

This Halloween the Post-Meridian Radio Players return to the stage to present two tales of horror, murder, and the unnatural! Join us as the skies grow dark and the wind turns chilly with *The Van Helsing Chronicles*! Famed monster hunter Professor A. van Helsing hosts and appears in two original adaptations of classic Gothic horror: Richard Marsh's *The Beetle* and Bram Stoker's *Dracula*.

We perform in the style of the Golden Age of Radio with actors on-book in front of microphones and sound effects produced onstage in front of a live audience.

Auditions will be on Monday, August 13, and Tuesday, August 14, with callbacks (if needed) on Thursday, August 16. Performances will be from Oct. 19 through Oct. 27th in Somerville, MA.

There will be positions for both voice and foley artists! PMRP encourages performers of all ethnic and racial backgrounds to audition. Those with disabilities are welcome to audition, although please note our rehearsal/performance space is not wheelchair accessible.

So if you want to try out for The Van Helsing Chronicles, sign up for an audition slot at: <http://auditions.pmrp.org>.

Please note that we cannot accept Equity members at this time.

Character Descriptions:

Professor van Helsing (Any gender) – Brilliant physician and scientist, and an open-minded scholar of the supernatural world. Observant, personable, with a history of adventure. Dutch accent. (NOTE: This character appears in both stories and will also serve as host for the evening.)

“The Beetle”

Adapted by Chris Chiampa

From the original Richard Marsh novel

Summary: An unknown, supernatural force arrives in London to take vengeance on a rising star of the British Parliament. But what are its motives? Neither it - nor its intended victim - are telling.

Cast

The Beetle (f, any age) - once human, now a polymorph with an axe to grind against Paul Lessingham. Their reasons are their own - as is their name and even, for much of the story, their gender.

Paul Lessingham (m, late 30s-early 40s) - A politician on the rise, wildly popular, but hiding much of his past. A fine public speaker beloved by many

Marjorie Lindon (f, mid 20s-late 20s) - Paul's recent (and secret) fiancée, adores Paul despite her also-MP father very much disagreeing with him due to their opposed politics

Sydney Atherton (m or f, late 20s-early 30s) - Marjorie's childhood friend and jack-of-all-trades scientist, currently engaged in creating chemical weapons. The Beetle considers him a potential ally.

Robert Holt (m or f, any age) - a recently-destitute clerk, he is made the unwilling servant of The Beetle via their powerful mesmerism

Ensemble (at least 1 m, 1 f, possible more, any ages) - various servants, minor noble characters, etc.

“Dracula”

Adapted and directed by Liz Salazar

From the original novel by Bram Stoker

Summary: An ancient vampire arrives in England to prey upon the innocent—but a band of heroes is determined to avenge their loved ones and stop him before it’s too late!

Count Dracula (M, 40s+) – A centuries-old vampire, rising up to conquer again; menacing, bestial. Eastern European accent.

Mina Murray (F, 20s-30s) – Sharp-minded schoolmistress; sensible, loyal and more modern than she realizes. English accent.

Jonathan Harker (M, 20s-30s) – Solicitor who sees more than most the horrors of the Count; haunted but resolute. Mina’s fiancé. English accent.

Lucy Westenra (F, 20s-30s) – Sweet-natured, curious woman who wins the heart of everyone she meets. Posh English accent.

Dr. John Seward (M, 20s-30s) – Psychiatric doctor in charge of a mental asylum; a man of science and rationality. English accent.

Mrs. Renfield (F, 40s+) – Asylum patient in Dracula thrall; prone to extreme mood swings as she fights to regain her own sanity. English/British accent.

Arthur Holmwood (M, 20s-30s) – Steadfast nobleman with an adventurous streak. Extremely devoted to Lucy. Posh English accent.

Quincey Morris (M, 20s-40s) – American landowner, courageous and ready for action; educated, but tends to act the cowboy. Texan accent.

Ensemble roles (Any gender) – Including vampires, asylum attendants, and other mortals. English and Eastern European accents.

If you see anything you want to audition for, simply go to <http://auditions.pmrp.org> and sign up for a slot!