

IUN

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Catalunya (Catalonia)

Països Catalans (Catalan Nations)

Grand's Youth Theatre Get Their Teen Into Dracula

The **Grand Theatre** Academy's chilling production of Bram Stoker's Dracula flies into the Lawrence House Studio on April 18. The classic vampire story by Bram Stoker is one of the Grand Theatre Academy's three main productions in the Lawrence House Studio for 2007. This chillingly beautiful dramatisation of Stoker's famous horror tale by John Godber and Jane Thornton is the perfect production for the adult members of the Academy (aged 19 to 25). You will meet not only the Count himself, but heroes Jonathan Harker and Abraham Van Helsing, plus an array of madmen, psychiatrists and fair maidens who cross paths with the fanged menace. See the icy, stark and vivid images conjured by Bram Stoker's tale of the unrelenting vampire who must feed on the blood of others to survive. Share the terrifying tale of Jonathan Harker's trip to Transylvania and his ordeal as a guest of Count Dracula. Return to Britain to find Dr Van Helsing battling to save his wife's dearest friend - the ravishing Lucy, from the Count's overwhelming powers. Who is true object of Dracula's desire? Will evil be vanquished forever? "I seek not gaiety nor mirth, not the bright voluptuousness of much sunshine and sparkling waters which please the young and gay. I am no longer young. And my heart, through heavy years of mourning over the dead, is not attuned to mirth. Moreover, the walls of my castle are broken; the shadows are many, and the wind breathes cold through the broken battlements and casements. I love the shade and the shadow, and would be alone with my thoughts when I may..... "Whether man nor beast I could not tell...I could see a white face and red, gleaming eyes...Somehow his words and his looks did not seem to accord, or else it was that his cast of face made his look malignant and saturnine...." - from Dracula, Bram Stoker, 1897 Tickets for Bram Stoker's Dracula at the Lawrence House Studio from Wednesday 18 April to Sunday 22 April at 8pm (3pm matinee on Saturday 21 April) are priced at £6 and are on sale now from the Grand Theatre Box Office.

www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk, 12 Apr.

Suicidal 'vampire' man rescued

Paramedics on Wednesday saved the life of a man claiming to be a vampire and intent on committing suicide.

The man, believed to be aged about 40, was discovered hanging on the wrong side of a bridge railing above railway lines along Argyle Road.

ER 24 spokesperson Neil Noble said: "It looked like he wanted to jump from the bridge onto the train tracks below."

Paramedics Derrick Banks and Justin Chellan, who were travelling along the road at the

time, approached the man to convince him not to jump.

"I couldn't believe my eyes, we were driving along and then saw this. It felt like we were watching a movie," said Chellan.

Irene Kuppan

www.iol.co.za, 19 Apr.

3 arrested in Guyanese village's lynching of suspected vampire

Georgetown, Guyana: A crowd lynched an elderly woman after villagers accused her of being an evil spirit of local lore who drinks the blood of babies, police said.

Police have arrested three people and are questioning others in the beating death of the unidentified woman, whose remains were found Saturday in a village east of Georgetown, Superintendent Balram Persaud said Monday.

Authorities said the woman raised suspicions with unusual behavior and was set upon by villagers who apparently believed she was an "Old Higue" — the equivalent of a vampire in the local Obeah religion that blends folk magic and African rituals.

The woman's assailants reportedly beat her to death with a broom made from manicole trees and circled the body with white rice.

Some in this South American country expressed surprise at the continued belief in Higes, a creature that takes the shape of an old woman but can shrink herself to enter victims' homes through a keyhole.

The Associated Press, 30 Apr.
