim French and features adaptations of the original Sir Arthur Conan Doyle adventures of the world's first and most famous consulting detective. These adventures were dramatizations by British writer M J Elliott who has penned many scripts for *Imagination Theatre*, *Kincaid*, *the Strangeseeker*, *The Adventures Of Harry Nile*, and *The Further Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes*. Elliott was also the primary writer for the *Raffles*, *The Gentleman Thief* and *The Hilary Caine Mysteries* series.

Even though most of Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes literature are now in the public domain, Jim French went to the effort of making an arrangement with the estate of Dame Jean Conan Doyle for the use of these and other characters in his radio dramatizations.

This series complements the long-running Jim French Productions series, *The Further Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes*, which presents pastiches, completely new adventures that remain faithful to the spirit, style, and tone of the original Conan Doyle stories.

Unlike some other earlier American radio treatments of the Dr. Watson character, Watson, as played by Lawrence Albert, is neither a bumbler nor a buffoon. He is Holmes' trusted and respected friend, associate, and confidant and often discovers valuable clues that aid in the solving of their cases.

The Classic Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes currently airs as part of *Jim French's Imagination Theatre* on radio station KIXI in Seattle and was syndicated as part of *Imagination Theatre* on radio stations in the United States and New Zealand. It was also heard around the world over the Internet. Effective September 11, 2016 selected episodes of *The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* are airing on the Sirius/XM satellite RadioClassics Channel #148.

MILESTONES IN RADIO:

The Jim French Productions' series, *The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, was noteworthy in radio drama history for several reasons.

It was the first time the entire Conan Doyle Canon was produced and aired as a single series for North American radio. It was also the initial time that the Sherlock Holmes, Dr. John H. Watson, Mrs. Hudson and Inspector Lestrade characters were played throughout the entire series by the same actors: John Patrick Lowrie as Sherlock Holmes and Lawrence Albert as Dr. John H. Watson, with the late Lee Paasch as Mrs. Hudson and Rick May as Inspector Lestrade. Every episode was produced with the full authorization of the Estate of Dame Jean Conan Doyle, the daughter of Sir Arthur.

Another first for *The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* was that it was the first time that a single writer, M. J. Elliott, adapted the entire Conan Doyle Canon for radio.

CREW:

Writer:	Adaptations by M J Elliott
Directors:	Lawrence Albert, John Patrick Lowrie and Dennis Bateman
Producer:	Jim French
Music:	Theme – "Danse Macabre" by Camille Saint-Saens. Incidental music by Michael Lynch.
Violinist:	Incidental music – Coral Sepulveda
Sound Effects:	Cheryl Jacobs, Jim French, Frank Rosin, Curtis Takahashi, and Lawrence Albert.
Engineers:	Jason Shavey and Sean Walker
Announcer:	Dennis Bateman

CAST:**Starring:**

John Patrick Lowrie as Sherlock Holmes

Lawrence Albert as Dr. John H. Watson

Conan Doyle Characters:

In addition to Holmes and Watson, some characters from the original Sherlock Holmes stories have appeared several times in the series. They include:

Mrs. Hudson played by Lee Paasch.

Inspector Giles Lestrade played by Rick May.

Inspector Tobias Gregson played by John Murray.

Inspector Stanley Hopkins played by William Hamer & Jeffrey Hitchin.

Guest Stars:

Andee Albert, John Armstrong, Dennis Bateman, Katrina Baxter Hodiak, Frank Buxton, Charles Canada, Lisa Carswell, Susan Connors, Roger Curtis, Caitlin Finne, Dennis Bateman, M J Elliott, Jim French, Rachel Glass, Sean Griffin, Karen Heaven, Ron Hippe, Jeffrey Hitchin, Mary Kae Irvin, Cynthia Lair, Kira Lauren, Steve Manning, Ellen McLain, Jaime Mendez, Louise Moore, Terry Edward Moore, David Natale, Pam Nolte, Rebecca Olson, Richard Sanders, Jeff Steitzer, Annette Toutonghi, Stephen Weyte, Doug Young, Richard Ziman, and others.

Sidebar - Memorable Villains and The Actor Behind Them

While Jim French usually cast himself in supporting role, his considerable acting skills were apparent in two of his infrequent leading roles. In the *Crisis* episode "Desperation Island," which was written by J. R. Van Houton, Jim French played the lead, a thoroughly despicable character named Gene Matthews. In the closing of the episode, Jim explains why he played the role, "Gene Matthews got what was ruddy well coming to him if you ask me. What a rotten sort of person to have to portray. That's why I couldn't bring myself to ask any of our other players to play Gene Matthews and I had to do the job myself."

Over 30 years later, in the Summer of 2008, this fan of Jim French's work remembered his fine portrayal of Gene Matthews and suggested that Jim should play one of the most evil villains in the Conan Doyle Canon in the then upcoming production of the episode of *The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* whose title bears the name of the man who the sleuth called, "The worst man in London:" Charles Augustus Milverton. The primary actors in the series, John Patrick Lowrie (Holmes) and Lawrence Albert (Dr. Watson) convinced French that he was right for the role. Jim played the Milverton role with a wonderful malevolence.

RECORDING SESSIONS:

The Classic Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes was unusual in that some of its episodes were recorded with a live audience in attendance.

The recording sessions took place at roughly two month intervals at the Kirkland Performance Center (KPC) in Kirkland, WA. Usually, episodes of *The Adventures Of Harry Nile* and *The Further Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes* and/or *The Classic Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes* were recorded at each session.

EPISODE NOTES:

Special Imagination Theatre 15th Anniversary Broadcast:

"Fifteen Years Later: Chapter 10 of War Comes to Harry Nile"

A special episode of *The Adventures Of Harry Nile*. This double-length story celebrates 15 years of *Imagination Theatre* broadcasts and features guest stars

John Patrick Lowrie from *The Classic and Further Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes*;

Terry Rose from *Kincaid The Strangeseeker*;

John Armstrong from *Raffles, The Gentleman Thief*;

and

Karen Heaven from *The Hilary Caine Mysteries*.

The time was June, 1944 and following the events of Chapter 3, "D-Day Minus One," Harry was still in England waiting to get a flight home. However, he was not bored. He managed to get himself involved with murder, treason and a former "girl" detective. He also encountered an aged consulting detective; a reformed, at least for the duration of the war, gentleman thief; and a nut job who said he was a seeker of the strange and unusual.

1,000th Imagination Theatre Broadcast:

On 05/17/2015, "The Three Gifts of Malebolgia or Three of Our Actors Are Missing," a special program for the 1,000th week of *Imagination Theatre* aired on a one-time basis only. Featured were three leading actors from various Jim French series: John Patrick Lowrie (Sherlock Holmes), Lawrence "Larry" Albert (Dr. Watson and Harry Nile), and Terry Rose (Michael Kincaid.) Also appearing out-of-character were John Armstrong (*Raffles, the Gentleman Thief*), Rachel Glass (*The Hilary Caine Mysteries*), David Natale (*Mr. Darnborough Investigates*), Kathryn Shield and Richard Sanders (Shelly Mars and Bigelow of *The Strange Seeker*), Jay Green, Mary Anne Dorward (Murphy of *The Adventures of Harry Nile*) and the man responsible it all, Jim French. The script was written by writer M. J. Elliott.

Two Stories Combined:

"The Return Of Sherlock Holmes."

This double-length episode combines the short stories "The Final Problem" and "The Empty House."

SHOW LENGTH NOTES:

Most episodes of *The Classic Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes* were approximately a half-hour (with commercials) in length.

Double-Length Episodes:

The following episodes were double-length, approximately 55 minutes (with commercials) long:

"The Adventure Of The Speckled Band"

"A Study In Scarlet"

"The Return Of Sherlock Holmes" (NOTE: A combination of "The Final Problem" and "The Empty House.")

Multi-Part Episodes:

"The Hound Of The Baskervilles" was comprised of three double-length shows.

"The Valley of Fear" was comprised of two double-length shows.

"The Sign of Four" was comprised of three single-length shows.

LOG:

All dates are the date of original airing on Seattle radio on the *Imagination Theatre* flagship station, KIXI. Alternate titles are shown in parentheses.

Date	Num	Title
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11/20/2005	001	The Yellow Face
02/26/2006	002	The Three Students (The Adventure Of The Three Students)
05/21/2006	003	The Mazarin Stone (The Adventure Of The Mazarin Stone)
08/27/2006	004	The Veiled Lodger (The Adventure Of The Veiled Lodger)
11/26/2006	005	Shoscombe Old Place (The Adventure Of Shoscombe Old Place)
02/25/2007	006	The Five Orange Pips
04/08/2007	007	A Study In Scarlet
06/24/2007	008	The Dancing Men (The Adventure Of The Dancing Men)
09/30/2007	009	The Three Gables (The Adventure Of The Three Gables)
10/21/2007	010	The Norwood Builder (The Adventure of the Norwood Builder)
01/20/2008	011	The Adventure Of Wisteria Lodge
03/16/2008	012	The Hound Of The Baskervilles Part 1
03/23/2008	012	The Hound Of The Baskervilles Part 2 (The Hound Of The Baskervilles Episode 2)
03/30/2008	012	The Hound Of The Baskervilles Part 3
05/25/2008	013	The Gloria Scott (The Adventure Of The Gloria Scott)
08/31/2008	014	Charles Augustus Milverton (The Adventure Of Charles Augustus Milverton)
12/28/2008	015	The Blue Carbuncle

		(The Adventure Of The Blue Carbuncle)
02/15/2009	016	The Three Garridebs (The Adventure Of The Three Garridebs)
03/29/2009	017	The Return Of Sherlock Holmes Note: This double-length episode combines the short stories The Final Problem and The Empty House (The Adventure Of The Empty House)
04/19/2009	018	The Retired Colourman (The Adventure Of The Retired Colourman)
05/17/2009	019	The Resident Patient
10/18/2009	020	The Lions Mane (The Adventure Of The Lion's Mane)
01/17/2010	021	The Dying Detective (The Adventure Of The Dying Detective)
02/28/2010	022	The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet (The Beryl Coronet)
03/28/2010	023	The Greek Interpreter (The Adventure Of The Greek Interpreter)
04/25/2010	024	The Bruce-Partington Plans (The Adventure Of The Bruce-Partington Plans)
05/30/2010	025	The Cardboard Box (The Adventure Of The Cardboard Box)
07/25/2010	026	The Golden Pince-Nez (The Adventure Of The Golden Pince-Nez)
09/26/2010	027	The Creeping Man (The Adventure Of The Creeping Man)
10/24/2010	028	The Illustrious Client (The Adventure Of The Illustrious Client)
03/27/2011	029	The Boscombe Valley Mystery
07/10/2011	030	The Disappearance Of Lady Frances Carfax
01/29/2012	031	The Sussex Vampire (The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire)
02/26/2012	032	The Man With The Twisted Lip
06/17/2012	033	A Scandal In Bohemia
07/22/2012	034	The Problem Of Thor Bridge
11/25/2012	035	The Adventure Of Black Peter
02/24/2013	036	The Second Stain
03/31/2013	037	The Red Circle (The Adventure Of The Red Circle)
05/26/2013	038	The Six Napoleons (The Adventure of the Six Napoleons)
07/28/2013	039	The Adventure of the Priory School
09/29/2013	040	The Missing Three Quarter (The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter)
01/26/2014	041	The Adventure of the Naval Treaty (The Naval Treaty)

02/23/2014	042	Silver Blaze
03/30/2014	043	The Adventure Of The Abbey Grange
04/27/2014	044	The Adventure Of The Devil's Foot
06/15/2014	045	The Musgrave Ritual
07/27/2014	046	The Red-Headed League (The Adventure of the Red Headed League)
09/21/2014	047	A Case Of Identity
11/16/2014	048	The Blanched Soldier
01/25/2015	049	The Adventure Of The Speckled Band
03/22/2015	050	The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor (The Noble Bachelor)
04/12/2015	051	The Crooked Man (The Adventure of Crooked Man)
05/31/2015	052	The Adventure of the Copper Beeches (The Adventure of the Cooper Beeches)
06/21/2015	053	The Engineer's Thumb
07/12/2015	054	His Last Bow
09/27/2015	055	The Stock Broker's Clerk
10/11/2015	056	The Solitary Cyclist (The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist)
10/18/2015	057	The Reigate Squires
11/22/2015	058	The Valley of Fear - Part One
11/29/2015	058	The Valley of Fear - Part Two
01/10/2016	059	The Sign of Four Part One -The Tragedy at Ponticherry Lodge
01/17/2016	059	The Sign of Four Part Two - In Quest of a Solution
01/24/2016	059	The Sign of Four Part Three - The Great Agra Treasure

AVAILABILITY:

Radio Spirits has entered into a multi-year sales contract with Jim French's children and is now the authorized seller of Jim French Productions shows. They have released some of *The Adventures of Harry Nile*, and *The Classic* and *Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* episodes as CD sets and MP3 downloads.

Radio Spirits will be making more Jim French Productions shows available on a regular basis.

<http://www.radiospirits.com/>

As of 03/31/2017 Shows can no longer be purchased through Jim French Productions.

THESE SHOWS ARE STILL PROTECTED UNDER COPYRIGHT LAW and should be purchased only from authorized dealers.

JIM FRENCH PRODUCTIONS

Audio Compact Discs, Compact Disc Sets, and Mp3 Downloads:

Compact Discs

Six single CDs were available of the adaptations of Conan Doyle's stories. Volumes 1 through 4 and 6 contained two stories each. Volume 5 contained "The Return Of Sherlock Holmes." As of January 1, 2014, these single volumes are no longer available in CD or MP3 formats.

Compact Disc Sets:

The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Collectors Set #1

Contained Volumes 1 - 6 in a boxed set of six audio CDs.

The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Collectors Set #2

Contained six audio CDs.

The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Collectors Set #3

Contained six audio CDs.

The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Collectors Set #4

Contained six audio CDs.

The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Collectors Set #5

Contained five audio CDs.

The Complete Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Was comprised of adaptations of the entire Conan Doyle Canon in three volumes containing 35 CDs. It also included an interview with the principal actors: John Patrick Lowrie and Lawrence Albert.

The Hound Of The Baskervilles CD Set:

"The Hound Of The Baskervilles" was available as a two CD Set. This set Contained an extended version of "The Hound Of The Baskervilles" with additional content not included in the broadcast version.

The Valley of Fear CD Set:

"The Valley of Fear" was available as a two CD Set.

The Sign of Four CD Set:

"The Sign of Four" was available as a two CD Set.

MP3 Downloads:

Most of the individual episodes of this series are available for download in MP3 format.

All single volume and CD sets of this series are also available for download in MP3 format.

Script Book:

A book is available that contains the script, script notes, and character information for selected episodes of *The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. It is available in paperback and Kindle editions.

Sherlock Holmes on the Air

by Matthew J. Elliott

Product Details:

Paperback Edition:

Paperback: 356 pages

Publisher: MX Publishing (2 Jan. 2012)

Language: English
ISBN-10: 1780921039
ISBN-13: 978-1780921037
Kindle Edition
File Size: 1738 KB
Print Length: 381 pages
Publisher: MX Publishing; 2 edition
Publication Date: 19 Dec. 2016
Sold by: Amazon Digital Services, LLC.
Language: English
ASIN: B01MZ1URPD

SOURCES CONSULTED:

Radio Broadcasts:

Various CD Sets from Jim French Productions
Imagination Theatre Compact Discs: 2005 - 2017.

Program Listings:

Imagination Theatre Episode Guides 2005 - 2006.

Imagination Theatre program information supplied by Jim French Productions
2005 - 2017.

Interviews:

Interviews conducted by Stewart Wright with Jim French in 1998 and with
Larry Albert in 2001.

Correspondence and Conversations:

Correspondence and conversations with Jim French (1999 – 2017) and Larry
Albert (1999 - 2019.)

Larry Albert of Jim French Productions verified episode titles, episode initial
airing dates, and recurring characters information.

Newspapers and Periodicals:

Air Check

(Newsletter of the Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound)

"Perspectives of a Current-Day Radio Actor - An Interview with Larry Albert,"
by Lawrence Albert and Stewart Wright, Winter, 2002.

Radio Recall

(The Journal of The Metro Washington Old-Time Radio Club)

The End of An Era by Stewart Wright, April, 2017.

Return With Us Now. . . .

(Newsletter of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado)

"Jim French: Keeper of the Flame," by Stewart Wright, July, 1998.

"*The PEMCO Imagination Theater Warm-Up*," by Jim French and Stewart Wright, September, 1999.

"Perspectives of a Current-Day Radio Actor - An Interview with Larry Albert," by Lawrence Albert and Stewart Wright, April, 2002.
Seattle Post-Intelligencer - Various Dates 2005 to 2009.

Book:

Elliott, Matthew Elliott. *Sherlock Holmes On The Air*. MX Publishing, London, UK, 2012.

Publication:

The Further Adventures Of Sherlock Holmes: Dr. Watson's New Canon for Jim French Productions. Jim French Productions, Seattle, WA, 2005.

Internet:

Various Web pages at Jim French Productions website:
Web site is no longer active.