

Starkville Community Theatre presents

Marc Camoletti's

*don't  
dress for  
dinner*



April 24-27 and  
April 29-May 3

Directed by  
Gabe Smith

Featuring  
Heather Box  
Thomas La Foe  
Kris Lee  
Cindy Ruff  
Paul Ruff  
Madrina Stroup

▲ ▼  
ART WORKS.

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Produced  
by special arrangement  
with Samuel French, Inc.

The 2013-2014 season is funded in part by  
grants from the Mississippi Arts Commission  
and the National Endowment for the Arts.

  
SCT  
2014



# don't dress for dinner

By Marc Camoletti

Directed By Gabe Smith

## The Cast

In order of appearance.

Bernard .....	Kris Lee
Jacqueline.....	Madrina Stroup *
Robert .....	Paul Ruff
Suzette.....	Heather Box
Suzanne .....	Cindy Ruff
George.....	Thomas La Foe

\* SCT Debut

## The Setting

All action takes place on a fall evening  
at Bernard and Jacqueline's home  
- a renovated farmhouse in the  
French countryside,  
several hours from Paris.

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

# The Production Team

Director .....	Gabe Smith
Assistant Directors .....	Isa Stratton-Beaulieu
Stage Manager .....	Isa Stratton-Beaulieu
Set Design .....	Gabe Smith & Isa Stratton-Beaulieu
Costumes .....	Cast & crew
Lighting Design .....	Thomas La Foe
Music .....	Gabe Smith
Set Decorator .....	Cast & crew
Backstage Crew .....	Madeline Golden & Haley Harper
Lighting & Sound Operator .....	Kathleen Kirkland
Poster Design .....	Thomas La Foe
Photography .....	Rachel Cannady
House Manager Coordinators .....	Barry & Grace Ward
Box Office .....	Cam McMillan & Marsha Williams
Opening Night Party .....	Tess Graham & Terry McDowell

## Set Construction

Isa Stratton-Beaulieu  
Gabe Smith  
Thomas La Foe  
Kris Lee  
Heather Box  
Jonathan Johnson  
Madrina Stroup  
Paul Ruff  
Cindy Ruff  
Craig Ruff  
JJ Tabone  
Kara Tabone  
Melissa Shoemake  
Zach Shoemake  
Tara Ervin

# About the Cast

## **Heather Box**

Heather, an SCT veteran, is excited to be back on stage once again. Having been given opportunities to play many roles here, including directing her first show this season, *The Odd Couple*, she has thoroughly enjoyed becoming a cook/waitress/actress/model/mistress/prostitute and/or pig sty attendant for your entertainment in this production. Recently, Heather was the assistant director of SCT's 2013 MTA award-winning production of *Dinner with Friends* and was a member of the amazing tech team for Columbus' 2014 Tennessee Williams Tribute production, *Kingdom of Earth*, which won best overall technical excellence at MTA this year. She gives big hugs and kisses to her biological family, friends and her new "relation" for being patient, understanding and allowing her to be a part of the SCT family. "To Cindy Ruff, thank you for allowing me to tango with my hunky-unky and not kill me. And to the cast and crew of *Don't Dress...* one word... DUBEDAT!"

## **Thomas La Foe**

Thomas has been involved in many SCT productions as director, technician and performer and is glad to be onstage once again. Most recently he directed *Par for the Corpse*, set lights for *A Catered Affair*, sang in the holiday show *A Christmas Cabaret* and last performed as "Georg Nowack" in *She Loves Me*. Thomas works for MSU Libraries as an instructional technology specialist.

## **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.

## **Cindy Ruff**

You've likely seen Cindy onstage before...just maybe not this *much* of her...and never in a farce! Her past SCT performances include *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Dixie Swim Club*, *She Loves Me*, and last season's *The Octette Bridge Club*. She sends love and thanks out to Gabe, Heather, Isa, Kris, Madrina, Paul and Thomas for making this a crazy fun experience. Special thanks go to her children – Daniel, Craig and Reagan – for keeping the eye-rolls to a minimum when mom and dad had to go to rehearsal. By the way, it's true that she's having an affair with another member of the cast (shhhhh!). His name is...

# About the Cast

## Paul Ruff

...and he is no stranger to SCT or to farces (his favorite). You may have seen Paul in this season's opener, *The Odd Couple*, alongside Gabe Smith. If not, they'll be happy to reenact the entire play for you after tonight's performance. Paul thanks the entire cast and crew for making this experience something very special. Like Cindy, Paul thanks the kids but feels like they still owe him for providing for them and all. Most of all, he wants his wife to know that he considers himself extremely blessed to have a best friend as talented, gorgeous and fun as she is. "I'll always share the cowshed with you – I love you, babe!"

## Madrina Stroup

Having recently returned to Starkville, Madrina is a newcomer to SCT and is humbled and grateful to make her stage debut in this SCT production. She is very thankful to Gabe, Isa, Cindy, Heather, Kris, Paul and Thomas for having the patience of Job, for providing more support than a pair of Spanx and especially for creating more laughter than any "Seinfeld" or "Friends" rerun known to man. She also thanks Heather, Madeline, Pattye and the others who provided so much "behind-the-scenes" support. Madrina really looks forward to being involved in SCT.

# Special Thanks

Marianne Ulmer  
Evelyn Lowery  
Sue Snow  
Peachtree Hotel Group

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662-323-6855



# From the Director

Thanks, first of all, to anyone taking the time to read this note. If your eyes are on this sentence right now, it means you at least tangentially support community theatre and local arts, and for that, I thank you.

Everything we do at this theater is a labor of love, and it's all the more meaningful knowing we have an avid fan base of season ticket holders who will fill our aisles year in year out – not even many professional-level troupes have the luxury we do of such a warmly embracing community family on the other side of our stage.

Thanks as always to my theater, work, and actual families, who all fight for pieces of my attention day to day. A man isn't the sum of his verbally spouted ideas or his best intentions – he's what he does every day, and every day, I try to find more ways to spend time with, appreciate, and give back to these unique families I've been lucky enough to find my way inside.

Thanks to my cast for taking this ride with me and leaping with an extra ounce of faith every time I said “don't worry about it” or “more like a cartoon” or “here's something else to think about” – I'm so proud of the work everyone's put in and thankful for the level of trust you've shown in me and my warped sense of humor, and for freely giving the insane level of energy and imagination it takes to make this Spruce Goose lift off every night.

Thanks to my crew for doing the hard, thankless, hand-eye-coordinated dirty work that I could never do on my own. Without you, our set would be three matches, a flashlight, and some duct tape, and the cast would be in burlap sacks for costumes. We look great – that's all you.

Finally, thanks, Isa, for making my hunch that we'd be a good team come true exponentially. I can't say enough about the way you dove straight in and never stopped swimming or how easy this production has been in my shoes. It seems unfair, really, or like a juicy secret, to not only feel like you're doing good work but to share it with someone you respect and can utterly rely on, and to have a blast while doing it.

If you've gotten this far, you might as well read one last sentence. I truly hope you enjoy our show and will come back to see another soon.

*Gabe Smith*



## PROJECT P.L.A.Y. 2014

We are pleased to announce sign up for our 2014 Project P.L.A.Y. will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, May 3 and May 10, at the Playhouse on Main.

All children ages 5-18 are welcome.

This year's production  
*Gracelyn and the Amazing Flycycle!*  
was written by M. J. Etua,  
who serves as director of Project P.L.A.Y.

Rehearsals begin on June 2 and will run  
Mondays through Fridays from 1:30 to 3:30 PM

**June 23-27 at 7:00 p.m., and June 28 at 2 p.m.**

For more information contact M. J. Etua or Tina Green  
Join on us on Facebook @  
[www.facebook.com/groups/projectplay2013/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/projectplay2013/)



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### Hours of Operation:

7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday)  
and 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (Saturday)

### *Same -Day Service:*

Tuesday-Friday; in by 8:00 a.m. - out by 4:00 p.m.

# Ghost Light Honors Memory of Anderson

Starkville Community Theatre has purchased a “ghost light” in honor of the late Dr. Bob Anderson, a founding member, former president and long-time actor and director of SCT.

The ghost light has a long and storied history in the theatre world. Its name comes from one of the most prevalent superstitions in the very superstitious theatre world: ghosts! That’s right; most theatre folk believe all theatres, including the Playhouse on Main, have a ghost. Some say these ghosts are nice. (Ours is!) Others say these ghosts are not so nice... But most agree these

theatrical ghosts are the spirits of former actors, directors or techies. The reason for the ghost light varies from myth to myth. Some believe the ghost light is left on in order for the ghosts to be able to perform their own plays in the middle of the night when everything is shut down. Others believe it is bad luck (and bad business) for a theatre to be “dark” – i.e., without a show. So leaving a ghost light on is a superstitious way of making sure the house stays “lit.”



Of course the ghost light has a practical purpose, too. Empty theatres can be dark and scary. After all, they are designed to shut out natural light. So after the audience and most of the actors and crew are gone, the stage manager turns on the ghost light so people coming and going across the stage can cross safely. SCT has always left a light on just backstage. We are pleased now to have an official ghost light, and even more pleased it was purchased in memory of our friend, Bob.

## Tabor Management

200 S. Montgomery, Suite 201  
Starkville, MS 39759  
(662) 324-0506

[www.tabormangement.com](http://www.tabormangement.com)



**TABOR**  
management





Auditions for our 2014 Summer Musical Revue

## *Unexpected Song - Broadway Re-Revued*

will be Sunday, April 27 and Monday, April 28 at 6 p.m.  
at the Playhouse on Main

The show runs Thursday, July 24-Saturday, July 26  
and Thursday, July 31-Saturday, August 3

Those wishing to audition are asked to please prepare one or two verses and a chorus of one (or two contrasting) musical theatre song(s) that showcase vocal range and personality.

Haley Harper will accompany,  
please bring your sheet music with you.

Also, please bring a calendar or list of dates that you are not in town / not available during May, June and July.

For this show there will be featured roles and ensemble roles. Those selected for ensemble roles will perform in full company numbers, back up for some solo or duets, and small group numbers.

If you have questions, please contact director Pattye Archer at [parcher@library.msstate.edu](mailto:parcher@library.msstate.edu)

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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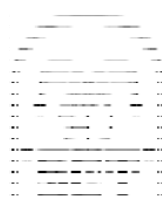
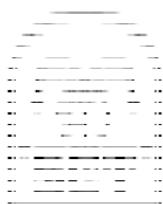
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Bob & Pam Collins  
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Robert & Peggy Wolverton



## **Join us as we select our 2014-2015 Season**

Attend the general meeting on Thursday, May 8  
at 6 p.m. at the Playhouse on Main and vote on our  
2014-2015 Season  
and our 2014-2015 Officers and Board members.

***Patrons:***

Angella Baker	Lynn McAdams
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**SCT Annual Banquet**

**Thursday, June 5, 2014**

Watch for details - coming soon!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

## PRODUCTION SPONSORS



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## SEASON SPONSORS



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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.