

***Sherlock Jr.* with live score by The BQE Project**

A musical, mystery hoopla



and *Fadeaway* (1926). This fantastical evening of live music and film will take place outside in MASS MoCA's Courtyard C on **Saturday, August 20, at 8pm.**

NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS — Last seen at MASS MoCA over a decade ago, the outstanding **BQE Project**, under the direction of Tom Nazziola, presents its dynamic, original live score to accompany the hilarious dream-state extravaganza ***Sherlock Jr.*** Directed by and featuring acclaimed vaudeville star Buster Keaton, the zestful 1924 silent film comedy is packed with acrobatic stunts, delightful visual wit, and meditations on desire. BQE warms up for Keaton with two classic animations, *Sure-Locked Homes* (1928), featuring Felix the Cat,

"Don't try to do two things at once and expect to do justice to both. This is the story of a boy who tried it." Regarded among the funniest and most technically innovative features of Buster Keaton's career, ***Sherlock Jr.*** is the vibrantly entertaining circuit of a small-town film projectionist who longs to be a detective. When the projectionist is framed by a man competing for the same love interest, he must solve the case and prove his innocence. However, the projectionist proceeds to fall asleep while screening a drawing-room mystery, dreaming himself into the screen in what *The New York Times* reviewer Anthony Tommasini recalls "as surreal as anything in Buñuel or Dalí."

Since its inception, **The BQE Project** has earned high praise for creating unconventional film experiences with its energetic and lively scores. The eight-piece ensemble has performed to a host of films, from silent cartoons to early classics, never failing to transport its audience on a journey with magical shifts in scenery and heightened comedic flare. Its colorful, instrumental palette of instruments caught the attention of *Rolling Stone's* critic, Peter Travers, who notes, "The connection between music and movies is crucial. But I never realized how crucial until I heard Tom Nazziola's score." BQE's driving force, Nazziola, has composed for Garrison Keillor, *Dexter*, and the New York Philharmonic. MASS MoCA audiences will remember BQE from its 1999 performance of *The Gold Rush*, its 2001 performance of *Blue Angel*, and its 2004 performance of *Frankenstein*.

The BQE orchestra follows Buster Keaton into dreamland with *Sherlock Jr.* on **Saturday, August 20, at 8pm.** Dinner is available from Lickety Split before and during the show. A full bar serves Bright Ideas Brewing beers and Berkshire Mountain Distillery spirits. Tickets are \$16 students + advance, \$22 day of, and \$28 preferred. Tickets for all events are available through the MASS MoCA box office located on Marshall Street in North Adams. The museum is open 10am – 6pm Sundays through Wednesdays, and 10am – 7pm Thursday through Saturday. The box office is open 10am to 6pm every day, with extended evening hours to 7pm on Thursdays through Saturdays. Tickets can also be charged by phone by calling 413.662.2111 during box office hours or purchased online at massmoca.org. In the case of rain, the event is moved inside to the Hunter Center.

Images

High-resolution images of MASS MoCA's summer 2016 events are available through this link:
bit.ly/1NL6mgv.

About MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest (and largest) centers for making and enjoying today's most important art, music, dance, theater, film, and video. Hundreds of works of visual and performing art have been created on its 19th-century factory campus during fabrication and rehearsal residencies, making MASS MoCA among the most productive sites in the country for the creation and presentation of new art. More platform than box, MASS MoCA strives to bring to its audiences art experiences that are fresh, engaging, and transformative.

Hours

Summer (June 25–September 5)

Sundays through Wednesdays, 10am–6pm

Thursdays through Saturdays, 10am–7pm

After September 5

11am–5pm, six days a week (closed Tuesdays)