

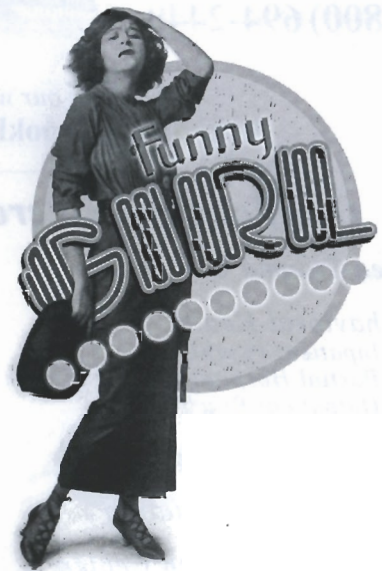
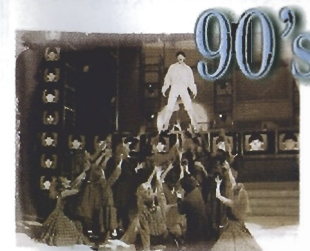
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# A Note from the Producer

Welcome to the 51st season at Gateway Playhouse! We have spent the winter preparing to bring you the very latest releases from Broadway, and are thrilled to be staging four of its most recent musical hits, as well as two beloved American classics.

*Smokey Joe's Café* was Broadway's longest running musical revue, and its score of nearly 40 great songs from the Fabulous Fifties will show you why. *West Side Story's* retelling of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet featuring the dynamic music of Leonard Bernstein and the Tony-winning choreography of Jerome Robbins is as relevant today as it was when it debuted 40 years ago. *Jekyll & Hyde* will keep you on the edge of your seat as the spellbinding tale of one man's struggle against his evil alter-ego unfolds. The biography of Fanny Brice, the Ziegfeld Follies comedienne, is the subject of *Funny Girl*, the show that made Barbra Streisand a star. *Footloose*, based on the Kevin Bacon film, boasts an irresistible Top-40 score and electric dance numbers. Finally, we present the swashbuckling romance, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, based on the classic Baroness Orczy story set against the French Revolution.

We are also happy to report that this season is already one of our most successful - in April, we posted the highest first-day of ticket sales in our history. We are grateful for your support as we proudly present another summer of blockbuster entertainment.

-Paul Allan

#### On The Cover:

Top to Bottom: 50's-Bus Stop, 60's-Gypsy/Sound of Music Casts, 70's-Pippin, 80's-Once On This Island, 90's-Tommy



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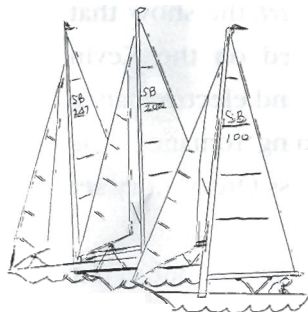
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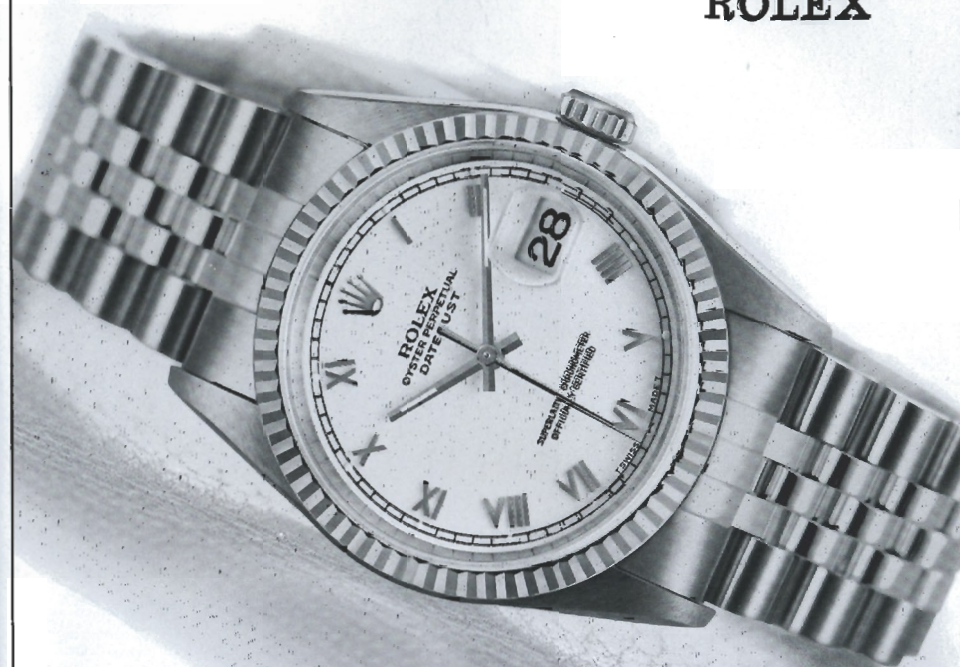
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Lyrics by **BOB MERRILL**

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Original production  
directed by  
**GARSON KANIN**

with

**JODY MADARAS**

**KIRK MOUSER**

**CAROLE SCHWEID**

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**JEFF BELLANTE**

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**ROBIN JOY ALLAN**

Company Manager  
**STANLEY SCHORR**

Lighting Design  
**KIM HANSON**

Production Stage Manager  
**ERIN KRAUS**

Costumes Design  
**Y. MICHELLE COLLYAR**

Set Design  
**W. JOSEPH STELL**

Sound Design  
**GREG REIF**

Musical Direction  
**PHYLLIS GESSLER**

Co-Choreographer  
**PAULA SLOAN**

Direction and Choreography by  
**BOB DURKIN\***

**ssdc**

The Director/Choreographer is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and  
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*Funny Girl* is presented through special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.,  
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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Fanny Brice .....	ELLIE GROSSO*
John, Stage Manager .....	ZEPHYRUS WHITE
Emma .....	GABRIELLE STRAVELLI
Mrs. Brice .....	CAROLE SCHWEID*
Mrs. Strakosh .....	ANN D. HURST*
Mrs. Meeker .....	BONNY HUGHES*
Mrs. O'Malley .....	SUSAN SCUDDER*
Tom Keeney .....	STEVE LUKER*
Eddie Ryan .....	JODY MADARAS*
Tenor Soloist .....	STEPHEN WARD BILLEISEN*
Nick Arnstein .....	KIRK MOUSER*
Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr. ....	DARREN MATTHIAS*
Singers, Dancers, Workmen and Showgirls.....	STEPHEN WARD BILLEISEN*, MEGAN BOWEN, JAMES CORROTHERS, JESSICA HILLMAN, MATTHEW LaBANCA*, PETER LESKOWICZ, LAURA MCKENZIE, KEVIN MOLLIKA, CHRISTIE LEIGH NORMAN, JENNIFER LEIGH SCHWARTZ, MICHELE UTZIG & ZEPHYRUS WHITE

## UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

Fanny Brice .....	GABRIELLE STRAVELLI
Nick Arnstein/Eddie Ryan .....	MATTHEW LaBANCA*
Mrs. Strakosh/Meeker/O'Malley .....	JESSICA HILLMAN
Tom Keeney .....	ZEPHYRUS WHITE
Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr. ....	JAMES CORROTHERS

## THE BAND

Conductor .....	PHYLLIS GESSLER
Keyboards .....	JEFF HOFFMAN
Reeds .....	JEFFREY LENCE, CHAD SMITH & LARRY WOODALL
Trumpet .....	DAVE DERIENZO
Trombone .....	KENICHI NINOMIYA & DIANE HOFFMAN
Horn .....	NOBLE RAWLS
Bass/Cello .....	JORDAN JANCZ
Percussion .....	ROB MURPHY



\*Actors employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



The Musicians employed in this production are members of the American Federation of Musicians.

**WARNING** - The photographing or sound recording of any performance is strictly prohibited.

Gateway Playhouse offers a wireless sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired. Inquire at the box office for more information.

**FIRE NOTICE** The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy, is the shortest route to the outside. In the event of fire or other emergency, please do NOT run. WALK to that Exit. However, under normal circumstances, when leaving the Theatre, use the center rear exits. **SMOKING** is prohibited in the BUILDING, as required by the Suffolk County NO SMOKING Ordinance. Smoking in any area designated "No Smoking" renders the offenders subject to a fine, or imprisonment, or both.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT I

Overture .....	Orchestra
<b>Scene 1: FANNY'S DRESSING ROOM - NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE</b>	
"Poker Chant" - No. 1 .....	Mrs. Brice & Mrs. Strakosh
"If a Girl Isn't Pretty" .....	Mrs. Strakosh, Brice, Meeker & O'Malley
<b>Scene 2: BACKSTAGE - KEENEY MUSIC HALL</b>	
"If a Girl Isn't Pretty" - cont'd .....	Eddie
<b>Scene 3: IN FRONT OF KEENEY MUSIC HALL</b>	
"If a Girl Isn't Pretty" - cont'd .....	Heckie, Workmen, Card Players & Keeney Group
"I'm the Greatest Star" .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 4: BACKYARD - FANNY'S NEIGHBORHOOD</b>	
"I'm the Greatest Star" - Reprise .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 5: ON STAGE - KEENEY MUSIC HALL</b>	
"Eddie's Fifth Encore" .....	Eddie
"Cornet Man" .....	Fanny & Dancers
<b>Scene 6: BACKSTAGE AND CHORUS DRESSING ROOM</b>	
"Nicky Arnstein" - No. 1 .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 7: MRS. BRICE'S KITCHEN</b>	
"Who Taught Her Everything?" .....	Eddie & Mrs. Brice
<b>Scene 8: BACKSTAGE - THE NEW YORK THEATRE</b>	
<b>Scene 9: ON STAGE - THE NEW YORK THEATRE</b>	
"His Love Makes Me Beautiful" .....	Tenor Soloist, Chorus & Fanny
<b>Scene 10: IN FRONT OF FOLLIES CURTAIN</b>	
"I Want to be Seen with You Tonight" .....	Nick & Fanny
"Nicky Arnstein" - No. 2 .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 11: HENRY STREET</b>	
"Henry Street" .....	Chorus
"People" .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 12: INTERIOR OF MRS. BRICE'S SALOON</b>	
"Poker Chant" - No. 2 .....	Mrs. Brice & Mrs. Strakosh
<b>Scene 13: A PRIVATE DINING ROOM - BALTIMORE</b>	
"You are Woman, I am Man" .....	Nick & Fanny
<b>Scene 14: BALTIMORE RAILROAD TERMINAL</b>	
"Don't Rain on my Parade" .....	Fanny

### ACT II

Entr'Acte.....	Orchestra
<b>Scene 1: THE ARNSTEIN LONG ISLAND MANSION</b>	
"Sadie, Sadie" .....	Fanny & Chorus
<b>Scene 2: MRS. BRICE'S SALOON</b>	
"Find Yourself a Man" .....	Eddie, Mrs. Brice & Mrs. Strakosh
<b>Scene 3: BACKSTAGE - NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE (CIRCA 1920)</b>	
"Rat-Tat-Tat-Tat" .....	Eddie, Jenny & Chorus
<b>Scene 4: ONSTAGE - NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE</b>	
"Rat-Tat-Tat-Tat" - Part 2 .....	Fanny, Jenny & Chorus
<b>Scene 5: FANNY'S DRESSING ROOM</b>	
"Who Are You Now?" .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 6: THE ARNSTEIN'S STUDY</b>	
"Don't Rain on My Parade" .....	Nick
<b>Scene 7: BACKSTAGE - NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE</b>	
"The Music That Makes Me Dance" .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 8: ONSTAGE - NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE</b>	
"Music That Makes Me Dance" - Cont'd .....	Fanny
<b>Scene 9: FANNY'S DRESSING ROOM</b>	
"Don't Rain on my Parade" - Reprise .....	Fanny

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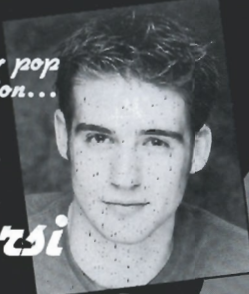
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Who's Who...

**STEPHEN WARD BILLEISEN** (*Ziegfeld tenor/Dance captain*) has recently appeared in the national tours of *Hello Dolly!* and *Chicago*. Last summer he appeared as *Tony* in *West Side Story* at the West Virginia Public Theater. Regionally he has worked as both an actor and a dancer at the West Virginia Public Theater, Theatre by the Sea and the Byham Theater in Pittsburgh, PA. Stephen has also been an associate choreographer to Bob Durkin on *Pippin* at WVU, on *My One and Only* at Theater by the Sea in Rhode Island, and on a concert tour of *The Three Irish Tenors - An Evening of Irish Song and Dance*. This fall he will be assisting him on *The Boyfriend*, *Funny Girl* - national tour, *Big River* - national tour, and once again with *The Three Irish Tenors*.

**MEGAN BOWEN** (*Ensemble*) just completed the National Tour of *Crazy for You*. This proud Minnesotan graduated from St. Olaf College with a BA in Theater and Political Science. In Minnesota, she co-founded the Gremlin Theater Company and danced with Zenon's Block E Company. Favorite regional/college credits include Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Suzanne in *Don't Dress For Dinner*, *The Wizard Of Oz* (Mill Mountain Theater) and *Tommy* (Cherry County Playhouse)

**JAMES CORROTHERS** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be back at Gateway for his third season. Last year he was seen in *Best Little Whorehouse*, *South Pacific* and *Yankee Doodle Dandy*. National tours include Gerald in *Me & My Girl*, Eugene in *Crazy for You* and *Anything Goes*. Regional credits include Greg in *A Chorus Line*, Harry Beaton in *Brigadoon* and just recently *On the 20th Century*. James would like to thank his parents for all of their love & support.

**ELLIE GROSSO** (*Fanny Brice*) is thrilled to be back at Gateway where she previously played *Amnesia* in *Nunsense* and *Ethel Cohan* in last summer's *Yankee Doodle Dandy*. Since then Ellie appeared in *As Thousands Cheer* at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach, the Vineyard Theatre Company's *Opera, Appelemando's Dreams*, *Pets* at the New 42nd Street Theatre and recently performed with Lily Tomlin at the 2001 Drama Desk Awards. She played Gloria Thorpe in *Damn Yankees* with Jerry Lewis, which also played London's West End and currently performs comedy and characters around NYC. ILYG. She wishes to express gratitude & love for the theatre, family, friends and Gary.

**JESSICA HILLMAN** (*Ensemble*) is happy to be returning to Gateway, where she appeared in *Wizard of Oz* and *Here's Love*. She just returned from the national tour of *Crazy for You*, where she played the role of Tess. She has worked at numerous regional theaters across the country and also outside the U.S. at the Oxford Playhouse in England. She created roles in the NYC premieres of *Queen of Hearts* and *Soap Opera*. Favorite roles include Stepsister Portia in *Cinderella*, and both Chava and Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Jessica is a graduate of Cornell University and would like to thank her friends and family for their support.

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# Fanny Brice

Born Fania Baroch in 1891 to immigrant saloon-owners on the Lower East Side, Fanny Brice knew at an early age that her future was in show business. She changed her name and dropped out of school after eighth grade to become a chorus girl. Her first big break came a year later in *The College Girls* when she sang Irving Berlin's "Sadie Salome, Go Home" with a put-on Yiddish accent, although she spoke no Yiddish.

Fanny was cast in the *Ziegfeld Follies* at the age of 19, and set about becoming a star. To get a song written especially for her, she bribed Ziegfeld's two songwriters with her mother's home cooking. Fanny eventually appeared in all but two of the *Follies* from 1910-1923, more than any other star.

Although she possessed both grace and a beautiful singing voice, Fanny became famous as an ethnic comedienne and her efforts at dramatic Broadway roles failed. She incorporated her vocal talent into her act, and became identified with the songs "Second Hand Rose" and "I Should Worry". In 1918 she married Jules "Nicky" Arnstein, a handsome gambler and con man, to who she was devoted, in spite of his infidelity. In a rare non-ethnic performance in 1921 while Arnstein was in Sing Sing for illegal wiretapping, she moved the Follies audience to tears with her rendition of "My Man".



Arnstein was convicted of bond theft in 1924, despite Fanny's funding of his legal defense at great expense. Upon his release in 1927 he deserted her and their two children and she reluctantly divorced him. Another marriage to Broadway showman Billy Rose would also fail.

After the last of the *Ziegfeld Follies*, Fanny would appear in several motion pictures including *My Man* (1928), *The Great Ziegfeld* (1936) and *Everybody Sing* (1938), then discovered radio and launched her own show featuring the character of Baby Snooks, a precocious toddler making sly observations about the adult world, which she had first created for her vaudeville act in 1912. The show was very popular and lasted until her death from cerebral hemorrhage in 1951 in Hollywood.

Fanny had disliked the films based on her life - *Rose Of Washington Square* (1938) and *Broadway Thru A Keyhole*

(1933), and shortly before her death had approved a script by Ben Hecht to be produced by her son-in-law, Roy Stark. With her death the project collapsed, until 1960 when Stark and his wife Frances Arnstein decided to turn the screenplay into a stage musical, creating the concept that would eventually become *Funny Girl*.

Presents

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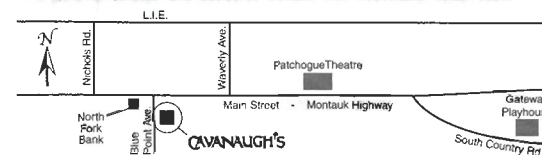
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**BONNY HUGHES** (*Mrs. Meeker*) is delighted to be making her Gateway debut in *Funny Girl*. She has performed in all the 48 continental states, from east to west, Canada and throughout the Far East. Some of her favorite roles include Anna in *The King and I*, Mona in *Best Little Whorehouse...*, Joanna Markum in *Move Over Mrs. Markum*, Mrs. Pierce in *My Fair Lady*, Maggie in *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* and Alma Hix in *The Music Man*. Bonny enjoys working on new works for stage and film, and does TV work, including "Strangers With Candy," "Ghost Stories," "Law & Order," "Special Victims Unit," commercials and film.

**ANN D. HURST** (*Mrs. Strakosb*) happily returns to Gateway where she was last seen as Mrs. Pierce in *My Fair Lady*. Other appearances on the Gateway stage include, Julia in *Lend Me a Tenor*, Mrs. Medlock in *Secret Garden*, and Yenta in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Ann recently won the South Florida Critics Award for her portrayal of Clara Weiss, Molly Picon's role in *Milk and Honey*. Ann has appeared on stages from Singapore to Sarasota in such pro-

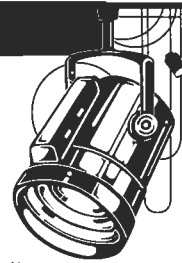
ductions as *70 Girls 70*, with Marilyn Cooper, *Zorba*, *Bells Are Ringing*, *Damn Yankees*, to name a few. She is thrilled to be back in New York seeing old friends and hopefully making new ones.

**MATTHEW LABANCA** (*Ensemble/u/s Nick Arnstein/Eddie Ryan*) has toured the country with productions of *The King and I* (Kralahome, King u/s), *Anything Goes*, starring Gloria Loring, and most recently, as Bobby in *Crazy for You*. Last autumn, he had the honor of dancing beside Broadway legend Chita Rivera in PaperMill Playhouse's production of *Anything Goes*. Some regional roles include: Sparky in *Forever Plaid*, Elliot in *The Goodbye Girl*, Pharaoh in *Joseph....Dreamcoat*, The Waiter in *She Loves Me*, and Bernardo in *West Side Story*. Matt makes his Gateway debut direct from West Virginia Public Theatre's production of *Annie*, where he performed the role of Rooster. For Tracy, Christine and Adam—I love you guys!

**PETER LESKOWICZ** (*Ensemble*) just returned from a year long National Tour of *Footloose*, the musical which began last summer at Harrah's Atlantic City. Having spent his childhood performing just about everywhere else on Long Island, he is thrilled to finally be making his Gateway debut. Other favorite credits include *Gypsy* (Tulsa), *West Side Story* (Baby John) and *A Chorus Line* (Mark).

**STEVE LUKER** (*Tom Keeney*) is delighted to be returning to the Gateway family having played Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd in last summer's, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. He has appeared in over 75 stage productions from National and European tours (*Footloose*, *42nd St.*) to regional companies such as Goodspeed

## PREPRODUCTION



The curtain rises and the audience settles back to enjoy another Gateway show. What they may not realize, is that while one show is running, the administrative team is working two or more shows ahead.

Casting Director Robin Joy Allan begins thinking about the season in March when she starts auditioning in Manhattan. "This is the time to get the best leads and singer/dancers possible, before all the other regional theaters across the country scoop up the cream of the crop of the musical theater talent pool," she said. "This year we contracted several leads in the early spring. All spring and summer long, while one show is in rehearsal, we are at least two shows ahead in casting. As Artistic Director this summer, I find it an interesting process to be involved in the fine-tuning of the show about to open, the pre-production mindset of the show about to go into rehearsal, and the creative force behind the casting of the next one or two shows down the line. Working on three shows at once you sometimes have to switch hats very quickly, it's challenging and that's what I love...it keeps you on your toes."

While one show is running, the next show's set is under construction, and Technical Director Bobby Edgar must find a

way to utilize his crew so both run smoothly. "I have to figure out who will be best in particular positions for the current show while making sure that I have the appropriate carpenters available for the build of the next show. I also like to bring in as overhires a couple of really good shop carpenters to help with the build, but during changeover it's more a question of manpower because we don't have a lot of time to load the sets in once they are built."

The cast, creative team, and musicians live at Gateway, so except for the first and last show of the season, two casts are in residence while one show is in performance and the next is in rehearsal. "I am currently maintaining the living quarters for the present *Funny Girl* company, but my mind is on the housing needs for *Footloose*," said Company Manager Stanley Schorr, "and I am also in the process of offering contracts to actors for *The Scarlet Pimpernel*."

"It becomes a way of life," said producer Paul Allan, "During the course of a day I find myself dealing with issues involving the current production, while at the same time, keeping track of the next show being mounted. I get daily reports from the stage manager which are very helpful; I'm given a full accounting of what transpired in rehearsal and also a 'behind the scenes' report on the prior day's performance. It's quite a juggling act to make sure all shows get the attention they need, and that answers and resources can be channeled to each production in timely fashion." Working on several shows at once can be complicated and challenging, and the Gateway staff bring to bear all of their organizational skills to produce seamless entertainment each and every show.

## Lazy Daisy



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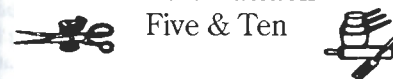
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## Who's Who... continued

(*Red, Hot and Blue*), and Theatre By The Sea (*Evita*) to Cruise Ships (*George M*) to Dinner Theatre, Las Vegas, Summer Stock, State Fairs, Business Theatre and more. He originated the role of the Warden in the new musical, *Mandela* at the Houseman Theatre in New York City and has appeared in over 500 schools with his educational program, *Fire Safety Magic*. Steve's TV appearances include *Cosby*, *Painted Lady*, the *New You Asked for It*, and numerous commercials. He is currently working with State Assemblyman William Scarborough to produce an energy conservation video for children entitled, *The Invasion of the Energy Snatchers*. Much love to Luker and Noona families, especially wife Susie.

**JODY MADARAS** (*Eddie Ryan*) was last seen by Gateway audiences as the Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz* and is thrilled to be returning to the Playhouse! GATEWAY CREDITS: Frank in *Show Boat* and Gerald in *Me And My Girl*. REGIONAL: *Red, Hot and Blue* (Goodspeed Opera House), *Dick in Lady Be Good* (Ct Rep), Rupert in *High Spirits* (Berkshire Theatre Festival), Billy in *42nd Street* (Flatrock

Playhouse), *Godspell* w/Rex Smith. Bobby in *Crazy For You* (1st Euro-tour, Westchester Broadway, SS Norway) Graduate of University of Michigan. Thanks to Paul and Robin for another summer in Bellport!

**DARREN MATTHIAS** (*Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr*) TOURS: *Macbeth* (King's Head/London and Red Pear/Antibes, Nice and Valbonne), *Tommy* (J.Finn Productions) and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Livent with Donny Osmond). REGIONAL: *Another Time*, *Stepping Out*, *The Song of Jacob Zulu* (Steppenwolf); *Riverview* and *Never the Sinner* (Goodman); *Equus*, *Candide*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and the *Wizard of Oz* (Cincinnati Playhouse); *Arcadia* (Clarence Brown); *Bent*, *The Shadow Box* and *Poor Super Man* (Phoenix); *Of Thee I Sing* (Remains); *90 North* (Kennedy Center). STOCK: *Jekyll & Hyde* (Gateway Playhouse). FILM: *Bringing Out The Dead*, *For Love of The Game*; *Center Stage*; *You've Got Mail* and *At First Sight*. TV: *Sex and The City* (HBO); *OZ* (HBO). www.darrenmatthias.com

**LAURA MCKENZIE** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be making her Gateway debut in *Funny Girl*. She recently finished the national tour of *Crazy For You*. Other credits include; Radio City Rockette and Zaneeta Shinn in *The Music Man*. Love and thanks to family and friends for their continuous support.

**KEVIN MOLLICA** (*Ensemble*) is happy to return to the Gateway Playhouse after appearing in *Here's Love* in 1999. Other past productions includes *42nd Street*, *Anything Goes*, *No No Nanette*, *State Fair*, and *Annie Get Your Gun*, and has performed at such places as American Musical Theatre of San Jose, Carousel Dinner Theatre, The Palace Theatre of New Hampshire, and the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse.

**KIRK MOUSER** (*Nick Arnstein*) has performed the roles of *Marius* in *Les Miserable* (1st & 3rd Nat'l), Raoul in *The Phantom of the Opera* (Hamburg), Nicholai in *Chess* (Nat'l Tour), Descant in Leonard Bernstein's *Mass* at The Vatican City. He received a Jeff Award Nomination for his portrayal of Che in *Evita* (Chicago). At Gateway's Candlewood Theatre, he was seen as Max in *Lend Me a Tenor*. Kirk is the Director of Education and Associate Managing Director of Luna Stage Company in Montclair, NJ.

## Who's Who...

**CHRISTIE LEIGH NORMAN** (*Ensemble*) trained at the prestigious School of American Ballet in NYC. Upon completion, she began her career on Broadway with Disney's *Hercules Summer Spectacular*. Christie has also performed with Disney Cruise Line and toured the world with illusionist David Copperfield with whom she appeared on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno. She is thrilled to be with Gateway Playhouse this summer.

**CAROLE SCHWEID** (*Rose Brice*) danced on Broadway in *Minnie Boys*, played Fastrada for Bob Fosse in *Pippin*, and was a member of the original cast of *A Chorus Line*, which won a Pulitzer Prize and ran for 15 years. Regional Theatre Highlights: *Broadway Bound*, *Crossing Delancy*, *Working* and Libby Holman in *Scandalous* (Sag Harbor). A veteran of dozens of TV and Off Broadway Shows, she travels around the country presenting her one-woman show on Agnes de Mille. She is a graduate of Juilliard.

**JENNIFER LEIGH SCHWERER** (*Ensemble*) joins the cast directly from Radio City Music Hall where she performs as a Rockette in *The Christmas Spectacular*. Other credits include Patsy in the national tour of *Crazy for You*, Marty in *Grease* and *Will Rogers Follies*. She is thrilled to be performing at Gateway Playhouse with so many great friends. Thanks to sis. Where would we be without each other?

**SUSAN SCUDDER** (*Mrs. O'Malley*) is delighted to be back at Gateway having previously been seen here as Parthy in *Showboat* and Aunt Em in *Wizard of Oz*. This past year, she originated the role of Roz in *Ob Messiah*, Me at Manhattan Theatre Source, played Mrs. Kramer in *The Twilight Ladies* at NY Tribeca Playhouse, Louisa in *Sessions* at the Greenwich Theatre and Alice in *The Little Years* at MTS

**GABRIELLE STRAVELLI** (*Emma/u/s Fanny*) is thrilled to be making her professional debut in New York at the Gateway Playhouse. She is a recent graduate of the University of Cincinnati College - Conservatory of Music where she performed such roles as Mickey in *My One & Only* and Rita La Porta in *Lucky Stiff*. Gabrielle has also appeared at Don't Tell Mama Cabaret where she performed her one-woman show, *Blame It on My Youth*, directed by Craig Carnelia.

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**MICHELE UTZIG** (*Ensemble*) joins the cast of *Funny Girl* after finishing the national tour of *Crazy for You*. She was also seen around the country in the *Peter Pan* tour. Favorite shows include *Sweet Charity*, *Tommy*, *Cabaret*, *Working* (Roberta Victors) and *Oklahoma* (Gertie Cummings). Michele has a B.A./Special Major in Dance Performance from the State University of NY at Buffalo. She sends all her love to her family and RR "Turns out not where but who you're with that really matters". Always!

**ZEPHYRUS WHITE** (*John/Ensemble*) is happy to be making his debut at the Gateway Playhouse. He attended Oklahoma City University where he majored in Musical Theatre. Zephyrus performed for three years as a company soloist with the Metropolitan Ballet of Wichita. He understudied the Role of Bill Snibson in the Williams Center for the Arts Production of *Me and My Girl*. Some of Zephyrus' favorite roles to date are Bobby in *Crazy for You* and Will Parker in *Oklahoma!*

**PAUL ALLAN** (*Producer*) is proud to be presenting the 51st season of live theatre here at the Gateway Playhouse. Growing up at and around Gateway, Paul is proud to be a part of the realization of his family's vision inspired by his grandfather many years ago. The theatre has now diversified into many different areas, including touring productions produced nationally and internationally, and a successful set rental company. Other endeavors include the operation of Candlewood Playhouse in New Fairfield CT between 1993 and 2000 with his partner John Hodge, and recently the restoration and renovation of the Patchogue Theatre. Some of Paul's favorite projects to date include *Tommy*, *Pbantom*, and *Once On This Island* here at Gateway Playhouse - and *Titanic* at the Patchogue Theatre, which was the first live musical presentation on that stage since 1934.

**BOB DURKIN** (*Director/Choreographer*), before coming to Gateway Playhouse this season, recently completed a very successful production of *My One and Only* for Theater by the Sea in Rhode Island, one of the oldest and most prestigious summer theater's in the United States. Following that he directed *Little Shop of Horrors* for Saint Michael's Playhouse in Burlington, Vermont and directed and choreo-

graphed two shows, *Annie* and *Anything Goes* for the West Virginia Public Theater in Morgantown, WV. His work has been represented both nationally and internationally in tours of *Dreamgirls*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Anything Goes*, *Purlie*, *The Goodbye Girl*, *One mo' Time*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *They're Playing our Song*, *Hello Dolly*, *Crazy for You*, *Big River*, *Funny Girl*, and *Ain't Mtsbehavin*. In 1997 he was the recipient of the Connecticut Critic's Circle Award for outstanding choreography for his work on *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. He was Tommy Tune's co-choreographer for the pre-Broadway workshops of *Easter Parade*, starring Tommy Tune and Sandy Duncan, both in Sydney, Australia and in New York City. Bob's work has been seen by audiences in Brazil, Columbia, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Austria, Finland, Ireland, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, all over the United States and in Canada. He is pleased to return to Gateway Playhouse and is grateful for the opportunity to work with Ellie Grosso again. This is their second production of *Funny Girl* together. He is also pleased to be working with co-choreographer Paula Sloan, with whom he mounted a very successful national tour of *Crazy for You* this past year.

**PAULA SLOAN** (*Co-Choreographer*), a native of Oklahoma City, OK is extremely pleased to be working at Gateway Playhouse. In her other life, Paula is a member of the dance faculty at the High School for Performing and Visual Arts in Houston, Texas and the artistic director of the Texas Tap Ensemble. As always, many thanks to Bob Durkin for the opportunity to work with him again and to be a part of *Funny Girl*. Much love to Mary Sue, Paul and husband, Lars.

**PHYLLIS GESSLER** (*Musical Director*) has done over 30 shows here including favorites, *Grand Hotel*, *Peter Pan*, *Grease*, *Groucho*, & *West Side Story*. Last summer after musical directing *South Pacific* here, she went to Singapore with *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*. This year she will return to St. Petersburg, Florida where she teaches voice and musical directs at the local Magnet Arts High School and freelances at various Floridian Theatres. Ms. Gessler is also proud of her work on *Loves Labours Last* at American Stage's Shakespeare in the Park, also in St. Pete.

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**ROBIN JOY ALLAN** (*Casting and Artistic Director*) has been immersed in theater her whole life, performing, musical directing, teaching, directing, producing and most enjoyably, observing many, many great actors and directors work. In 1985 she began her casting career in New York and then Los Angeles, where she had the pleasure of working with Ron Howard, Rob Reiner, Jerry Zucker and Chris Carter (pre-X-Files!) on several projects as Associate and Casting Director, including: *Parenthood*, *When Harry Met Sally* and *Ghost*. She led the search for unknowns, discovering Balthazar Getty for the remake of *Lord of the Flies*, and cast Leonardo DiCaprio in his first TV series-regular role in 1989's *Parenthood*. She is dedicated to the educational development of young actors and, along with her husband Lorrin, has founded Gateway Acting School for that purpose. Her greatest accomplishment to date is her beautiful daughter, Hayley Lynn.

**ERIN KRAUS** (*Production Stage Manager*) is thrilled to be back at Gateway for the third season. She recently returned from stage managing the national tour of *The Will Rogers Follies*. Erin has just finished her third year at Emerson College where she is pursuing a B.F.A. in Production Stage Management. Erin would like to thank everyone at the Gateway Playhouse for all their support the last few years. She would also like to thank Russ and Brigid and of course Mom and Dad who inspire her everyday.

**W. JOSEPH STELL** (*Scenic Designer*), Emeritus Professor of Drama and Design at the University of Georgia, is a freelance designer who has provided scenery and/or lighting for dramas, musicals and ballets at such theatres as the Alliance Theatre (Atlanta), Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia), McCarter Theatre (Princeton), Manitoba Theatre Centre (Winnipeg, Canada), the Baltimore Opera, West Virginia Public Theatre, Gainesville (GA) Theatre Alliance, and Off-Broadway. In the Southeast Region, he designed the premieres of *The Reach of Song* (Georgia's State Historical Play) in Young Harris, GA, *And Grace Will See Me Home: The American POW Play*, and *Searching For Innocence: Phnom Penh*, 1996 for World Communities in Americus, GA. He designed scenery and lighting for three different productions of an original drama, *Streets of Gold* in Uniontown, PA. He has worked with Bob Durkin on two other occasions, but this is his first venture with Gateway Playhouse.

**KIM HANSON** (*Lighting Designer*) is a veteran of many Gateway productions. National and International tours he has designed include *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *A Chorus Line*, *42nd Street*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Song and Dance* and *Evita*. Gateway Playhouse productions, to Mr. Hanson's credit include *Anything Goes*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Camelot*, *Gypsy*, *Groucho*, *Peter Pan* and his first show at Gateway, the unforgettable *Baby*. Kim has been the resident designer for Chen and Dancers, and the New American Ballet Ensemble and has provided lighting and production management for various artists such as Ray Charles, Barbara Cook, Gregory Hines, Bobby Short, Chita Rivera, Tommy Tune, Robert LaFosse, and Darci Kistler.

**Y. MICHELLE COLLYAR** (*Costume Design*) received a B.A. in Theatre and Dance from Viterbo College in La Crosse, WI and an M.F.A. in Costume Design and Technology from the University of Mississippi. She has taught Theatre Costuming, the history of fashion, and Dance at Eastern New Mexico University as resident designer and as Professor of Theatre at Southern Illinois University. Michelle has designed for professional theatres and dance companies across the nation and most enjoys designing for Broadway dancers. She has most recently joined Costume World, Inc. to head their design team.

**GREGORY REIF** (*Sound Designer/Engineer*) This summer marks Greg's third season with Gateway Playhouse. This past year, after designing Wagner College's production of *Joseph... Dreamcoat*, Greg headed south to work in Miami, Florida, at the Coconut Grove Playhouse as Mainstage Audio Engineer, as well as serving as designer for *The Price* starring Jack Klugman and Dan Lauria. Engineer credits included *Master Class* with Rosemary Prinz, *Art* with Judd Hirsch, *Dinner with Friends*, and *Say Goodnight Gracie* starring Frank Gorshin. Gregory is a recent graduate of Emerson College and holds a BFA in Lighting and Sound Design. He looks forward to another season with the Coconut Grove Playhouse in October. Favorite designs include: *Follies*, *Showboat*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Joseph... Dreamcoat*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and Gateway's world premier production of *Yankee Doodle Dandy*.

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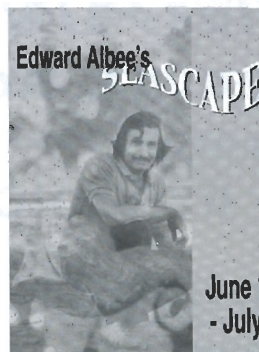
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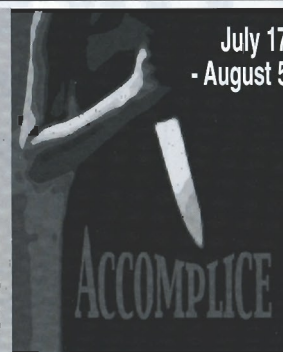
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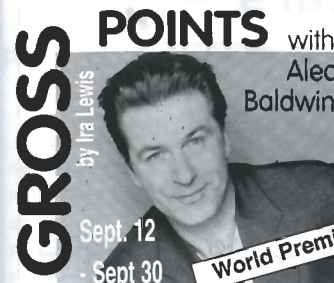
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September 1



Phone orders are accepted.

Tickets will also be sold at the door, the morning of the show.

Sorry, ~~Children~~ children ages 2 and older only - No Infants Please.

Shows subject to change without notice.

