



Live Broadcast October 23, 2020

**Edgar Allan Poe's**  
***The Murders in the Rue Morgue***  
**Adapted and Directed by Kevin Christopher Fox**

*An audio reading in collaboration with Chicago Radio Theatre*

**Settings**

Present Day, Fall in Marseille, 1887

Past, Spring/Summer in Paris, 1837

**Cast**

*in order of appearance*

Older Marshall, Actor 3..... Greg Vinkler  
Charlotte, Actor 1..... Erica Elam  
Dupin ..... Allison Selby Cook  
Younger Marshall ..... Mike Jimerson  
Sailor, Actor 2..... Neil Friedman

Foley Artist – Ele Matelan

Original Music by Christopher Kriz

This audio presentation of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*, adapted by Kevin Christopher Fox, is presented by Peninsula Players Theatre, in collaboration with Chicago Radio Theatre, as a part of Peninsula Players expanded winter play reading program, *The Play's the Thing – Autumn Edition*.

Peninsula Players Theatre is America's Oldest Professional Resident Summer Theatre. *The Play's the Thing* is part of the Players' continued outreach programming, presenting free professional play readings for the public. It is funded in part by generous grants from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts, The Shubert Foundation and operating funds from Peninsula Players Theatre. Listening is free, donations are encouraged. To donate or to learn more about Peninsula Players visit [www.peninsulaplayers.com](http://www.peninsulaplayers.com).



# Cast



**Allison Selby Cook (Dupin)** is a Chicago-based actor, singer, and multi-instrumentalist. Favorite leading roles include a trio of George Bernard Shaw's women with ShawChicago: *Heartbreak House* (Ellie Dunn), *Misalliance* (Hypatia Tarleton), and *You Never Can Tell* (Dolly Clandon). Chicago theater credits: Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Court Theatre, Remy Bumppo, Shakespeare Project of Chicago, Rude Mechanicals, City Lit Theatre, Signal Ensemble Theatre, The Greenhouse Theatre, Drury Lane Oakbrook, and CUBE Ensemble. As a singer, Allison performs and records internationally, most recently heard with Newberry Consort on BBC Radio 3. In addition to upcoming recording releases this winter, she has postponed (but not cancelled!) concert work planned with Newberry Consort and Music of the Baroque. Allison is a graduate of Northwestern University.



**Erica Elam (Charlotte)** has previously performed at Peninsula Players in *The 39 Steps*, *The Hollow*, *The Full Monty*, *Rumors*, *Comic Potential*, *Panic*, *And Then There Were None*, *The Tin Woman*, *Born Yesterday*, *The Actuary*, and *Almost, Maine*. She has also performed at The Kennedy Center, The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Court Theatre, Remy Bumppo Theatre Company and Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Erica teaches improvisation and acting at The School at Steppenwolf and The Second City in Chicago, with whom she has traveled the world performing on Norwegian Cruise Lines. Erica is a graduate of The University of Georgia, The Second City Conservatory, The School at Steppenwolf, and the University of Pennsylvania, where she recently earned her Master's degree in Applied Positive Psychology.



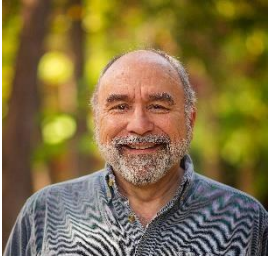
**Kevin Christopher Fox (Director/Adapter)** Originally from Asheville, NC, Kevin is an actor/director based in Chicago for the past 25 years. Chicago directing highlights: world premiere of *Assassination Theater* by Hillel Levin (Russell Lane, LLC); *Bakersfield Mist* and *Widowers' Houses* (TimeLine), the world premieres of *Graveyard of Empires* by Elaine Romero and *The Gun Show* by EM Lewis, and *Pull of the Moon*, *Accidental Rapture*, & *The Book Club Play* (16th Street Theater), *Lay Me Down Softly* and *Hughie* (Irish Theatre of Chicago, formally Seanachai Theatre Co.). Regional highlights: the world premieres of *The Spiritualist* by Robert Ford and *Sundown Town* by Kevin Cohea (TheatreSquared) and *The Actuary* by Steven Peterson (Peninsula Players).



**Neil Friedman (Sailor)** is happy to be back working with Peninsula Players Theatre. Chicago credits: Goodman Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Theatre at the Center, Court Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater and Steppenwolf. Regional credits include: Peninsula Players Theatre; The People's Light Theatre; The Fulton Theatre; Utah Shakespeare Festival; Capitol Repertory; The New Victory Theatre; Flat Rock Playhouse; Coconut Grove Playhouse; The Clarence Brown Theatre; Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis; Austria's Vienna English Theatre. Neil is a proud recipient of Chicago's Joseph Jefferson Awards.



**Mike Jimerson (Younger Marshall)** is grateful and excited to be part of this production. A longtime Chicago improviser, Mike has appeared on comedy stages, theater productions, indie films and shorts, and primetime television. Recent work includes upcoming Fox series 'Next' and FX's 'Fargo,' as well as the independent feature 'An Exquisite Meal.' He is a cast member of Improvised Shakespeare Chicago. In his spare time, he enjoys music and visual art, and eagerly anticipates the juicy and delightful creative collaborations in his future.



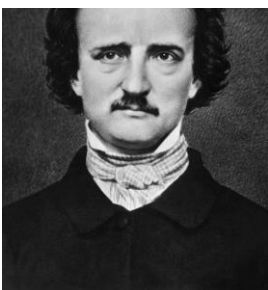
**Greg Vinkler (Older Marshall)** is delighted to have played a part in the Peninsula Players' wonderful history for 31 years. Besides putting together each season and the winter play reading series, he has directed 32 productions (including *Chicago*, *Lombardi* and *The Full Monty*) and performed in 51 shows. For his work with the Players, he was honored with the inaugural Door County Artist of the Year Award. Greg has performed extensively in Chicago, appearing at Chicago Shakespeare (39 productions), Goodman, Steppenwolf, Court, Writers, Northlight, Marriott Lincolnshire and Victory Gardens theaters, and has received three Joseph Jefferson Awards (12 nominations), two Artisan Awards and an After Dark Award. Regionally he has performed at Milwaukee Rep, Paper Mill, Fulton, Pittsburgh Public and BoarsHead theaters. Greg appeared on Broadway in the Tony Awardwinning revival of *West Side Story* and also at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, the Barbican Theatre in London, Vienna's English Theatre and Singapore Rep.



**Ele Matelan (Foley Artist)** (She/Her/Hers) has designed, choreographed, and performed Foley for over 80 productions in Chicagoland with companies including Locked Into Vacancy Entertainment, Theatre of Western Springs, Lifeline Theatre, Oak Park Festival Theatre, Otherworld Theatre, The Second City Training Center, and WildClaw Theatre, where she serves as lead designer for Deathscribe, the annual international live horror radio festival. She has guest lectured on stage Foley at Northwestern University's School of Sound and at Harvard University's School of Music, and has consulted for theaters from London, UK to Livonia, MI. She is also a featured voice actor on Hartlife NFP's *Our Fair City* and *Unwell*.



**Christopher Kriz (Original Music)** is a composer and sound designer based in Chicago. Previous Peninsula Players' designs include: *Miss Holmes*, *Salvage*, *The Actuary*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Alabama Story*, *The 39 Steps*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *Butler* and many others. Winner of four Joseph Jefferson Awards with a total of 19 nominations. Chicago credits: Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Remy Bumpo, Victory Gardens, First Folio, Timeline, The Gift Theatre, American Blues, and many others. Regional credits: Seattle Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre. Kriz is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829. To hear more of his work, please visit [christopherkriz.com](http://christopherkriz.com).



**Edgar Allan Poe** (January 19, 1809 – October 7, 1849) This American writer, poet, editor and literary critic is widely acknowledged as the inventor of the modern detective story. The name Poe invokes images of haunted shadows, mysterious and macabre characters, moonlit cemeteries and creepy, decrepit homes. An early practitioner of the short story, his works inspired Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, H.P. Lovecraft and Alfred Hitchcock. Some of his memorable tales include "The Tell-Tale Heart," "The Fall of the House of Usher" and "The Raven" To learn more about Poe visit <https://www.poemuseum.org/poes-biography>.