

Starkville Community Theatre
by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
presents

Catfish Moon

by Laddy Sartin

directed by Kris Lee

Catfish Moon was originally produced in a stage reading
during the 1994 Charlotte Festival New-Plays-in-America Series,
Claudia Covington, Literary Manager.

The world premiere of *Catfish Moon* was produced by Charlotte Repertory Theatre,
Charlotte, N.C., February 1996,
Keith Martin, Producer; Terry Loughlin, Artistic Director.



This production is supported in part by a grant
from the Mississippi Arts Commission and the
National Endowment for the Arts.

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cast

(in order of appearance)

Curley Gabe Smith
Gordon..... Paul Ruff
Frog Marcus Vowell
Betty Krista Vowell

place & time

an old fishing pier in Mississippi

scene i an afternoon in early summer
scene ii that evening
scene iii early evening, one week later
scene iv an afternoon, three days later

production

Director Kris Lee
Assistant Director / Stage Manager Lyle Tate
Technical Director Thomas La Foe
Costuming Amanda Clay Powers
Properties Cindy Ruff
Crew Lee Dempsey, Cary Huser & Andrew Watkins
Stage Design Thomas La Foe
Set Construction Thomas La Foe, Paul Ruff,
Lee Dempsey, Kris Lee, Amanda Clay Powers, Cindy Ruff,
Craig Ruff, Daniel Ruff, Reagan Ruff, Gabe Smith,
Lyle Tate, Mike Tate, Krista Vowell, and Marcus Vowell

Special Thanks

Dr. John Forde & Theatre MSU

Bob Anderson, Patsy Douglas, David Nolen, Alison Stamps, Mike Tate
Joey Partridge, Cindy Melby & Nash Street

(Note: "Blackberry Blossom" by Nash Street used by permission.)

about the cast & crew...

Paul Ruff ("Gordon") has been involved with Starkville Community Theatre since 1992. He has participated in about a dozen stage plays and eight musical revues – many alongside his wife, Cindy. Paul was also in the 2007 MTA Best Production, *Smoke on the Mountain*, in which he played the banjo-pickin' "Burl Sanders." In addition to his onstage contributions, Paul has often assisted with set design and construction. He would like to thank his wife and three children for their support. "I love you, babe!"

Gabe Smith ("Curley") is honored to make his fifth trip to MTA with Starkville Community Theatre. A veteran of SCT shows, onstage and off-, for six years, Gabe's previous productions at state competition include *Deadline Dawn*, *Loose Hog in the House of God*, and last year's runner-up for Best Production, "Art." In February, Gabe will be directing SCT's production of *Doubt*. *Catfish Moon* is for the family he shares the pier with every night – two old friends and a sister – and for the other old friends in the wings – brothers and sisters – who prop the whole thing up.

Krista Vowell ("Betty") currently serves SCT as president and has been an active member of the organization for a number of years. Krista counts a number of roles, both with SCT and with other companies, as "favorites," such as "Cherie" in *Bus Stop*, "Maggie" in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, "Abigail Williams" in *The Crucible*, "Sunny Freitag" in *Last Night of Ballyhoo*, and "June Sanders" in both *Smoke on the Mountain* and *Sanders Family Christmas*. A former news director, Krista is now pursuing a Master's degree in political science and does freelance voice-over work. In 2007, Krista received an Outstanding Performance by an Actress award from the Southeastern Theatre Conference for her work in *Smoke on the Mountain* and received first-place in the 2008 MTA Community Theatre Individual Events Female Monologue category. Many hugs and kisses to "Frog" and to her wonderful children, Peyton and Meghan.

Marcus Vowell ("Frog") is returning to the MTA stage after appearing as "Stanley Sanders" in the 2007 MTA Best Production, *Smoke on the Mountain*. He has appeared at SCT in such roles as "Henry II" (*The Lion in Winter*), "Jack Worthing" (*The Importance of Being Earnest*), and "Joe Farkas" (*The Last Night of Ballyhoo*).

Marcus lives in Starkville with his wife (currently playing "Betty") and two children, works with East Mississippi Community College as a database administrator, and does freelance voice-over and audio production work. "My thanks to an awesome cast, crew and director, and a special thanks to my wife and kids. I love you, Krista, Peyton and Meghan!"

Kris Lee (director) has been involved with theatre, both in Starkville and abroad, for nearly the last fifteen years. He has debuted two roles for the American stage and is an award-winning member of the Dramatists Guild of America. Currently, he serves as the chair for the MTA Playwriting Competition.

Lyle Tate (stage manager / assistant director) is celebrating a decade of work with SCT in 2009, and *Catfish Moon* marks his 41st production with the company and his 8th year at MTA.

Thomas La Foe (technical director) has been working with MTA since 2000 when he came with his hometown theatre, Delta Center Stage. He moved to Starkville later that year and began working with his new hometown theatre, Starkville Community Theatre. He has appeared in the SCT MTA entries *Over the River and Through the Woods* and *Deadline Dawn* and teched for *Comfort's Broken Light*, *Smoke on the Mountain* and "Art." Thomas received his M.S. in instructional technology in the spring of 2008 and works as an Instructional Technology Specialist for the MSU Libraries.

Amanda Clay Powers (crew / costuming) has been on headset for two previous SCT productions, *Aspirin & Elephants* and *Not Now Darling*, but *Catfish Moon* is her first opportunity really to get the show on the road. When she's not at the theater, you can find her twittering on Facebook, doing reference work for the MSU Libraries.

Cindy Ruff (crew / properties) joins the crew of *Catfish Moon* as a newbie in that this is her first time to work backstage. Normally she can be found belting it out under the spotlights, as she has for several SCT musical revues. She just concluded a run as "April" in the SCT smash hit *Company*. Cindy currently serves as the secretary of SCT and as the social chair. She would like to thank the cast and crew for letting her play and her kids for letting Mom and Dad get away for the weekend.

Lee Dempsey (crew) is officially taking part in his first SCT production, having been a loyal audience member and SCT supporter for the past year and a half.

about the cast & crew...

Cary Huser (crew) is pleased to work with the cast and crew of *Catfish Moon*. Cary serves as SCT's historian and worked last season in the cast of *Laura*.

Andrew Watkins (crew) is an SCT, Theatre MSU, and SHS Theatre veteran having worked over the years in productions of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; *The Boys Next Door*; *Terror by Gaslight*; *The Importance of Being Earnest*; *Proof*; *The Foreigner*; and many others.

Coming up next at SCT's Playhouse on Main...

Doubt

by John Patrick Shanley

February 19 - 28, 2009

directed for SCT by Gabe Smith

Winner of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play, *Doubt* is a story of suspicion cast on a priest's behavior that is less about scandal than about fascinating questions of moral certainty.

Auditions for *Let's Murder Marsha*

February 22 - 23, 2009 @ 7.00pm

This fast-paced, hilarious Monk Ferris comedy features roles for 3 men and 4 women. Directed for SCT by Christopher Walrath, *Let's Murder Marsha* will be staged April 23 - May 2, 2009. Copies of the script are available for checkout at the SCT box office. Call 662-323-6855 for more information.

Thanks for attending tonight's open rehearsal of Catfish Moon. You are invited to stay after the set is struck to be an audience for the SCT company members taking part in MTA's Community Theatre Individual Events competition.

*Madeline Golden - "I Want the Good Times Back"
from Alan Menken's The Little Mermaid*

Terry McDowell & Lyle Tate - a scene from Stephen Sondheim's Company

*Cindy Ruff & Paul Ruff - "Nothing is Too Wonderful to be True"
from David Yazbek's Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*

*Gabe Smith - monologues from Jeff Daniels' Apartment 3A
& Jeff Goode's The Un-Xmas Story*

Lyle Tate - "Last One Picked" from Howard Crabtree's Whoop-Dee-Do!

*Marcus Vowell - monologues from Ron Hutchinson's Rat in the Skull
& Mark D. Kaufman's Evil Little Thoughts*

*Madeline Golden - a monologue from Alan Bailey & Connie Ray's
Smoke on the Mountain*