



TALES FROM BEYOND THE PALE

[Fangoria.com (June 9, 2010—"Sounds Scary: Glass Eye Pix Goes 'Beyond the Pale'!" by Michael Gingold]

"Glass Eye Pix, the New York-area horror factory run by independent filmmaker Larry Fessenden (pictured), has been busier than ever these days, with four features in a coproduction deal with Dark Sky Films wrapped and being readied for release, and SATAN HATES YOU, a collaboration with MonsterPants, just premiered and about to hit the festival circuit. As if all this big-screen activity wasn't enough, Fango got the scoop that Glass Eye will be terrorizing the audiosphere via an on-line series called TALES FROM BEYOND THE PALE.

Fessenden and Glenn McQuaid, writer/director of I SELL THE DEAD, are overseeing this project, a series of half-hour episodes inspired by the classic radio chillers once recorded by the likes of Alfred Hitchcock, Orson Welles, Boris Karloff and Peter Lorre. It was one of the latter programs, in fact, that sparked the whole idea. "Glenn and I were driving through a fog-drenched evening with my kid," Fessenden explains, "and we were playing an old Karloff/Lorre radio show. We turned to each other and both said how much we loved it, and how important radio plays were to us growing up. Then it dawned on us—we had to do this ourselves.

So we called in a lot of our comrades," he continues, "and then people outside our circle, who haven't made movies with Glass Eye but are artisans whom Glenn has met on the road." In addition to Fessenden and McQuaid themselves, those from the Glass Eye stable who are taking part include THE HOUSE OF THE DEVIL's Ti West, Jim Mickle of the upcoming STAKE LAND, SATAN HATES YOU's James Felix McKenney, Joe Maggio of this year's BITTER FEAST and sound designer/I CAN SEE YOU director Graham Reznick. Among the outside talents involved are PHANTASM mogul Don Coscarelli, THE BURROWERS' J.T. Petty and his novelist wife Sarah Langan, GRACE's Paul Solet, Douglas Buck of CUTTING MOMENTS and the SISTERS remake, SWEATSHOP scripter Ted Geoghegan, MIDNIGHT MEAT TRAIN screenwriter Jeff Buhler, short filmmaker Ashley Thorpe and LIBERTY KID's Ilya Chaiken.

McQuaid believes that harking back to the days when horror was sometimes heard but not seen will encourage fresh levels of creativity from all these contributors. "One of the inspirations on this project, for me, was that I believe audiences are spoiled these days," he says. "Filmmakers are struggling to show them something new, trying to surprise people visually. To pull that rug out from under ourselves as artists, and having to channel terror in a different way, speaks to all of my influences as a filmmaker. You'll never be able to show the most horrific thing in everyone's minds, so leave it up to them. When we simmer everything down, this is at the core of what we're doing."

"It's fun to challenge so many of our comrades," Fessenden adds. "Everybody was rather tickled by the idea, and we've got such an amazing variety. It's a format that's all about the writing, but what Glenn and I also love is that you can do so much with sound effects and music. We really want to create these audio environments."

“That was my initial spark of interest,” McQuaid notes. “You can really isolate the listener. For me, it’s all about selling these pieces in obscure and very diverse locations. For instance, you may be on a trawler with a troubled crew, or maybe struck out on a desert moon...”

“The sound of the ocean waves, the sound of the desert wind!” Fessenden interjects. “That’s the whole idea: the sounds participating in and creating the environment. It is so much a celebration of the imagination. It’s the opposite of CGI; we’re going back to a more spare storytelling experience.”

Glass Eye’s films have frequently been noted for their chilling aural environments, courtesy of Reznick and composer Jeff Grace. And Fessenden confirms that both artists will be involved with **TALES FROM BEYOND THE PALE**, revealing, “I just spoke to Jeff today—one of the most overworked and underpaid men in show biz—and he will provide the theme song, which will be tremendously good fun. We’ll certainly encourage each contributor to use a sound or a musician they want; everyone’s welcome to find their own muse. We’ll always offer Jeff; it’s just up to the director to make the decision. Jeff is such a resilient and malleable talent that we feel confident offering him, and Graham will be involved too. We’re borrowing these guys from our features, so it’s going to be a delicate balance, but we hope it will all come together.”

“What’s inspiring for me,” McQuaid says, “is that I have a lot of ideas, but they’re all insane, and not many of them are going to make it to the big screen. So to have an outlet like this for them is fantastic. And who knows, if they get through this stage of audio theater, they could bounce on from there to some other form.” Adds Fessenden, “I told Glenn we’ll need a rating system, because some of the episodes will be, ahem, unsuitable for children.”

Scripts are currently coming in and production begins in August, with some of the cast also set to be brought in from past Glass Eye projects. The duo hope to have the first episodes available for listening by Halloween; they’ll be posted at the series’ [official website](#) (which opens tomorrow), and will be downloadable via iTunes and Amazon.com. Each installment will have its own accompanying poster artwork, painted by *Rue Morgue*’s Gary Pullin (who also did the title art seen above). In closing, Fessenden offers an explanation for the program’s moniker:

“The pale—which is from the same terminology as ‘impaled’—is an Old English reference to a stake of wood. In the old days, when you had your little village, you would put a fence around it, which was a series of pales. So anything beyond the fence—or beyond the pale—“

“Was beyond all perception,” McQuaid says.

“Most disturbing and unorthodox,” Fessenden adds.

“Uncanny, even,” McQuaid continues. “Our tales are generally about people who wander outside the pale, into the unknown. They’re inspired by Roald Dahl, Richard Matheson, Shirley Jackson...all these contributed to the seed of the idea. But everyone is coming in and adding their own flavor, so it’s very exciting.”



TALES OF TARHEELIA

[RADIO-SERIES]

"Tales taken from a weekly radio program presented for radio station WPTF at Raleigh, North Carolina." Written by John Harden. East Albemarle Regional Library System

TALES OF TARHEELIA (WPTF, RALEIGH)

[Wednesday—6:30- PM]

April 24, 1946

May 1, 1946

May 8, 1946

MAY 10, 1946:

[Burlington Daily Times-News—"Governor's Secretary To Speak At Jaycess [sic] Charter Night Affair"]

"...Harden has been a newspaperman in this city, in Charlotte, Salisbury, and was in Greensboro as news editor of the Daily News before accepting the position with the governor. Two weeks ago he began what is proving to be a very popular program over WPTF in Raleigh each Wednesday evening at 6:30 o'clock, called 'Tales of Tarheelia.'..."

May 15, 1946

May 22, 1946

May 29, 1946

June 5, 1946

June 12, 1946

June 19, 1946

JUNE 21, 1946:

[Burlington Daily Times-News—"The City Desk" by Howard White]

"Mrs. Charles Hopkins at May Memorial Library has received a complete file of feature articles from Radio Station WPTF in Raleigh which cover the regular Wednesday night feature, starting at 6:30 o'clock, of John Harden's 'Tales of Tarheelia' and has announced that since John is a Graham native and well-known in this area, together with the fact that the programs are of much interest to North Carolina in general, she is making a special display of them at the library.

"For the past two months John has been taking time out from his duties as secretary to Governor Cherry to conduct this Wednesday night program program at which time he relates some particular feature story he collected while working in newspaper editorial rooms through many sections of the state. They cover mysterious tales of the mountains one week and legends about the seashore the next.

"It might be of interest to John's friends here that for the first time in the history of Radio Station WPTF a file has been established whereby all persons who desire copies of his programs can request them—in one letter—and they will be mailed out each week. Previously, it took one letter for each program of such a nature, and the new service is available only because the response to the program has been so enthusiastic."

June 26, 1946

July 3, 1946

July 10, 1946

July 17, 1946

July 24, 1946

July 31, 1946

August 7, 1946

August 14, 1946

August 21, 1946

August 28, 1946
September 4, 1946
September 11, 1946
September 18, 1946
September 25, 1946

“The Mystery of Peter Stuart Ney”

[STATESVILLE DAILY RECORD: “...A favorite North Carolina story—the mystery of Peter Stuart Ney will be told on this week’s ‘Tales of Tarheelia’ broadcast over Station WPTF Wednesday, September 25, at 6:30 p.m., in keeping with the special Ney anniversary event being celebrated on Sunday September 29 at 11 a.m., at Third Creek church in Rowan county... Peter Stuart Ney is buried in the church yard at Third Creek. For many years there has been a debate as to whether this man was a simple country school teacher or Marshal Ney of France, Napoleon’s right arm in the wars he waged...”]

SEPTEMBER 25, 1946:

[Statesville Daily Record—“Broadcast Will Feature Story Of Marshall Ney”

“The ‘Tales of Tarheelia’ series, comprising North Carolina unsolved mysteries, is written and narrated by John Harden, veteran North Carolina newspaperman now serving as secretary to Governor Gregg Cherry. Beginning this Sunday, when the change to eastern standard time affects various WPTF programs, ‘Tales of Tarheelia’ will be heard each Sunday at 1:15 p.m.”

[Sunday—1:15- PM]
September 29, 1946
October 6, 1946

Tales of Tarheelia by John Harden. Raleigh: WPTF Radio Publication, 1946

The Devil’s Tramping Ground and Other NC Mysteries, by John Harden. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1949

About The Southern Historical Collection

Long at the center of inquiry into the history and culture of the American South, the [Southern Historical Collection](#) (SHC) documents this region with its massive holdings of unique, primary source materials: letters, diaries, oral histories, photographs, sound recordings, financial records, literary manuscripts, and items in many other formats. These original documents reveal the lives of farmers, homemakers, tradespeople, industrial workers, plantation owners, enslaved people, entrepreneurs, educators, politicians, activists, lawyers, physicians, and many thousands of mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters.

The SHC’s collections offer strong documentation of all periods of southern history since the late eighteenth century: the colonial and Revolutionary periods (though less fully than the others), the antebellum plantation era, the Civil War and Reconstruction, the New South, the Jim Crow South, and the South in the second half of the twentieth century. Subject strengths range widely, but especially prominent are early nineteenth-century plantation culture, Confederate leadership and battles on both sides in the American Civil War, politics and political activism, religious experience, rural life, southern literature, African American life, journalism, business, and family relations. Among the most heavily used materials are thousands of oral history interviews in the [Southern Oral History Program Collection](#) with individuals ranging from business leaders to textile workers.

Located in [Wilson Library](#), the SHC welcomes all researchers, ranging from academic historians to those imbued with a simple curiosity about our past. We look forward to seeing you in our reading room.

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Creator of the Month...John Harden

Posted on [23 October 2009](#) by [Biff Hollingsworth](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

John William Harden (1903-1985) of Greensboro, N.C., was a journalist, newspaper editor, author, advisor to North Carolina governors and textile executives, and founder of the state's first full-service public relations company. The collection contains materials, 1914-1986, including business records, correspondence, writings, speeches and speech materials, administrative records, newspaper clippings, diaries, scrapbooks, photograph albums, family papers, sound recordings, and videocassettes relating to John Harden.

Correspondence and other papers includes items relating to each of John Harden's published books. Harden published *The Devil's Tramping Ground and Other North Carolina Mystery Stories* in 1949 and *Tar Heel Ghosts* in 1954. These books present stories gathered by Harden that deal with North Carolina locales, myths, and stories. *Devil's Tramping Ground* grew out of a weekly radio program, entitled *Tales of Tarheelia*, presented over eighteen months on station WPTF in Raleigh in 1946-1947. Both books were illustrated by Lindsey McAlister, an acquaintance of Harden's daughter Glenn Abbott, and were published by the University of North Carolina Press.

Here are some interesting items and images that can be found within the writings series that highlight Harden's interest in the strange and unknown. Since Halloween is fast approaching, we hope that you will find items in this collection fascinating and ghoulish.



John Harden (#4702)



John Harden (#4702)



John Harden (#4702)



John Harden (#4702)



John Harden (#4702)

The Devil's Tramping Ground

The legends and stories of North Carolina are infinitely fascinating. In 1946 and 1947, John Harden hosted a radio show called *Tales of Tarheelia*, in which he recounted many of the state's legendary stories and mysteries. Interest in that radio series and Harden's commitment to preserving these stories that could be lost forever if not put down in writing led to the publication of this book, *The Devil's Tramping Ground and Other North Carolina Mystery Stories*, in 1949. The stories collected here are mysteries as opposed to, say, ghost stories (of which North Carolina can boast of her fair share); these stories won't give you the creeps, but they will fascinate you and sharpen your interest in the history of the state of North Carolina. Posted by [History Chasers](#) at [The Lost Colony Research Group](#) blogspot.

A Great Book of Mysteries and Legends About NC

10/15/2000 By : Michael Delaware

I recently just finished reading this collection of stories about North Carolina. This book is filled with intriguing mysteries and legends about the Tar Heel state. The more famous story of Roanoke Island is covered here, as well as many others most from outside the region have probably never heard about. The stories include tales about shipwrecks, anomalies of nature as well as disappearing people. I found particularly interesting the story entitled 'The Devil's Tramping Ground' itself, as well as 'The Strange Hoof-Marks at Bath' and the mystery of 'The Brown Mountain Lights'. These alone will capture anyone's imagination and spark a desire to explore the hills of North Carolina. All in all a very enjoyable book, and if you like a good

collection of short stories this is a good one for you. The fact that they all come from a particular region and are researched North Carolina mystery stories makes it even more facinating and entertaining.

★★★★★ **A fascinating collection of Tarheel mysteries**
07/05/2004 By : Daniel Jolley

Seeing as how "I'm a Tarheel born, I'm a Tarheel bred, and when I die I'm a Tarheel dead," I am of course fascinated by the legends and stories of the Old North State, just as John Harden was. In 1946 and 1947, Harden hosted a radio show called Tales of Tarheelia, in which he recounted many of the state's legendary stories and mysteries. Interest in that radio series and Harden's commitment to preserving these stories that could be lost forever if not put down in writing led to the publication of this book, *The Devil's Tramping Ground and Other North Carolina Mystery Stories*, in 1949. One should note the fact that the stories collected here are indeed mysteries as opposed to, say, ghost stories (of which North Carolina can boast of her fair share); these stories won't give you the creeps, but they will fascinate you and sharpen whatever interest you have in the history of the state of North Carolina.

When you talk about North Carolina mysteries, you must of course start at the very beginning - the Lost Colony. The first English settlement in the New World was made in the late 16th century at Roanoke, and it was here that the first non-native American child was born (Virginia Dare); when the long-delayed supply ship returned to these shores, the entire colony had disappeared completely, leaving behind a single clue as to the colonists' fate: the carving of the word Croatoan on a tree. This, North America's first mystery, remains as compelling and unsolved today as it was over four hundred years ago. The famous Brown Mountain Lights of western North Carolina, of which many may have heard, necessarily earn a chapter. The Devil's Tramping Ground to which the title refers is a circular spot of land in Chatham County in which the devil is said to pace each night as he thinks up his evil plans. The circle has a diameter of forty feet, and nothing will grow inside it; also, any material placed inside the circle will disappear overnight. A similar story involves the Magic Horse Tracks in the town of Bath; this series of holes remain fresh and unobscured after some two hundred years, and legend says they were made by the hoof prints of a horse whose owner asked him to either win the horse race he was engaging in (on the Sabbath, no less) or take him straight to hell - the horse obviously chose the latter by immediately barreling into a tree, killing his sacrilegious rider. You will read of deserted ships that mysteriously came to shore through the treacherous waters of the North Carolina Outer Banks, strange and unexplained disappearances of several individuals, the legend I must assume all new students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill continue to be told about (I was, but that was back in 1988) related to the present site of Gimghoul Castle, a couple of botanical mysteries, several stories related to animals, and a number of others miscellaneous tales.

I must admit that I was unfamiliar with several of these stories, although many were well known to me. One of the most interesting tales involves the identity of a schoolmaster of Rowan County; there is plenty of evidence that this man, Peter Stuart Ney, was in fact Marshal Ney of France, one of Napoleon's most trusted military strategists. Marshal Ney was, history tells us, executed by a firing squad after Napoleon's downfall, but rumors abound that his execution was in fact a hoax.

While the caliber of the twenty mysteries chronicled here varies somewhat, only a couple of them failed to fascinate me. Naturally, those with no association with North Carolina won't feel the connection I feel to the material, but anyone interested in the legends and mysteries of former times should find much to interest them in this engaging collection of Tarheel mysteries.

TALES OF THE SUPERNATURAL

[RADIO-SERIES]

TALES OF THE SUPERNATURAL (WILM, WILMINGTON)

[Wednesday—8:45-9:00]

November 22, 1939

“

November 29, 1939

“The Werewolf”

[WILMINGTON SUNDAY MORNING STAR: “...second in a series... Barrett Shaw will be the narrator...and others in the cast will include Jay Pippen as Kranz, Naomi Riker as Christina; Franklin Clymer, as Mynheer von Barnfelt; Aileen Shaw, as Marcella, and Robert Roberts as the father...”]

SCRIPT: Hugh Lester (from the story by Frederick Marryat).

December 6, 1939

“The Wound of Mystery”

[WILMINGTON SUNDAY MORNING STAR: “...the third in a series... Franklin Clymer will be the narrator during the airing of ‘The Wound of Mystery,’ and others in the cast will be Byron Millenson, as the doctor; Mildred Lindeburg, as the wife; Naomi Riker, as the maid, and Aileen Shaw, as the countess...”]

SCRIPT: Hugh Lester (from the story by Samuel Faulkland).

December 13, 1939

“The Lady with the Velvet Collar”

[WILMINGTON SUNDAY MORNING STAR: “...fourth in a series... Robert Roberts will be the narrator...and the other members of the cast will be Gloria Durham, as the woman, and Ray Mulderick as the officer... ‘The Lady with the Velvet Collars’ dramatizes the strength of the ‘will to live’...”]

“

December 20, 1939

December 27, 1939

“

January 3, 1940

January 10, 1940

January 17, 1940

[TITLE UNKNOWN]

“The Compensation House”

[WILMINGTON SUNDAY MORNING STAR: “...‘The Compensation House’ will be broadcast...by the Journeymen Players as the ninth in a series of ‘Tales of the Supernatural,’ adapted for radio by Hugh Lester of Hollywood and produced and directed by Gene Plumstead of the WILM station staff. Barrett Shaw will be the narrator during the airing of ‘The Compensation House,’ and others in the cast will include Mildred Lindeburg, as the wife; Naomi Riker, as the maid; Franklin Clymer, as the master; Byron Millenson, as Masey; Ray Mulderic as the first man, and Robert Roberts as the second man. Harvey Clark Smith, WILM program director, will, as usual, handle the technical facilities...”]

January 24, 1940

“The Signal Man”

[WILMINGTON SUNDAY STAR: “...Sergeant Irvin A. Fitzgerald of the U. S. Army recruiting office here will be the narrator and others in the cast will be John Mulderick, as the signalman, and Ray Mulderick, as the engineer...”]

January 31, 1940

“The Feast of Redgauntlet”

[WILMINGTON SUNDAY STAR: “...eleventh in a series... Ray Mulderic will be the narrator during the airing of ‘The Feast of Redgauntlet’ and others in the cast will include Jack Mulderick as Dougal MacCallum, Franklin Clymer as Sir Robert, Barrett Shaw as Sir John, and Robert Roberts as Man...”]

SCRIPT: Hugh Lester (adapted from the story by Sir Walter Scott).

February 7, 1940

“

TALES OF THE SUPERNATURAL

[RADIO-SERIES]

TALES OF THE SUPERNATURAL

March 20, 1947-July 6, 1948

NFSA: "...contains costings for the production of individual episodes including tech. costs, and payments for cast and script development."

NFSA has all scripts for 1971-1972 (was it a revival of the original series?)

OCLC: Australia; University of Queensland

Max Afford

15 tales

Typescript (carbon copy)./ Radio series ; each tale is complete and has a separate title./ Also 2 l. of a 16th tale, incomplete.

OCLC: 50572465

TERROR MANSION

[RADIO-PLAY]

(5AD, ADELAIDE)

[Sunday—8:00-9:00 PM]

March 24, 1935

"Terror Mansion"

[ADELAIDE ADVERTISER: "...a play of action and thrills adapted for radio by Maurice Chapman...]

CAST: Iris Hart, Frank Johnstone, Sydney Moore, Kenneth Shaw, "and other studio artists."

THE TOMB OF OSIRIS

[RADIO-PLAY]

(2FC, SYDNEY)

[Thursday—9:16-9:56 PM]

November 21, 1929

"The Tomb of Osiris"

[ADELAIDE ADVERTISER: "... 'The Tomb of Osiris' is the promisingly titled play which the University Players have prepared for Thursday evening. It has to be specially written for broadcasting..."]

[Thursday—9:02-10:02 PM]

May 1, 1930

"The Tomb of Osiris"

[WESTERN MAIL: "...From the Little Theatre: Laurence Halbert presents The A.B.C. Players..."]

(6WF, PERTH)

[Saturday—8:01-9:30 PM]

June 21, 1930

"The Tomb of Osiris"

[WESTERN MAIL: "...Studio production of the Radio drama, 'The Tomb of Osiris,' presented by the Radio Players..."]

CAST: Paul Daly, Audrey Dean, Dot Formby, Marjorie Hodgson, Zlata Kalmikoff, Harold Malcolm, May Webster.

[Wednesday—8:00-9:40 PM]

February 25, 1931

"The Tomb of Osiris"

[WEST AUSTRALIAN: "...Special studio presentation...presented by the A.B.C. Players..."]

CAST: Paul Daly, Dorothy Formby, Ursula Glance, Harry Graham, Basil Kirke, Dorothy Manning, May Webster.

TRUE GHOST STORIES

[RADIO-SERIES]

[*Milwaukee Journal*, March 31, 1935—"Ghost Stories on Air Tonight"] "Vera Brodsky and Harold Triggs, celebrated pianists, and Louis K. Anspacher, noted author and story teller, will mix piano duets and ghost stories in a novel series of Sunday evening broadcasts to be inaugurated...tonight... The broadcasts, each consisting of several piano duets and one of Anspacher's famous 'true ghost stories,' will be on the air from the N. B. C. Radio City studios for 15 minutes each Sunday. Anspacher, author of numerous successful Broadway plays and a scrupulous investigator and student in the field of psychical research, will base the ghost story he will tell at each broadcast on a true and carefully authenticated incident. He will relate the story in dramatic fashion and at the end suggest the probably scientific explanation of the weird event."

THE TURN OF THE SCREW

[NOVEL]

(RADIO 4 EXTRA, LONDON—BBC)

[*Monday—10:00 AM-12:00 NOON*]

November 14, 2011

"The Turn of the Screw"

[BBC RADIO 4 EXTRA: "...Are two children under an evil influence? Or is it in the imagination of their governess?..."]

CAST: Cathy Sara, Joseph Tremain, et al.

EXTANT RECORDING

TWILIGHT GHOST STORIES

[RADIO-SERIES]

[*St. Petersburg Evening Independent*, October 26, 1926—"WLW Ghost Stories"]

"If there be any in this bright Sunshine City who care to take on a really good, creepy, ghastly ghost story now and then WLW, Cincinnati, O., has it for them. It's a new feature, and coming in on the weird air lanes at night, it ought to deliver the thrill! Here's the announcement:

"Boys from nine to 90 will be interested to know about the new radio feature of the Crosley WLW broadcasting station in Cincinnati, which will make it possible to sit in the twilight glow in the home and hear famous ghost stories told by Mrs. William R. Beck. This feature will be broadcast on Tuesday evenings at 6:35 and for ten minutes the creeps should come over all those who tune in. This new entertainer was induced to give her talks through the station after several people notified the studio staff of the unique way in which this lady tells her ghost stories. She began telling them to a small group of boys who gathered on the veranda of her home. The circle of boys began to grow as word was passed around about the thrilling creeps accompanying the telling of these stories. Now, the listeners will have a greater advantage in hearing the stories coming to them through the air."



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