



Alaska Theater Festival: Radio Plays shares stories new and old

Radio Play Festival features plays by Frank Henry Kaash Katasse, Vera Starbard, Bram Stoker, and Agatha Christie

Juneau, AK, January 16, 2023 - Theater Alaska and KTOO, in partnership with Juneau Ghost Light Theater, announced the *Alaska Theater Festival: Radio plays*, which will take place February 10-12, 2023.

In addition to being broadcast on the radio, three plays will be presented simultaneously at the KTOO radio station. *Alaska Theater Festival: Radio Plays* will feature live studio productions of *Reeling*, a new play about a young Native Alaskan woman taking charge of her life after the death of her Uncle by Alaska writers Frank Henry Kaash Katasse (presented by Theater Alaska); *The Beginning of Eagle* by Vera Starbard which is an adaptation of Tlingit Eagle stories told by DaaXKu dein Tommy Jimmie (presented by Theater Alaska); and the murder mystery *The Case of the Careless Client* by Agatha Christie (presented by Juneau Ghost Light Theatre). The Festival will also include an encore presentation of Juneau Ghost Light Theatre's production of *Dracula*.

"We're very excited about this festival, especially about having a live studio audience at the KTOO studio as we broadcast simultaneously. I think that creates a really special opportunity for both the audiences and the actors to experience the energy of live performance," shared Cheryl Snyder, GM of KTOO Music and Arts and festival co-producer. "The in-studio audience is limited, so most people will hear the performances on the radio. We hope people are inspired to create listening parties and really make the most of it."

"Our mission at Theater Alaska is to make theater and stories accessible by bringing it to community spaces," says Flordelino Lagundino, producing artistic director of Theater Alaska. "We are building on the reach of Theater Alaska's annual Alaska Theater Festival. Partnering with KTOO and Juneau Ghost Light Theatre to produce radio plays speaks to the heart of our mission."

Featuring performances by Jake Waid, Erin Tripp, George Holly, Kelsey Riker, Margeaux Ljungberg, Felix Thillet, Jay Zeller, Ty Yamaoka, Nomi Saxton, Elizabeth Pisel-Davis, Kristen Rankin, Heather LaVerne, and Miriah Twitchell.

Alaska Theater Festival: Radio Plays *is supported in part by the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council and the City and Borough of Juneau, The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, and Sealaska.*

This Adaptation and Innovation project is supported by a grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts with additional funding from the Rasmuson Foundation.

PERFORMANCES

-Friday, February 10 @ 7pm-

Dracula by Bram Stoker (adapted for the radio by Orson Welles)

Broadcast from KTOO News at 104.3 and 91.7, and online at ktoo.org/listen.

Dracula is a classic tale of horror, intrigue, and love. Tune in and let your imagination go wild with this encore presentation of Juneau Ghost Light Theatre's 2021 production.

-Saturday, February 11 @ 5pm-

Reeling by Frank Henry Kaash Katasse

After the death of her uncle, Alexandria paddles out to his secret fishing spot to pay her respects to him. As a storm threatens to overturn her canoe, Alexandria fights to remember the life lessons he taught her about strength and believing in herself. *Reeling* is a powerful play about forgiveness, testing oneself, and moving forward.

The Beginning of Eagle by Vera Starbard (adapted from stories told by DaaXKu dein Tommy Jimmie)

The Beginning of Eagle is a radio play adaptation of stories told by DaaXKu dein Tommy Jimmie written by Vera Starbard about Eagle and the beginning of the world. Told with humor and delight, these stories follow Eagle as he meets Uncle Earth, flies by the immensity of stars, and falls in love, while on a journey of understanding his relationship to all that is in nature.

Presented by KTOO and Theater Alaska. Broadcast from KTOO News at 104.3 and 91.7, and online at ktoo.org/listen, or get tickets to be in the live studio audience for the simulcast performances. In studio tickets: \$20. Tickets may be purchased at www.theateralaska.org.

-Sunday, February 12 @ 5pm-

The Case of the Careless Client by Agatha Christie

The Case of the Careless Client is a riveting whodunnit featuring the infamous detective Hercule Poirot. Originally broadcast in 1945, this is one of a few stories Agatha Christie wrote specifically for the radio. This production is classic Christie: full of twists, turns, and surprises around every corner (or under every pile of laundry). Join Juneau Ghost

Light Theatre's ensemble of actors, musicians, and foley artists as they bring it back to life. Tune in or buy tickets to witness the magic of old-school radio theater.

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ABOUT KTOO

KTOO is a non-profit public media organization, licensed to the city of Juneau, that operates KTOO-FM, KRNN-FM, KXLL-FM and KTOO-TV. Services also include the statewide public affairs and cultural programming channel 360TV, and a robust news website at ktoo.org.

ABOUT JUNEAU GHOST LIGHT THEATRE

Juneau Ghost Light Theatre is Juneau Alaska's oldest theatre, established in 1961 as Juneau-Douglas Little Theatre. Our long tradition continues in our new name with a new vision for community theatre in Juneau. The ghost light has a rich history in the theatre world. It is surrounded by superstition, but its grounded purpose is to be a safety light for artists when the theatre is dark. We chose to name our theatre after this light because of the support that the Juneau community gives to the arts that allows us to prevail through the darkest of times. www.juneaughostlight.com.

ABOUT THEATER ALASKA

Theater Alaska brings vibrant theatrical events directly into community spaces. We are a professional theater for all and create accessibility to the arts through equity and inclusion. Theater Alaska shares stories that connect with its Alaskan community. For many, there exist significant barriers to attend theatrical events. To increase accessibility, the company brings free theatrical productions to venues such as community centers, schools, parks, correctional facilities, and other non-traditional venues, meeting people where they are most comfortable. www.theateralaska.org.

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