

A NEW RENDERING OF
EDGAR ALLAN POE STORIES

A TELL-TALE HEART

ADAPTED AND PERFORMED BY
ALEC SILBERBLATT

CLASSICS
PLAYTIME
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In a theatrical adaptation, material from one artistic medium is re-written and turned into a play or a musical. In this adaptation of *A Tell-Tale Heart*, the playwright was inspired by the short stories and poems of Edgar Allan Poe.

Before the performance, read (or re-read) some of Poe's work:

- [*A Tell-Tale Heart*](#)
- [*The Raven*](#)
- [*The Cask of Amontillado*](#)



In the readings above, how does the narrator's view of reality impact his actions?

What is the meaning of the title, "A Tell-Tale Heart?"



In *A Tell-Tale Heart*, the SETTING and SOUND are two important devices that help tell the story. Follow along with Teaching Artist, Moira Quigley, to explore one method of creating sound effects in theatre and film, known as **foley**.

WATCH VIDEO

*This video will premiere
on October 16 at 12pm*



TUNE IN FOR A *TELL-TALE HEART*

ADAPTED AND PERFORMED BY ALEC SILBERBLATT

The works of American writer Edgar Allan Poe have been translated into several languages ranging from French to Japanese. For the first time, Alec Silberblatt will translate Poe's unique macabre voice to the signature Western PA dialect of Pittsburghese. Silberblatt writes and performs in a chilling one-person play titled *A Tell-Tale Heart*, reimagining themes from several Poe stories from the point of view of a simple Yinzer named Gene. Gene introduces us to his sweetheart Lenora, his collection of kooky neighbors, their various creatively named pets, and the disturbing cycle of violence threatening to envelope each of them, all while tuning out the mysterious thumping sound haunting him.

POST-SHOW DISCUSSION

[Click here to submit your responses](#)



- What are at least two aspects of the play that overlapped with the short stories and poems of Edgar Allan Poe?

- Theatrical adaptations can take main themes and ideas from the works they are inspired by to make a completely different story. **Write a short paragraph of what your adaptation of *A Tell-Tale Heart* could be.** Keep the main ideas and themes, but change an aspect of the story, such as the main character, the setting, or the way it's told.

- The end of the play leaves the audience wondering about Lenore. Where do you think Lenore is? What happens to Gene next?



Join Pittsburgh Public Theater virtually on October 29 from 4:00 - 4:30pm for a theater workshop inspired by *A Tell-Tale Heart*. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Open Stage matinees are supported by

