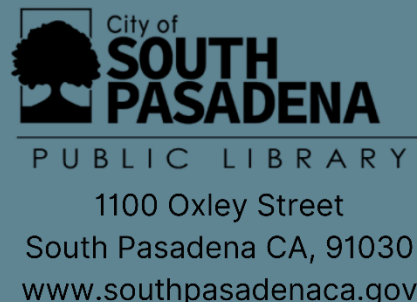




PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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South Pasadena Public Library to Host Silent Film Screening of *The Haunted House* (1921) and *Nosferatu* (1922) with Live Piano Accompaniment

South Pasadena (Calif.) – South Pasadena has served as a filming location for many famous features. From Paul Powell’s *Pollyanna* (1920) to John Carpenter’s *Halloween* (1978), South Pasadena is entrenched in Hollywood history. In celebration of our cinematic city, the South Pasadena Public Library is hosting a special silent film series in October, November, and December. The first event in this series will take place on Friday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room, located at 1115 El Centro Street, South Pasadena. During this event the Library will screen *The Haunted House* (1921) and *Nosferatu* (1922) with live piano accompaniment by Michael D. Mortilla. No registration is required.

Written and performed by comedy legend Buster Keaton, *The Haunted House* is a short comedy in which an unsuspecting bank teller ends up in a seemingly haunted house. This film will be followed by horror classic *Nosferatu*. *Nosferatu* is perhaps one of the most influential works in early cinema and a definitive piece of German expressionism. Inspired by Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, *Nosferatu* follows vampire Count Orlok and his reign of terror on an estate agent and his wife.

Michael D. Mortilla is well known in the silent film world as a composer and accompanist. Michael has composed silent film scores for the Chicago Symphony, the Academy of Motion Pictures, the Library of Congress, the Olympics, National Film Preservation Foundation, and many others. He was the last composer to collaborate on a produced work with legendary choreographer Martha Graham. Mr. Mortilla was a faculty member at UC Santa Barbara for fourteen years, serving as resident composer and sound designer in theater and dance. Since 2000 he has resided in Burbank, working as a free-lance journeyman composer and sound designer in theater, film, silent film, animation, dance, and various other productions.

This program is made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library. The Library is located at

1100 Oxley Street in South Pasadena. For information about services and programs, visit the website is at www.southpasadenaca.gov/library. The Library is open Monday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Upon request made no later than four (4) business days before the event, the City will provide a reasonable accommodation for a qualified person with a disability to have equal access to the event. Please call (626) 403-7312 or fill out the City's request form available at www.southpasadenaca.gov and email the form to Human Resources at HR@southpasadenaca.gov.

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