

THE CAST OF CALIGARI

Jeffrey Willis.....	Francis
Jeffrey Nordin.....	Dr. Caligari Guard
Christine Nordin.....	Jane Landlady Narrator
John Knauss.....	Alan Young Doctor Guard
David Simanek.....	Head Clerk Murder Suspect Dr. Olsen
J Roth.....	Monty Cesare piano
Paul Cameron.....	theremin & sound effects

Original script and score by J Roth

ABOUT THE THEREMIN

The theremin was invented in 1919 by Lev Sergeivitch Termen. Termen was in the midst of researching proximity sensors; his research was sponsored by the Russian government. When he demonstrated his invention to Vladimir Lenin, Lenin is said to have been so impressed that he began taking lessons upon it. Lenin sent Termen on a trip around the world to demonstrate this latest Soviet technology and the invention of electronic music. In the late 1920s, Termen emigrated to the US, but was later kidnapped by Soviet agents and forced to return to the USSR. He was put to work in a labor camp and designed the first 'bug'(covert listening device.)

The theremin can be heard in many old sci-fi productions for film and radio. Playing the theremin requires no physical contact with the instrument to produce music. Pitch and volume are controlled by theremin players simply by moving their hands through the air. The theremin used in Walking Boxes' production of Caligari to enhance the eeriness of the scenes featuring Cesare, is a simpler version of Terman's original, which had two antennae.

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THE HORROR...THE HORROR...

Walking Boxes Productions' main man, Flyhard Jenkins, had an informal interview with the Caligari players. Amongst other things he wanted to know was: "Who or what from television or the movies scared the bejeezus out of you when you were a child?"

Paul Cameron: The witch from The Wizard of Oz. I saw that movie when I was four and had to leave the room.

John Knauss: For me it was that witch too.

Jeff Nordin: For me it was a song. The image I had when I realized what the song Strange Fruit was about really haunted me.

Jeff Willis: The scene with the boat in Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory disturbed me for some reason. And I remember being really disturbed by Tales of Body Snatchers. The idea that the evil is among us, undetected, was one of my greatest fears.

Chris Nordin: In The Son of Frankenstein there was a hand severed from its body that was crawling around. That's what got me.

J Roth: Ventriloquist dolls that came to life. I was taken to see a 'G' film about foxes and there was a preview for the film Magic (which has a psycho dummy in it). And around that same time, I saw another evil dummy in an episode of Fantasy Island. I locked my dummy in the closet, even though I was sure that would fuel any desire he might have to kill me.

Dave Simanek: I had a fearless and happy childhood, but I guess if I was forced to name one thing it would be Children of the Corn.



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