

Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

BY ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON
ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY KIP WILLIAMS

PLOT SYNOPSIS

Gabriel Utterson is a mild-mannered, quiet and unassuming lawyer who contents himself with observing the foibles and triumphs of others, rather than diving into life himself. That is until one day he is told a horrifying and brutal tale of a crime that took place in broad daylight. Utterson becomes obsessed by the spectral figure at the centre of the story, Mr Edward Hyde, and determined to uncover the links between him and Utterson's own friend: the upstanding Doctor Henry Jekyll. What ensues is a spiralling descent into the seamy underbelly of Victorian London and the secret life of a man who presents a respectable visage to the world whilst living a shadowier existence under the cloak of night. In a race to save his friend from danger, Utterson will come face to face with the shocking truth.

CHARACTERS AND CAST

Matthew Backer
Ewen Leslie

FORM AND STYLE

- Heightened Realism
- Multidisciplinary Theatre
- Film Noir Conventions
- Schlock Horror Film Conventions

APPROX. DURATION

1hr 50mins, no interval

CONTENT WARNING

Adult themes, drug use, suicide, theatrical haze and herbal cigarettes.

CURRICULUM LINKS

English Stage 5 & 6

- Crime Fiction, Victorian Gothic
- Year 11 Advanced: Narratives that Shape our World
- English Extension 1 Module: Texts, Culture and Value
- Links to Frankenstein, English Stage 6, Elective 2 Worlds of Upheaval; Elective 4 Literary Mindsets

Drama Stage 5 & 6

- Dramatic Forms and Performance Styles: Scripted Drama, Gothic Theatre, Multidisciplinary Theatre
- Elements of Production in Performance

STYLE

- Monologue
- Heightened Realism
- Multidisciplinary Theatre
- Brecht
- Film Noir
- The Detective Story
- Camp

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- How do two actors create the world of the play between them?
- What is the production saying about masculinity and class?
- What is the impact of multimedia on the inner world of the human being?