

In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the publication of *Dracula*, [Brother Wolf](#) is proud to present *Dracula's Guest*, an all-new interpretation based on the works of Bram Stoker. Adapted and directed by award-winning actor/writer/producer/director, [James Hyland](#), this ground-breaking adaptation takes you into the dark heart of Victorian horror to reveal the very meaning of terror and the consequences of collective evil and personal spite. *Dracula's Guest* is Brother Wolf's twelfth production to date and is preceded by a catalogue of acclaimed works including *A Christmas Carol – As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)*, the "definitive telling of A Christmas Carol" (Redditch Standard), winner of Best Performer in Theatre (Fringe Report Awards 2012); *Fagin's Last Hour*, "powerful and highly accomplished"

(The Stage), recognized by The Queen for its part in Dickensian Scholarship; *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, "One of the most mesmerising and terrifying performances you'll ever see" (The Sheerness Times Guardian), winner of Best Male Act (Solo Fest 2013); *The Mad Hatter's Tea Party*, "entertaining, fun and full of laughs" (British Theatre Journal); and *A Lesson from Auschwitz*, "magnificent... a majestic statement of the power of theatre" (Plays To See), commended by The Foundation of Memory Sites Near Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Praise for "Dracula's Guest":

"James Hyland has reawakened this somewhat neglected tale, using it as a vessel to explore modern-day themes... We see Dracula – played terrifically by James Hyland... delivering a 124-year-old tale as if it were new. This was the perfect choice of story to breathe new life into, applicable to modern-day themes yet true to Victorian gothic horror."

Rating: ★★★★★

~Eloise Lonsdale, OX MAGAZINE

"Excellent performances... in the intimate enclosed space of the White Bear theatre, this is just about the most intense 55 minutes of drama you're ever likely to encounter ."

~Julia Kruk, THE DRACULA SOCIETY

"An INCREDIBLE performance... 55 minutes of nerve-shredding suspense and a final scene that's guaranteed to shock you out of your seat and give you nightmares for weeks. This diabolical descent into Victorian Gothic horror is a must-see."

~Peter Fuller, VINCENT PRICE LEGACY UK

JAMES HYLAND

Actor | Adapter | Producer | Director



James Hyland is Artistic Director and Founder of Brother Wolf. He is also a multi award-winning stage and film actor as well as a critically acclaimed writer, producer and director. James' work has been described by the press as "magnificent" (Plays to See) and "highly accomplished" (The Stage). To date, he has received more than 140 outstanding reviews as well as over 300 audience testimonials for his ground-breaking performances. Following his education at the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain and Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, he made his professional acting debut in *The North Pole*, winning the Guardian International Student Drama Award in 1996. Since then he has appeared in over 70 professional productions, working with a variety of directors including Michael Boyd, Adrian Noble and Matthew Warchus, as well as acclaimed companies such as the Royal Shakespeare Company and Brother Wolf Productions, winning a further eight awards including Best Performer in Theatre (Fringe Report Awards, 2012) for his solo performance as Marley's Ghost in *A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)* and a nomination for The London Theatre Award (London Awards for Art and Performance 2012) in competition with the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Matilda The Musical*. John Park, Director of the Fringe Report Awards, said "The award celebrates the work of James Hyland, actor, and in particular his creation and delivery of *A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)*. It reflects his fine work as an actor in film, TV, radio and theatre in a remarkable range of productions." In the same year, further honours were bestowed by Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace in recognition of Dickensian scholarship. By 2014, *A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)* had been officially rated as one of "the top Christmas shows in London, Edinburgh and around the UK" (High 50 Culture). The show's unique presentation has even been discussed in best-selling books about the theatre. In 2018, during the 175th anniversary of Dickens' original novella, James performed his award-winning show at The Royal Albert Hall, selling out to capacity. The production was followed by two more award-winning one-man shows: *Fagin's Last Hour* in 2011 (Top Off West End Production - CentreStage Stars of 2018) and *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* in 2013 (Best Male Act - Solo Festival 2013). James serves as actor, adapter and producer on all three productions. The shows have toured extensively, breaking box office records along the way, as well as his 5-star commemorative drama *A Lesson from Auschwitz*, of which he is the writer, director, producer and co-actor (commended by The Foundation of Memory Sites Near Auschwitz-Birkenau), reviewed as "one of the most powerful and most important pieces of theatre I've ever seen" (Centre Stage). One of his most recent productions, *The Mad Hatter's Tea Party*, an adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*, of which he is also the adapter, director, producer and co-actor, sees him playing one of Lewis Carroll's most famous literary creations, The Hatter. Reviewed as "entertaining, fun and full of laughs" (British Theatre Journal), the show will be returning to the stage in Summer 2022 at The Alban Arena. As well as touring this and other acclaimed

productions, James will be continuing the premiere performances of his groundbreaking production of *Dracula's Guest* as part of the 125th anniversary of Bram Stoker's novel as well as launching *Silver and Gold* (a new solo drama based on *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson) and *Uncle Jimmy*, an original short film. Screen credits include *We Are Monster*, nominated for The Michael Powell Award for Best British Feature Film (Edinburgh Festival, 2014) and the multi award-winning music videos/short films from Kaskade and Tinie Tempah in which James plays the lead roles: *A Little More* and *Disappoint You*, again serving as writer (and improviser) of the dialogue; and also the twelve-time award-winning film *Transmission* in which James plays the lead role of Dr Sam, selected for more than ninety festivals worldwide including The Fisheye Film Festival, The Horrible Imaginings Film Festival and Torino Underground Cinefest for which James received three Best Actor nominations. James can currently be seen in *The Impatient Man Who Made His Life Considerably Shorter* in which he plays the dual lead roles of Mr Guthrert Vratrol and the Narrator for which he recently won Best Performance of Fest and Best Actor in a Comedy at The Actors Awards Los Angeles and Best Actor in a Comedy (Platinum Award) at The Best Actor & Director Awards New York. The film also won the Producer's Award at the Earls Court International Film Festival in London and Best Comedy at Love Your Shorts Film Festival in Sanford, Florida. To date, James Hyland has appeared in nine award-winning films, five in which he plays the lead role.

ASHTON SPEAR

Actor

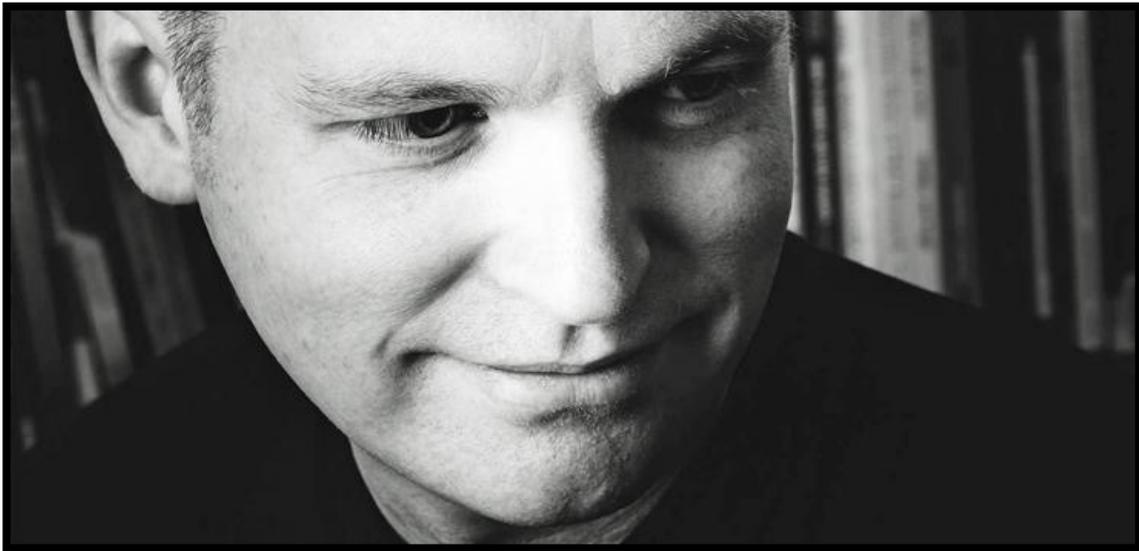


A graduate from the Academy of Live and Recorded Arts (ALRA) with a Masters Distinction in Performing Arts, Ashton is a Canadian born actor residing in the United Kingdom. Since graduating he has worked extensively in theatre, film and television. He has starred in several short films, several of which have been multiple award winners on the festival circuit. Screen credits include *Locked Up Abroad*, *Dearly Departed*, *Still Young*, *999 Killer on the Line* and *The*

Haunting of Margam Castle. Ashton most recently starred as Edward VIII in the 4-star production of *Falling in Love Again* at The King's Head Theatre where his performance was described as "masterful" (The Review Chap). His other stage credits include *The King in Yellow* at The Lion and Unicorn, *Boudica* at The Barn Theatre and *The Frontier Trilogy* at The Hen and Chickens. Ashton has also begun training in voice over and motion capture performance. He has recently lent his voice to the short film *Joy Ride* as well as a number of audio dramas including *X-Men: The New Mutants* and an adaptation of *The Nurse's Tale*.

CHRIS WARNER

Music



Chris Warner is a composer, sound designer, musical arranger and orchestrator whose range of work covers theatre, television and film. Other Brother Wolf credits include: *The Mad Hatter's Tea Party*, *A Lesson From Auschwitz*, *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *Fagin's Last Hour*, *A Christmas Carol - As told by Jacob Marley (deceased)*. Recent composing and sound design credits include: *Blue Stockings*, *Sadie* (Lyric Belfast, BBC4), *Booming Voices*, *From Rushmere With Love*, *The Tide Jetty* (Eastern Angles), *ART* (East Riding Theatre), *Archie in Manhattan* (Grand Opera House, Belfast), *Macbeth* (RSC Associated Schools). As an arranger, orchestrator and producer, recent credits include *The Ipcress File* (ITV), *The Mauritanian* (BBC Films, 30West), *The Rise of the Tudors* (Sky History), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (The Royal Shakespeare Company). As a composer for TV and Film Chris is published by Audio Network, producing original music that is featured extensively in TV, Film and Advertising in this country and around the world. Recent collaborations include an album with percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie and cellist Ayanna Witter-Johnson.

Ends

Listings information

July 5th to 9th 2022 @ 7pm

LONDON - WHITE BEAR THEATRE

138 Kennington Park Road

London, SE11 4DJ

07496 442 747 www.whitebeartheatre.co.uk

More tour dates coming soon!

Synopsis

Dracula. An ancient creature, embittered by the burden of immortality and the intolerance of those who would decry him monster. Alone in his keep, but for the memories of centuries past. A living death that only a vampire could understand. Or perhaps a special guest or two. Providing they can live long enough to survive their host's unique hospitality and his deliberate attempts to drive them insane.

Recommended for: Ages 12+

This category is recommended when the material is suitable only for those aged 12 and over. Works classified at this category may upset children under 12 or contain material (including scenes of a violent and bloody nature) which many parents will find unsuitable for them. In such circumstances, responsibility for allowing a child under 12 to view the work lies with the accompanying adult.

Cast and creative team:

Actor/Writer/Producer/Director: James Hyland

Actor: Ashton Spear

Composer: Chris Warner

For further details please contact:

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