



Playbill for McCoy Theatre Reunion Caberet

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McCoy Theatre
is



Reunion Cabaret

With

Barry Fuller

Pete Montgomery

Carole Blankenship

Teresa Morrow

Wes Meador

Sean Lyttle

Christina Wellford Scott

Jonathan Russom

Dustin Pappin

Ann Sharp

OLD FRIENDS
MCCOY THEATRE REUNION
CABARET

Conceived, Written, & Directed by
Dustin Pappin, Sean Lyttle,
Wes Meador & Teresa Morrow

Choreography by
Courtney Oliver

Production elements designed by
Michelle Lyn Cook-Brown,
David Jilg, & Sarah Stepp

Stage Manager & Props Master
Leigh Ann Evans

Production & Costume Crew

<i>Celia Mason</i>	<i>Stephen Rintoul</i>
<i>Amy Gray</i>	<i>Amy Noelle Haygood</i>
<i>Shannon King</i>	<i>Michelle Luby</i>

Tonight's Cabaret will feature a selection of songs from past musical productions performed on the McCoy Stage.

Cabaret

Chicago

Into the Woods

Sweeney Todd

*A*ssassins

Merrily We Roll Along

Anyone Can Whistle

Company

Dippin

Little Mary Sunshine

Ernest in love

Blood Brothers

Little Shop of Horrors

Robber Bridegroom

PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Wonderful Town

CAROUSEL

Candide

FANTASTICKS

THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND

BARRY FULLER. Barry, under the guidance of Tony Lee Garner, has been involved with the McCoy Theatre since its beginning in 1980. He directed the opening production, *Candide*, and followed this with a string of 13 musicals, the McCoy Benefit performances and 2 straight plays, including the memorable 8 hour production of *Nicholas Nickleby* and his favorite production of *Sweeney Todd*. His credits around the city are numerous, having acted or directed at all major theatres, community and professional. He has won many awards for both acting and directing over the years including the Lifetime Achievement Award for services to Memphis theatre.

ANN GOTSHALL SHARP. Ann is a 1971 alum who has enjoyed the McCoy for all of its 25 years. She was privileged to work in *Sweeney Todd*, *Anyone Can Whistle*, *On the Razzle*, *Gondoliers* and *Candide* (revival). The 11 McCoy benefits are treasures of her theatrical and personal memories. She's worked on many Memphis stages and the McCoy will always hold a special place in her heart.

WES MEADOR. Wes returns to the McCoy stage for the first time since graduating from Rhodes in 2000 with degrees in theatre and English literature. While a student at Rhodes, He performed in *The Shadow Box*, *Ernest in Love*, *Our Country's Good*, *Assassins*, *The Actor's Nightmare*, *Blood Brothers* and *J.B.* Over the past few years, Wes has been involved with Theatre Memphis and Circuit Playhouse, having assistant directed *Amy's View* and *Lost in Yonkers* with Cookie Ewing and having performed in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *The Lion in Winter* and *Hamlet*. Next on the agenda for Wes is directing *Tongue of a Bird* at the McCoy Theatre in February.

DAVID JILG. Having worked with all of the performers in the past and having designed elements of several of the musicals represented in the Alumni Cabaret (*Carousel*, *Pippin*, *Chicago*, *Ernest in Love*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and both productions of *Candide*, to name a few), David – who graduated from Rhodes in 1979 – really appreciates the labor of love presented tonight.

SARAH STEPP. Sarah is delighted to return to the McCoy Theatre. A 2001 graduate, Sarah is now the Director of Development and Special Events for Opera Memphis. While at Rhodes, Sarah worked behind the scenes on several shows, including *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Soul of A People*. Other credits include costume designs for the New Ballet Ensemble's productions of *Nut Mix* and *Slaughter on Tenth Avenue*.

LEIGH ANN EVANS. Leigh Ann is a Rhodes alum from the class of '89, and had the distinct pleasure of working with and learning from Cookie Ewing, Laura Canon, and Tony Lee Garner during her years at the McCoy. Her last alumni involvement at the McCoy was as the director of *Escape From Happiness*. While she was a student, she appeared in *The Children's Hour*, *Ladies at the Alamo*, and *On the Razzle*, as well as wearing many technical hats behind the scenes. Since graduating from Rhodes, she has remained active within the theatre community – some favorite shows include *Lost in Yonkers*, *Cloud Nine*, *Who Will Carry the Word*, *The Children's Hour* (director), *Sea Marks* (director), and *Pride's Crossing*. She would like to thank cast and crew for their energy and dedication.

PETE MONTGOMERY. Pete, a 1999 Rhodes graduate, is thrilled to be back home at the McCoy and to be working with such a talented group of McCoy veterans. His many McCoy credits include Eddie in *Blood Brothers*, Argan in *The Hypochondriac* and Dodge in *Buried Child* among others. Pete just recently played Cogsworth in *Beauty and the Beast* and Sancho in *Man of La Mancha* at Playhouse. Other Memphis credits include *Jekyll & Hyde*; *Amy's View*; *Death and the Maiden*; *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* and *Cloud 9* among others. During the day, Pete slaves away as an advertising executive with Archer>malmo. Pete dedicates this performance to all of his old McCoy pals who could not be here tonight.

CAROLE CHOATE BLANKENSHIP. Carole, an '85 grad of Rhodes, returns to the McCoy after working as vocal coach in 2004's production of *And the World Goes Round*. In addition to her position as Assistant Professor of Music here at Rhodes, Carole is a member of Rhodes' MasterSingers Chorale, and has played several roles in productions at University of Memphis' Opera Theatre. She is also a voice teacher and regional soloist and recitalist, playing a range of venues throughout the area. Carole serves as the Memphis chapter president for the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

CHRISTINA WELLFORD SCOTT. Christina graduated from Rhodes in 1973 and has been active at the McCoy and in the wider Memphis theatre community ever since. At McCoy, Christina has been seen in *Sweeney Todd*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Gnadiges Fraulein*, *Night of the Iguana*, *The Seagull*, and the *Sondheim and Sondheim Revue*. Other roles in the community include Maria Callas in *Master Class* and Blanche Dubois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, both at Theatre Memphis. This year, Christina won the Ostrander Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in *A Man of No Importance* at Circuit Playhouse. Christina is a teacher at Hutchison.

SEAN D. LYTTLE. Sean graduated from Rhodes in 1999 and returns to the McCoy stage for the second time since graduating. He was seen in last year's production of *And The World Goes Round*. As a student, Sean appeared in *Blood Brothers* (Narrator), *Pippin* (Leading Player) and *Assassins* (Czolgosz). Sean has also appeared in several productions at Playhouse on the Square including *Children of Eden* (Cain/Japheth), *Chess* (Arbiter) and *The Rocky Horror Show* (Riff-Raff). Sean is a member of the Rhodes MasterSingers Chorale.

JONATHAN M. RUSSOM. Jonathan is the most recent graduate appearing in the ensemble, having graduated in 2002. While a student, Jonathan appeared in *Gianni Schicchi* (Renuccio), *Into the Woods* (Jack) and *Blood Brothers* (Mr. Lyons). Jonathan has been active in several productions at Theatre Memphis over the past several years including *A Little Night Music* (Henrik), *The Fantasticks* (Matt) and *42nd Street* (Andy Lee). Jonathan is an elementary school teacher with the Memphis City Schools.

TERESA MORROW. Graduating from Rhodes in 1983, Teresa had the privilege to play clarinet for McCoy's inaugural production *Candide* and also for *Carnival*. On stage she appeared in *Something Unspoken* (Grace), *The Crucible* (Abigail), *The Chalk Garden* (Madrigal), and she played 10 roles in *Nicholas Nickleby*. Teresa began her training as an assistant director to Cookie Ewing for *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tempest*, and *Loves Labours Lost*. After a 17 year absence from Memphis, Teresa was very happy to return and to have directed *On the Verge* last year for The McCoy.

DUSTIN PAPPIN. Dustin returns to work in the McCoy after serving as Musical Director for *And the World Goes Round* last season. Having worked in most of the theatres around Memphis as either Musical Director or Piano-Conductor, his credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Pippin*, *Always...Patsy Cline*, *Beehive*, *Once on This Island*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *The Last 5 years*, *Nunsense*, and *Have a Nice Day* in addition to other cabaret performances. He is also an accomplished pianist with an equally long list of musicals for which he has played piano or keyboard.

KEMPER DURAND. Kemper was the drummer for ten of the McCoy Benefit Concerts under the direction of Tony Garner and numerous McCoy Theatre musicals. He played multiple shows at Playhouse on the Square and Theatre Memphis, including the international-award winning production of *Tintypes*. An amateur photographer, his works are shown at the Jay Etkin Gallery. Recently named to the "Best Lawyers in America", Kemper is a partner in the Memphis law firm of Thomason, Hendrix, Harvey, Johnson & Mitchell.

COURTNEY OLIVER. Playhouse on the Square's PR Director, Courtney has been choreographing around the Memphis area for the past four years and is thrilled to make her debut at Rhodes. Choreography credits include Playhouse on the Square's productions of *Guys & Dolls* and *Nine* as well as joint projects – *Peter Pan* and Ostrander Award-nominated *Man of La Mancha* – with fellow dancer Lindsey Roberts. Courtney holds a BA in Theatre and English from the University of Alabama and would like to send love to her best friend, Rory.

A special thank you goes out to the following for their support:

archer>malmo
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A NOTE FROM THE MCCOY ALUMNI

Last fall the McCoy Theatre was endowed by the Harry B. McCoy Charitable Trust, an organization with a long-standing history of supporting the McCoy's efforts. The endowment is currently being used to fund the costs of expanding the physical space of the theatre to create our first rehearsal hall, space for classes and offices for the theatre faculty. Ground breaking for the addition took place in August, and the building is scheduled for student use next fall. While we are thrilled that the McCoy will finally have more space for teaching and performing, and the faculty offices will be in one location, there are still holes needing to be filled and funding is lacking.

If the McCoy endowment is not replenished after the building's construction, the theatre department will not have the opportunity to continue to grow and challenge future artists. Scholarships are needed for current and prospective students - and a visiting artists program **must** be established for theatre. These are two important elements to the theatre department's educational mission.

As alums of the McCoy stage, we believe that the McCoy provides important educational and experiential activities that are essential to a solid liberal arts education. Our college experiences helped us understand ourselves and the world around us and, in some ways, continue to impact decisions we make daily. We want to ensure that a similar program of study exists for current and future students.

Since this is the 25th Anniversary Season, we thought this would be the perfect opportunity to reach out to alumni and friends to help support the theatre and the students. Over the course of the year, we'll be campaigning to raise funds to help cover items ranging from production costs to scholarships to visiting artists to other projects that are important to the education of students here at Rhodes.

Would you join us in our endeavor to ensure that the McCoy is well-funded to provide the experiences necessary to a successful educational program?

You can make a one-time donation tonight or you can use the card in your program to make a pledge (one time, monthly, annually, etc.), and we can follow up with you later. We can accept cash, checks or credit cards. Or, if you aren't ready to make a pledge tonight, but would like to hear more about our efforts - fill out the card and we'll send you more information.

Thanks for joining us tonight as we kick off our fund-raising campaign amongst our old and new friends.