

Starkville Community Theatre presents

SCT: UNPLUGGED

DIRECTED BY CAROLE SORENSON



July 19-21 and
26-28, 2012
7:30 p.m.





THE CAST

Isa Stratton Beaulieu

Matt Crane

M.J. Etua

Audrey Gammill *

Brian Hawkins

Meg Henderson

Mary Kate Hughes *

Mar Kyles *

Brenda Mayo

Brad Moreland

Janis Ross

Cindy Ruff

Paul Ruff

Lyle Tate

Jessica Taylor

Krista Vowell

THE MUSICIANS

Acoustic Guitars: John Brocato, Drew Dieckmann, Marcus Vowell

Bass: Jim Beaty *

Percussion: Vinny Brocato *

Piano: Carole Sorenson

Violin: Daniel Jones, Joy Carino

* SCT Debut

There is no intermission. The show runs approximately 110 minutes.

ABOUT THE CAST

ISA STRATTON BEAULIEU

Isa is a MSU alumna with a bachelor's degree in fine art with an emphasis in painting. She has been singing since she was a child in choirs, show choirs, and musicals throughout high school and in her first two years of college. "I dearly missed theatre and started helping SCT folks with sets about a year ago. Last year, I made the decision to go for the gold again and jump back on stage." Isa works as a graphic designer and is a blocker and treasurer "Babs Havok #11am" on Starkville's local roller derby team, Mississippi Brawl Stars. "I've thoroughly enjoyed my SCT family, and I'm very thankful to Carole and the band for allowing me to be a part of the show!"

MATT CRANE

SCT: Unplugged marks Matt's fifth summer show appearance. He is lucky to have worked under three great directors and a host of musicians who have made the music come alive every summer at SCT. He is currently employed as a reporter for the *Starkville Daily News* and apologizes for any lip-syncing that happens tonight on his part. "We've got until late July to learn this. Right, guys?" Wrong, Matt.

M.J. ETUA

This summer's musical marks M. J.'s 14th year as a cast member. In real life she teaches theatre arts and French at Louisville High School. Since 1998, M. J. has served as the creative force behind Project P.L.A.Y., SCT's summer children's theatre. The 2012 production *The Gathering Place* was one of the many original plays she has written for children. M. J. is also the chair of the Secondary Division of the Mississippi Theatre Association. "This year's musical is very nostalgic for me. I grew up listening to James Taylor, Jim Croce, and Stevie Wonder. In fact, the groups America and The Eagles helped me understand the art of harmony. We've had fun putting this show together, and I hope it shows."

AUDREY GAMMILL

Audrey is a graduate of MSU with a BA in communication with an emphasis in theatre. "I thank my family & friends for all their support and understanding of my love for theatre and music. I'm also thankful to be welcomed into the SCT family with loving arms!"

ABOUT THE CAST

BRIAN HAWKINS

Brian is making his 23rd onstage appearance at the Playhouse on Main with his performance in *SCT: Unplugged*. Most recently seen in the Christmas production of *Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas!*, Brian has performed in all 14 summer musical revues and counts roles in *Forever Plaid; Company; Bus Stop; Inspecting Carol;* and *Not Now, Darling* among his favorite SCT experiences (though he has loved them all). When not onstage at SCT, Brian works at Buffalo Wild Wings and stays busy as chair of the Oktibbeha County Relay for Life and with the Chancel Choir at FUMC, among other things. He thanks Carole and the other first-class musicians in the band for their hard work in putting this show together and is always willing to give Carole “more Brian” whenever she needs it. Singing with his castmates – many of them for several years now – is simply a privilege he cherishes. “Put a song in your heart and share it!”

MEG HENDERSON

This is Meg’s second summer to participate in SCT’s musical revue. “I’m thrilled to be back and honored to be a part of such a fun, talented group of singers and musicians! I thank Carole for deciding to include me in the cast; James, my husband, for supporting me and putting up with all of my time away from home; and my parents for making the long drive from Texas to watch the show.” Meg is a lecturer in the English Department at MSU and enjoys doing marathons and triathlons with her husband.

MARY KATE HUGHES

Mary Kate is entering her senior year at Starkville High School and has regularly participated in her school's theatre program. She has performed in musicals such as *Oliver Twist; Annie; SCT's Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr.; Zombie Prom;* and *The Music Man*. This is Mary Kate’s first year performing on the SCT stage with "the big kids" in this exquisite masterpiece of a show. She is, though, familiar to the SCT family, as she managed the lights in SCT's *Sorta Love Songs*, used a hammer for 5 minutes in set construction, and just might somewhat resemble what looks like Lorraine and Maureen Hughes – who are patrons and performers of the arts, as well. She thanks Carole for the spectacular opportunity to sing on stage in pursuit of her Barbra Streisand dreams. To the cast and crew she wishes broken legs and beautiful melodies! “Enjoy!”

ABOUT THE CAST

MAR KYLES

This is Mar's first appearance on the SCT stage! She is employed at Central Station Grill as well as the IT department at MSU. "I thank God, my family, and my church family for always supporting me." Mar plans to open a performing arts center after graduation from MSU.

BRENDA MAYO

Brenda walked into SCT five summers ago to audition for her first summer musical, *Ten Out of Ten: A Perfect Score*. Little did she know she was walking into a fabulous extended family and was welcomed with open arms. She thanks her alto family for letting her lean in to get that note, Carole for believing in her, and, most of all, Aunt Scottie for taking care of her and encouraging her to go for it!

BRAD MORELAND

SCT: Unplugged is Brad's ninth production with SCT since joining in 2009. Brad thanks Carole and the amazing group of musicians who have worked tirelessly to make this such an amazing show musically. He also thanks our assistant director, Bonnie, and the amazing cast and crew for making this production such a joy. "If there is one thing I love more than music, it's making music with my friends. What a joy!" When Brad isn't onstage at SCT, he works at MSU in the Theses and Dissertations Department in the Mitchell Memorial Library.

JANIS ROSS

Janis is excited to be in her third consecutive summer musical! You may have seen her onstage in SCT's *The ABC's of Broadway*, *Liner Notes: From Tin Pan Alley to Today*, and *See How They Run*. She has had an eventful season with SCT, working backstage for *Beau Jest*; *Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas!*; and *Second Samuel*. Janis has also worked as assistant director for Project P.L.A.Y. for the past two years. Janis thanks God, her family, and her best friends, Jsette and Niah, for all of the love and support that they give her. Outside of theatre, Janis is a senior at MSU, majoring in communication with emphases in theatre and journalism. She loves to write fiction, read, and do anything involving music. She serves as Youth Pastor and Minister of Music at Tribe Judah Ministries.

ABOUT THE CAST

CINDY RUFF

Cindy was most recently seen on the SCT stage as “Amalia” in last season’s musical hit, *She Loves Me*. You may also remember her as “Olive” in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* or as “Jerry Neal” in the award-winning *Dixie Swim Club*. She’s also been in several summer musicals and has served as an SCT officer and co-chair of the SCT Social Committee. She thanks Carole and the band for all the wonderful music and hard work, the cast for all the support and harmony, and her kids for their patience and understanding. Most of all, she thanks her husband for sharing this experience – “Here’s to many more!”

PAUL RUFF

Paul is thrilled to return to the SCT summer musical after taking a couple summers off. During this time, he’s been seen on our stage as “Agent Frank” in *Unnecessary Farce* and the dapper cad “Kodaly” in *She Loves Me*. Paul was also recognized as a part of the All-Star Cast at MTA this year for his performance as “Harold” in *Cabin 12*. He thanks his gorgeous wife for being his partner, his best friend, and his greatest amusement. Paul’s thanks also go to his friends in the cast, the band, and the crew – and to Daniel, Craig, and Reagan for (once again) letting Mom and Dad go play.

LYLE TATE

Last onstage as “B Flat” in *Second Samuel*, Lyle serves as VP for Membership at SCT and is excited to be back in the summer revue cast after a couple summers away. He thanks Carole for letting him share these past months with her in the creation of this project, this amazing band for bringing such life and immense talent to the summer revue, and his excellent singing cohorts for all the laughs and harmonies we've shared. Lyle sends love and appreciation to his friend in the aisle (always), and his dedication, as ever, goes to his parents and Lee. “If it feels nice, don’t think twice.”

JESSICA TAYLOR

Jessica, hailing from Gulfport, is enjoying her 4th show and 3rd musical here at SCT! She thanks her fiance, Madison, for letting the SCT family borrow her for so many nights to rehearse and hopes that the audience loves the show and can tell how much work was put into it!

ABOUT THE CAST

KRISTA VOWELL

Krista has thoroughly enjoyed being a part of this production, and she says working with this cast has been an amazing experience. In the fall, she will go back to work at Starkville Academy, where she teaches English, speech, and drama. Krista is the mother of two wonderful children and the wife of one of the guys you see playing the guitar. Krista sends special thanks to Carole, who made it all happen and who truly put her heart and soul into this production. "I hope the SCT audiences love the show as much as we have loved working on it!"

ABOUT THE BAND & CREW

JIM BEATY (ACOUSTIC BASS)

Jim is a first-time performer with SCT. He has been playing bass and performing professionally in bands since age 12. Jim owns Backstage Music of Starkville, is married to Marquita, and has two grown children. Jim's favorite things include all things Beatle, good cigars, and cool evenings in Mississippi.

JOHN BROCATO (CO-DIRECTOR / ACOUSTIC GUITAR)

John started playing guitar and singing at the age of seven, so, honestly, he should be much, much better than he is by now. Regardless, "being a part of the *SCT: Unplugged* company has been one of my favorite gigs of all time." This is John's fifth SCT production, following *Ug – The Caveman Musical*, *The ABC's of Broadway*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and last year's summer revue, *Liner Notes*. John is a MSU alum who teaches in the Bagley College of Engineering, and he also gigs regularly in the Persians, in the Tuffskinz, and as a solo act. He's married to the wonderful Kay and is dad to the tremendous Bailey, Vinny, and Sicily, all of whom he loves eternally and will never be able to thank enough. To his fellow cast and crew members: "Let us shower these audiences we love with love."

ABOUT THE BAND & CREW

VINNY BROCATO (PERCUSSION)

Vinny is awesome in general. He holds a green belt in Tae Kwon Do, plays all manner of percussion in the Armstrong Middle School band, is an accomplished poker player, and recently rocked people's faces off as "Danny Zuko" in Armstrong's production of *Grease*. *SCT: Unplugged* is his first grown-up drumming gig and his first *SCT* show, though it won't be his last. He thanks his family for being his biggest fans.

DREW DIECKMANN (ACOUSTIC GUITAR)

Drew is thrilled to be returning to the stage at *SCT*! Admittedly, though, this time around there's not much acting involved, as Drew can usually be found onstage somewhere playing music most weekends. Drew also teaches guitar at Backstage Music. He thanks Carole for inviting him to be a part of her vision for this show and his cast-mates/band-mates for just plain being awesome singers and players! Drew also thanks his wife, Karen, and son, Thomas. "I love you both a ton!"

BONNIE OPPENHEIMER (CO-DIRECTOR)

Bonnie Oppenheimer is a professor of mathematics and associate department chair for Sciences and Mathematics at Mississippi University for Women. She has been seen on stage at *SCT* but has learned to prefer working behind the scenes in various roles. "What can you say about a job that allows me to watch the show every single night?" She thanks everyone in the awesome cast and crew for allowing her to grade papers as needed.

MARCUS VOWELL (ACOUSTIC GUITAR)

This is actually the fourth time Marcus has been onstage playing the guitar, having done so before in William Woods University's *Daddy's Dyin'*, *Who's Got the Will?* and *SCT's Smoke on the Mountain* and *Sanders Family Christmas*. Weird, because he's not particularly good at it. He's acted in a lot of other productions, and it would be tiresome and vain to list them all here. He loves his wife and family and thanks them and all of his friends for their support and is amazingly honored and enthused to be rocking out with this awesome cast, band, and killer director! In the words of PFC Vasquez: "Let's rock!"

ABOUT THE BAND & CREW

CAROLE SORENSON (DIRECTOR / PIANO)

What a fantastic experience this has been. John Brocato, I can't thank you enough for grinning every time we talked about this and for believing that it could be done. I have you to thank/blame for every single note played.

To our amazing musicians – John, Drew, Marcus, Jim, and Vinny – you were everything and more than I could have ever hoped for. Even when I didn't know myself what it needed to sound like, you did and just made it happen. It was my honor to have spent my summer with you. You have been both my right and my left arm.

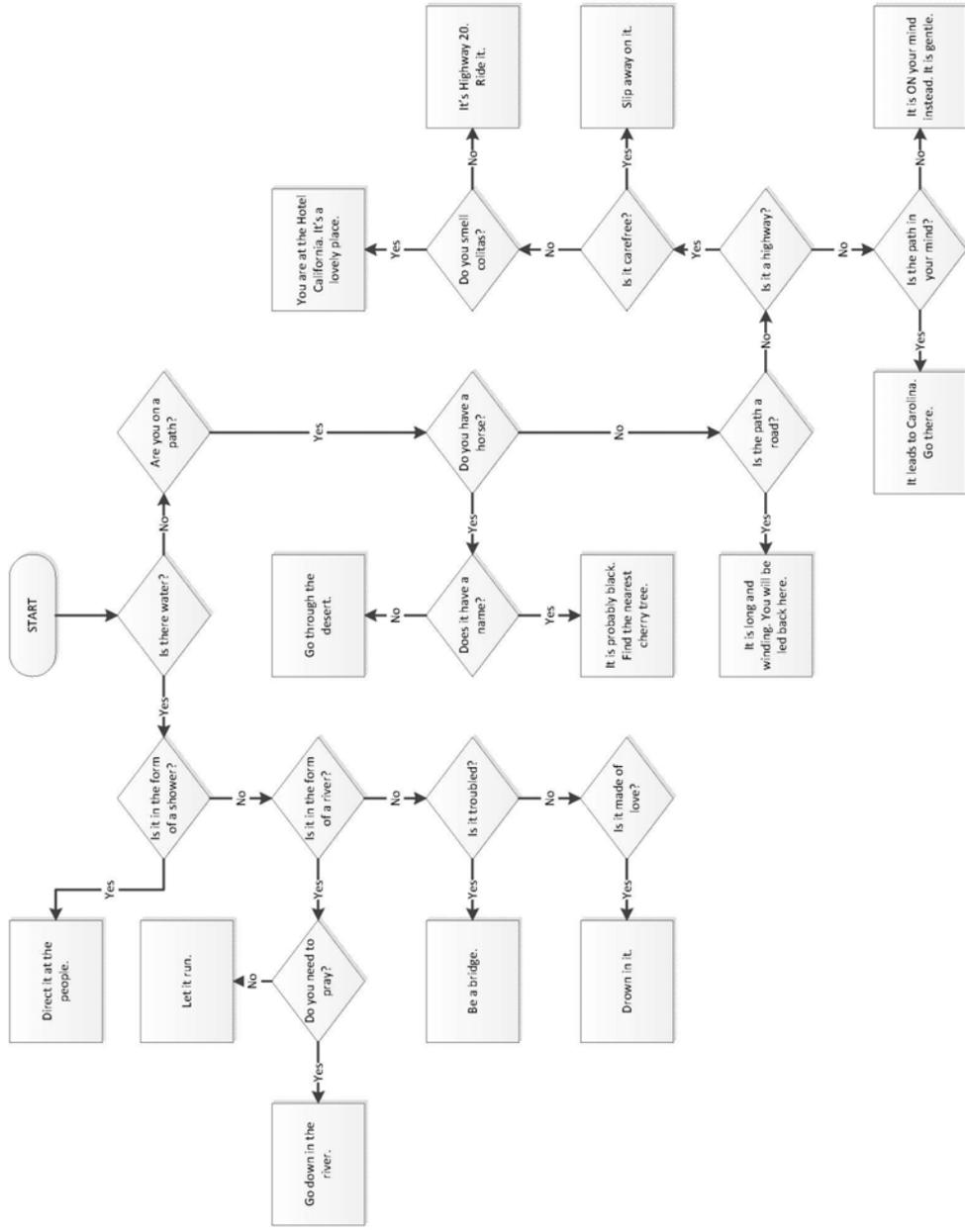
Lyle – how on earth would I have ever staged any of this without you? I'm not sure I even finished asking “would you help me with...” before you said “ABSOLUTELY!” You were my living, breathing Paxil.

Bonnie – I thank you for so many things but mostly for keeping things together when I couldn't figure out how to do that. You were an invaluable part of this process.

And, finally, to the cast – I asked a lot from you from the very beginning. I gave you lyrics but no music. I gave you poor instruction, but you rarely complained. I gave you challenges that were sometimes unreasonable, but you came through with more than I asked for – every time. You were the voices that have been in my head for almost a year. I love you all so much for taking a dream John and I had and making it real.

So, audience, some of the music you will hear tonight may bring back memories of a first kiss, a weekend with family and friends, or just a favorite song on the radio. No matter what, we want you to sing along and even dance if you need to. However you participate, do it big and loud and have a great time because we sure did.

Carole



Season Tickets On Sale Now!

Welcome to Starkville Community Theatre's 36th outstanding season!

Since 1978, SCT – in various locations across town, on the MSU campus, and finally at home at the Playhouse on Main – has staged over 135 plays, musicals, and revues and is steadily gaining recognition throughout the Southeast and the nation as a producer of award-winning, quality theatre. We also offer dynamic children's theatre workshops and productions via Project P.L.A.Y. and Rising Stars, and we showcase local playwrights, poets, and authors with our Fourth Fridays programming.

As always, your membership with SCT is what makes all of this and more possible. By purchasing your season ticket, you become an active member by helping produce our four regular-season productions. Your membership also helps maintain the Playhouse and fund the various projects in which SCT plays a role throughout the season. Most importantly, your membership secures for you a voice and a vote in the business of the Theatre. Our monthly meetings are where you can share your creative input and find out how best to get involved onstage, backstage, and in a multitude of other ways with SCT.

For SCT to continue in our growth, we need your help as members more than ever. This season, we are implementing a new Patron/Sponsor Program, and we want you to be among the first to take part in this exciting endeavor. Please pick up a season ticket brochure in the lobby where you will find details on this tax-deductible program. The Mary Eleanor Anderson Scholarship Fund continues to be available for your generous support, as well.

The play selection committee has read numerous scripts to select the four regular-season and one extra-season production for our 2012-2013 season, including a reprisal of one of our most successful and well-loved productions. Please take a few minutes to read up on the exciting plays and musical that comprise our season, which begins in September. Audition dates are included, as well. Why not make this season the season you step into the spotlight on the Playhouse stage?

I look forward to joining you there!

Lyle Tate
Vice President for Membership

*Congratulations to our 2012-2013
Officers & Board of Directors*

Officers

President - Happy Deas
Vice President-President Elect - Paula Mabry
Vice President for Membership - Lyle Tate
Vice President for Play Selection - Thomas La Foe
Treasurer - Bob Anderson
Secretary - Abigail Voller
Historian - Patricia Cox
Past President - Alison Stamps

Board of Directors

2010-2013

Karyn Brown
Walter Diehl
Linda Morse

2011-2014

John Hendricks
Lorraine Hughes
Amanda Clay Powers

2012-2015

Carolyn Abadie
John Forde
Paul Ruff



DESSERT RECEPTION HOSTS

Frank and Ann Bonner

Pattye Archer, Madeline Golden, Thomas La Foe and Alison Stamps

Beverly Norris and the Columbus Community Theatre

Debbie Dunaway, Jansen Fair, Terry McDowell and Marianne Ulmer

Lorraine Hughes

Paula and Don Mabry

SPECIAL THANKS

Instructional Media Center, Mississippi State University

Todd Hunt

Jim Beaty and Backstage Music

The Chalet

Lee Dempsey

Flexsteel

Thomas La Foe

Edwin Ellis

Nan Tate

Tupelo Community Theatre

Suzanne Oakley

Christopher Walrath

John (Boogie Daddy) Wells

Tabor Management

200 S. Montgomery, Suite 201

Starkville, MS 39759

(662) 324-0506

www.tabormangement.com



TABOR
management

NEWS & NOTES

Play Selection Volunteers Needed

MTA Play Selection

SCT is looking for volunteers to be on the play selection committee to decide the competition production. If you are interested, please email Vice President for Play Selection Thomas La Foe at tlafoe@gmail.com. The deadline to sign up for the committee is August 3rd. This is a great opportunity to volunteer. The committee will begin meeting the second week of August, and it will meet once or twice a week until a show is selected.

Season Play Selection

SCT is also looking for volunteers for its regular play selection committee. This committee consists of nine members, with three new members coming on each year. This committee is very active and meets regularly from October through April. Deadlines to submit your name to Thomas at tlafoe@gmail.com is September 14.

SCT General Meetings

Starkville Community Theatre holds its general monthly meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. These meetings are open to anyone interested in getting more involved in SCT. Please join us.

Upcoming meetings include:

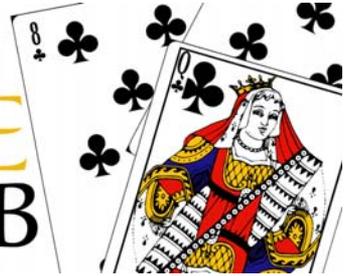
- Thursday, August 2
- Thursday, September 6
- Thursday, October 4
- Thursday, November 1

Fourth Fridays for 2012-2013

- Friday, August 24 - Flash Fiction
- Friday, September 28 - Plays
- Friday, October 26 - Poetry
- Friday, January 25 - Flash Fiction
- Friday, February 22 - Plays
- Friday, March 22 - Song Writing
- Friday, April 26 - Poetry

Presenting our 2012-2013 Season

 **OCTETTE**
BRIDGE CLUB



September 13-16 and 18-22, 2012



Six *Dance* Lessons
IN SIX WEEKS

November 8-11 and 13-17, 2012

 *The Fantasticks*

February 7-10 and 12-16, 2013

PAR  for the
CRPSE


April 11-14 and 16-20, 2013