


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



# Catfish MOON

by Laddy Sartin

directed by Kris Lee

2009 Mississippi Theatre Association Festival  
J. Warren McDaniel Award for Best Production

plus

Best Director, *Kris Lee*

Best Ensemble Acting

Best Actor, *Paul Ruff*

Best Supporting Actress, *Krista Vowell*

Overall Technical Excellence

Best Scenic Design



*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.





# Catfish MOON

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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

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

# 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,  
Rodney and Mandi Dempsey, Mike Tate, Joey Partridge,  
Cindy Melby & Nash Street



The cast of *Catfish Moon* (from left) features Paul Ruff, Gabe Smith, Krista Vowell and Marcus Vowell.

## about the cast & crew...

Paul Ruff (“Gordon”) is a pediatrician in Starkville, MS, and 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. In 2007, Paul appeared in the Mississippi Theatre Association Best Production and SETC Runner-Up Best Production, *Smoke on the Mountain*, in which he played the banjo-pickin’ “Burl Sanders.” In January, Paul was named MTA’s Best Actor for his role in *Catfish Moon*.

Gabe Smith (“Curley”) is a six-year SCT veteran, onstage and off-, and a two-time winner of the Mississippi Theatre Association’s award for Best Actor. In addition to *Catfish Moon*, Gabe’s productions at MTA include *Deadline Dawn*, *Loose Hog in the House of God*, and 2008’s Runner-Up Best Production, “Art.”

Krista Vowell (“Betty”) currently serves as SCT president and has been an active member of the organization and of other Mississippi theatre organizations for a number of years, counting as favorites her roles in productions of *Bus Stop*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Crucible*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, and *Smoke on the Mountain*, for which she received a 2007 SETC Outstanding Performance by an Actress award. In January, Krista was named the Mississippi Theatre Association’s Best Supporting Actress for her role in *Catfish Moon*.

Marcus Vowell (“Frog”) appeared as “Stanley Sanders” in the 2007 Mississippi Theatre Association Best Production and SETC Runner-Up Best Production, *Smoke on the Mountain*. He has appeared at SCT in productions of *The Lion in Winter*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Marcus lives in Starkville with his wife (currently playing “Betty”) and two children and is a database administrator for East Mississippi Community College and a freelance voice-over artist.

## about the cast & crew...

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.

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*.

Thomas La Foe (technical director) has been working in Mississippi theatre since 2000 with Starkville Community Theatre, Theatre MSU, and Delta Center Stage. He has appeared in the SCT state festival 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 Mississippi State University Libraries.

Kris Lee (director) has been involved with theatre, both in Starkville, MS, 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 Mississippi Theatre Association Playwriting Competition.

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 Mississippi State University Libraries.

## about the cast & crew...

Cindy Ruff (crew / properties) joins the crew of *Catfish Moon* as a newbie in that this is first time to work backstage. Normally she can be found belting it out under the spotlights, as she has for several SCT musical revues. Last fall, Cindy played the role of "April" in the SCT smash *Company*. Cindy currently serves as the secretary of SCT and as the social chair.

Lyle Tate (stage manager / assistant director) is celebrating a decade of work with SCT in 2009, and *Catfish Moon* marks his 41<sup>st</sup> production with the company. Lyle's previous trip to SETC was as assistant stage manager for the 2007 Runner-Up Best Production, *Smoke on the Mountain*.

Andrew Watkins (crew) is an SCT veteran having worked over the years in productions of *Terror by Gaslight*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Proof*, and *The Foreigner*.



The crew of *Catfish Moon* (from left) includes Cary Huser, Andrew Watkins, Cindy Ruff, Amanda Clay Powers, Thomas La Foe, Lyle Tate (kneeling) and Lee Dempsey.

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