

Spruill Properties
and Starkville Community Theatre present

A Catered a musical Affair

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music and Lyrics by John Bucchino

*Directed by Pattye Archer
Musical Direction by Haley Harper*

October 31-November 3
and November 5-9, 2013



Featuring
John Brocato
Michele Crescenzo
Madeline Golden
Ben Hughes
Lorraine Hughes
Jacob Jordan
Kris Lee
Ruth Marcec
Jessica Price
Marianne Ulmer

Produced by special arrangements with Rodgers & Hammerstein Theatricals.



A Catered Affair

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music and Lyrics by John Bucchino

The Cast

In order of appearance.

Winston	Kris Lee
Myra	Michele Crescenzo *
Pasha	Lorraine Hughes
Delores	Marianne Ulmer
Jane Hurley	Jessica Price
Ralph Halloran	Jacob Jordan
Sam	Ben Hughes *
Tom Hurley	John Brocato
Aggie Hurley	Madeline Golden
Mr. Halloran	Ben Hughes
Mrs. Halloran	Lorraine Hughes
Sergeant	Ruth Marcec
Bridal Consultant	Michele Crescenzo
Caterer	Marianne Ulmer
Alice	Ruth Marcec

* SCT Debut

The Setting

New York's South Bronx
The week following Memorial Day, 1953

There will be a 10-minute intermission between Act I and Act II.

The Production Team

Director	Pattye Archer
Musical Director	Haley Harper
Stage Manager	Alison Stamps
Set Design	Anthony Daniel & Pattye Archer
Set Construction.....	Marty Haug
Costumes	Pattye Archer & Sue Snow
Lighting Design	Thomas La Foe
Sound Design.....	Brad Moreland
Props	Kay Brocato, Debbie Dunaway & the cast and crew
Stage Crew	Claire Smith Greer * & Heather Box
Lighting Operator	Cameron McDonald *
Sound Operator	Brad Moreland
Poster Design	Pattye Archer
Pre-show & Intermission Music	John Archer
Photography	Matt Motes
House Manager Coordinators	Barry & Grace Ward
Box Office	Bob Anderson, Edwin Ellis and Marsha Williams
Opening Night Party	Brian Hawkins * First SCT show

A Memory Play

A Catered Affair is written as a memory play. “Memory play” is a term coined by playwright Tennessee Williams, describing his work *The Glass Menagerie*. In his production notes Williams says, “Being a ‘memory play,’ *The Glass Menagerie* can be presented with unusual freedom of convention.” As suggested, the play is presented as moments. Feelings and events are remembered by the narrator, in our case Winston. Winston “directs” the show’s action – sometimes talking directly to the audience and other times becoming part of the story itself.

Scene Breakdown & Musical Numbers

ACT I

SCENE 1: TENEMENT COURTYARD / FIRE ESCAPE

SCENE 2: JANEY'S BEDROOM AND FRONT STOOP OF THE BUILDING

PARTNERS Tom & Sam, Ralph & Janey

SCENE 3: THE HURLEY'S APARTMENT

RALPH AND ME Janey

SCENE 4: JANEY'S BEDROOM / LIVING ROOM

MARRIED Aggie

SCENE 5: TENEMENT COURTYARD - LATE AFTERNOON

WOMEN CHATTER Myra, Pasha & Delores

SCENE 6: THE HURLEY'S APARTMENT

NO FUSS Aggie

Scene 7: THE HURLEY'S APARTMENT

YOUR CHILDREN'S HAPPINESS Mr. & Mrs. Halloran

IMMEDIATE FAMILY..... Winston

OUR ONLY DAUGHTER Aggie

Scene Breakdown & Musical Numbers

ACT II

SCENE 8: BRIDAL SHOP INTERIOR

ONE WHITE DRESSJaney & Aggie

SCENE 9: CATERING HALL

VISION..... Aggie

SCENE 10: FIRE ESCAPE

SCENE 11: FIRE ESCAPE

DON'T EVER STOP SAYING I LOVE YOUJaney & Ralph

SCENE 12: THE HURLEY'S APARTMENT & TENEMENT COURTYARD

SONG – I STAYED Tom

MARRIED (REPRISE) Aggie

Scene 13: THE HURLEY'S APARTMENT

CONEY ISLAND..... Winston

SCENE 14: FRONT STOOP

DON'T EVER STOP SAYING ... (reprise)..... Ralph,
Janey & Tom

CONEY ISLAND (reprise) Winston & Company

About the Cast

John Brocato

John is delighted to be appearing in his third consecutive SCT show (known as an *onstage à trois* in theatre circles). He most recently appeared as a poker-playing accountant (how does that work, exactly?) in this season's *The Odd Couple* along with this past summer's revue, *Voices in the Night*. John was a veteran Blackfriar as an MSU undergrad before moving to Los Angeles with his band Skeleton Crew (on iTunes!), and he continues to write, record and perform both as a solo act and as a member of The Persians (on iTunes!) and The Tuffskinz. During the day, John teaches technical communication in the Bagley College of Engineering. He; his wife, Kay; and their kids – Bailey, Vinny and Sicily – don't wait until the scary feelings pass – they open up their eyes and soak in the view! (Love you guys so much!)

Michele Crescenzo

This is Michele's first show at SCT and her first time onstage after a brief, thirty-year rest. She has played "Jenny Diver" in *The Threepenny Opera* twice – at Rutgers University and at the Villagers Theatre in Somerset, New Jersey. She teaches in the English department at MSU and lives in the pastoral paradise of Ezra Pond with one husband and two dobermans. Michele thanks the wonderful cast and crew for a warm welcome and for their inspiring talent.

Madeline Golden

Madeline is thrilled to have the chance to play the role of "Aggie." Even though she delights in comedic roles, Madeline has definitely enjoyed delving into the heart and soul of "Agnes Hurley." And there's no place she'd rather be than onstage with her talented SCT family. "What a joy it is to work with these people! When you bare it all, so to speak, and pour all emotions into creating a character, the ultimate exhilaration is having that and more returned by a fellow actor." Madeline is also happy to add yet another name to her long list of SCT husbands (thank you, Papa Bear). Madeline thanks Pattye for casting her in this amazing role and Haley "for being our musical director and teacher." Many thanks also go to the fabulous crew – Brad, Claire, Heather, Cameron and Alison. "None of this would be possible without you. To our wonderful SCT audiences, thank you for your tremendous support. I hope you all fall in love with this show and this music as much as I have. And to my *Catered* family – 'finish up, or we'll be late. Tie your shoe. And be happy.'"

About the Cast

Ben Hughes

This is Ben's first appearance as an actor in an SCT production (or anywhere else, for that matter), but he has played a supporting role in the past for his acting wife and daughters. Ben is married to Lorraine Hughes (playing "Hillary Halloran" and one of the Window Women, "Pasha"). Ben and Lorraine have four daughters – Nora, Maureen, Lauren and Mary Kate – three of whom have also acted in or participated in SCT plays, Starkville High School Theatre, Summer Scholars and/or TheatreMSU. Ben has had lots of fun with the *A Catered Affair* cast and hopes to be one of the *Partners* on a future SCT show. Ben hopes that he doesn't embarrass his acting daughters too much because *you can't put a price on your children's happiness*.

Lorraine Hughes

Lorraine could not resist being part of a show that celebrates her birthplace. Yah... this Irish gal was born in da Bronx and loved yelling out "da windas and tawkin da tawk da way she hoid it in her yoot!" She even graduated from SUNY Maritime College located in Fort Schuyler, Bronx, NY. Of course, she was thrilled to work with Pattye again, as she did last fall in the *The Octette Bridge Club* and even got her real-life husband to play her onstage husband...as if anyone would believe that! Lorraine has been teaching mathematics at MSU for 14 years. All of her daughters are performers, two of whom have been on the SCT stage (Maureen and Mary Kate), and now Momma's getting into the act again. "This is habit forming!"

Jacob Jordan

Jacob returns to the stage at the Playhouse on Main for his fifth production. He attends East Mississippi Community College where he majors in secondary education in hopes to be a theatre teacher. You may remember him from *The Odd Couple*, in which he played "Vinnie." Jacob is very happy for the opportunity to be in *A Catered Affair* and sends thanks to his family, friends and Summer Scholars.

Kris Lee

Kris is an award-winning member of the Dramatists Guild of America and the Society for Stage Directors and Choreographers. A published writer, he is also a past Pushcart nominee and has recently begun his work on an MFA in playwriting through Spalding University.

About the Cast

Ruth Marceec

Dr. Ruth is thrilled to be welcomed back onstage for the second time at SCT. While she spends much of her time encouraging salamanders to reproduce, it is such a great joy and privilege to be able to spend her “off hours” with her SCT family. Ruth sends a big “thank you” to the wonderful cast and crew of *A Catered Affair* for such a fun experience. And, as always, she sends thanks to her dog and her salamanders for their constant patience while she rehearses. A special thanks to the cat for keeping his midnight meowing to a minimum during rehearsals this time around.

Jessica Price

Jessica is the Starkville High School drama teacher and is thrilled to be on stage for her 7th SCT production. Musical-wise, you may recognize her as the flirtatious “Ilona Ritter” from *She Loves Me* or the overachiever “Marcy Park” from *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Being a real-life newlywed, she has thoroughly enjoyed being able to live out the whole experience again – except this time she gets to sing about it (not like she didn’t anyway). She thanks her new husband, Madison, for being so supportive and taking care of their three babies .. err.. pets (shout out to Izzy, Evey & Tardis!) .. while she gets to participate in something she loves to do. To my *A Catered Affair* family: “Thank you for being so amazing, and remember: don’t eat the green beans.”

Marianne Ulmer

Marianne is glad to be back on stage with old and new friends. For almost 30 years she has enjoyed “playing” with SCT. Thanks to all of the people behind the scenes for their hard work – especially Haley, Brad, Alison, Claire, Heather and Cameron, and thanks to all of my friends on and off stage for their support and encouragement. As always, thanks to Allen for listening!



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From the Director

Marriage, as “Ralph” tells us, is not an escape. But I say theatre certainly is. Theatre allows each of us to suspend our disbelief, to put everyday life aside for a few hours and to experience a different time or a different place. And, if we are lucky, theatre allows us to look at the world through a different pair of glasses and maybe – just maybe – see things a little differently by the time the final curtain falls. *A Catered Affair* does that for us, and we hope it will for you as well.

I am thrilled to open the doors of our catered affair to you and to have you join us for an evening of drama, comedy, music and fun. This show touched my heart the first time I saw it, and after reading the script I fell more in love with its story, its characters and its heart.

I could not have asked for a better “partner” on this roller coaster ride than Haley Harper. What a treasure this lady is to Starkville, to SCT and to anyone who knows her. I would love to have one one-hundredth of her talent, but it is her caring soul and steadfast patience and belief that I admire most. Haley, I am so glad I finally get to be partners with you.

I also am so grateful to this cast for their dedication, hard work and their ability to bring these characters to life. These 10 individuals, along with our wonderful crew and volunteers, truly embody the spirit of community theatre. Thank you for believing in my vision. I'll be watching, from the little mirror over the windshield.

Alison, Claire, Heather and Cameron are the best crew! These folks know how to get things done. Techies get little credit, but these deserve a standing ovation. We also could not have done this show without Brad (though he really wanted us to). Brad – thank you, thank you.

I can assure you there is not a name of a person in this program to whom I am not grateful. But I have to give a special thank-you to Alison, Thomas, Madeline and Kris. You all not only did the “role” for which you are officially credited but also acted as my sounding board, lifted my spirits and pulled me back from the ledge when needed. I am so glad you “stayed.”

Finally, to our wonderful audiences and supporters – especially Lynn Spruill, who is the sponsor of this production – thank you. Without you, this ride would be pointless. So, open your eyes and heart, and enjoy.

Pattye

About the Musical Director

This is Haley's fourth show at SCT and she must add – her fourth show with the great (and possibly exhausted) John Brocato. Her previous piano-playing roles started back in 2010 with *Ug: the Caveman Musical*, and earlier this year with *The Fantasticks* and *Voices in the Night*. This is the first time Haley has conquered the generous title of Musical Director and thanks her “partner,” Ms. Pattye Archer for always trusting in her and supportive her 100% of the time. “I love you, Director Lady!” Haley also thanks Brad for providing “wonderful balance through the complicated, delicate world of sound systems, and for helping out with some sweet strings!” Haley would also like to thank the entire cast for being so patient and eager to work and learn through all of the long rehearsals and late nights. Haley feels so blessed to have worked with all of you – many for the first time. And of course, thank you to our wonderful backstage and lighting crew, Alison, Heather, Claire, and Cammy, for keeping me on my toes and giving me my cues – “Caked solid!” “Thank you again to everyone! This musical is very near and dear to my heart, as are all of you. Thank you for bringing joy to my life and tears to my eyes every night! ‘To know someone....it's like a day’.”

SUPPORT LOCAL THEATRE

The MUW Department of Theatre presents
Neil Simon's *The Good Doctor*
November 7, 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.
Cromwell Communication Center, Columbus

Theatre MSU presents
Wiley and the Hairy Man by Susan Zedler
Sunday, November 17th, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.
McComas Hall Mainstage

Starkville High School presents
Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp by Jack Neary
November 21 at 7:00 p.m.
SHS Theater, \$5

Special Thanks

Renee Baird
Isa Stratton-Beaulieu
Kay Brocato
Angie Carnathan
Stephen Cunetto
Anthony Daniel
Sean Dyess
Debbie Dunaway
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Brother Rogers
Andrew Rogers
Cindy Ruff
Sue Snow
Christopher Walrath
Marsha Williams
Theatre MSU
Christine's Couture
Rick's Furniture
The Flower Company

Set Construction

Marty Haug

Isa Stratton-Beaulieu
Heather Box
John Brocato
Austin Burns
Mike Caprio
Taylor Clark
Margaret Collins
Karen Miller Cook
Michele Crescenzo
Amanda Coelho Dos Santos
Edwin Ellis
M. J. Etua
Madeline Golden
Sophie Haug
Elizabeth Hawkins
Ben Hughes
Lorraine Hughes
Jacob Jordan

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Alex Orsak
Jessica Price
Tabitha Robinson
Paul Ruff
Carys Snyder
Douglass Thompson
Eryn Taylor
Marianne Ulmer
Austin Vollar
Tucker Vollar
Marcus Vowell

Our 2013-2014 Season

By Neil Simon

September 12-15



Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music and Lyrics by John Buchino

October 31-November 3
And November 5-9, 2013

By Robert Harling



By Marc Camoletti, Adapted
by Robin Hawdon

April 24-27 and
April 29-May 3, 2014

Join us for an evening of some
of your favorite holiday music!
December 10-14, 2013





AUDITIONS SET

Auditions for Steel Magnolias

Sunday, November 10 and Monday, November 11 at 6:30

Auditions will be cold readings. The show features six women, various ages. Contact director Paula Mabry with questions, paula.mabry@gmail.com. The Show runs February 13-16 and 18-22.

Set in Truvy's beauty salon, where all the ladies who are “anybody” come to have their hair done, wise-cracking Truvy and her eager new assistant, Annelle, dispense shampoos and free advice to Ouiser, (“I'm not crazy, I've just been in a bad mood for 40 years”); Miss Clairee, who has a raging sweet tooth; and the local social leader, M'Lynn, whose daughter, Shelby, is about to marry a “good ole boy.”



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TABOR
management

SCT's season performances are generally suitable for ages 12 and over. Children under the age of 6 are not admitted to SCT productions unless specifically noted otherwise in publicity for the show. Everyone who enters the theatre must have a ticket.

STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE 2013-2014 SPONSORS AND PATRONS

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