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:

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.

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

**The Adventure Of The Blue Carbuncle**

**The Three Garridebs**

**The Return Of Sherlock Holmes**

**The Retired Colourman**

**The Resident Patient**

**The Lions Mane**

**The Dying Detective**

**The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet**

**The Greek Interpreter**

**The Bruce-Partington Plans**

**The Cardboard Box**

**The Golden Pince-Nez**

**The Creeping Man**

**The Illustrious Client**

**The Boscombe Valley Mystery**

**The Disappearance Of Lady Frances Carfax**

**The Sussex Vampire**

**The Man With The Twisted Lip**

**A Scandal In Bohemia**

**The Problem Of Thor Bridge**

**The Adventure Of Black Peter**

**The Second Stain**

**The Red Circle**

**The Six Napoleons**

**The Adventure of the Priory School**

**The Missing Three Quarter**

**The Adventure of 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)
SOURCES CONSULTED:

Radio Broadcasts:
Various CD Sets from Jim French Productions

Program Listings:

*Imagination Theatre* program information supplied by Jim French Productions

Interviews:
Interviews conducted by Stewart Wright with Jim French in 1998 and with

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)

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


**Book:**

**Publication:**

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  Web site is no longer active.