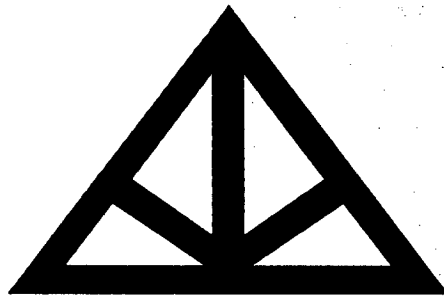


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Playbill for Rodgers and Hart: The Songs of Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart

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**McCoy Theatre
Rhodes College**

presents

The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams

The Marriage of Figaro

by Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais
adapted by Richard Nelson

CHICAGO

Book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse
Music by John Kander
Lyrics by Fred Ebb

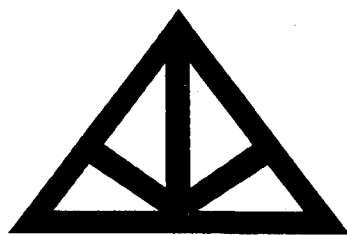
The Illusion

by Pierre Corneille
freely adapted by Tony Kushner

Ninth Annual Benefit

**The Music of
Rodgers and Hart**

Season 14



**McCoy Theatre
Rhodes College**

presents

The Ninth Annual Benefit Concert

Rodgers & Hart:

The Songs of Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart

featuring

Tony Lee Garner

Carla Good

Kent Fleshman

Barry Fuller

Jude Knight

Ann Sharp

Jeremy Ramey

Frankie Grace

Kemper Durand

Devised and Directed by Bennett Wood

Musical Direction by Tony Lee Garner

Choreography by Barry Fuller

Scenery and Costumes by David Jilg

Lighting by Laura Canon

Stage Manager—Marla Rolfs

Assistant Stage Manager—Heather Coleman

This production is underwritten in part by
The Noreen Cathey Mallory Theatrical Fund.

Rodgers & Hart

"As Rodgers and Hart see it." *Time* magazine reported in 1938, "what was killing musicomedry was its sameness, its tameness, its eternal rhyming of June with moon. They decided it was not enough to be just good at the job; they also have to be constantly different also. The one possible formula is: Don't have a formula!"

By 1936, Richard Rodgers had been writing melodies to Lorenz (Larry) Hart's words for about 20 years—since the composer was 17 and the lyricist 23—and a quick look at their songs shows that *Time* had described their lifelong credo. Rodgers, like his contemporary George Gershwin, enjoyed devising standard length, 32-bar refrains so that each one sounded completely distinctive; Hart, as Rodgers wrote once, was always "violent on the subject of rhyming in songs, feeling that the public was capable of understanding better things than the current monosyllabic juxtaposition of 'slush' and 'mush.'"

The combination of these two temperaments produced striking results: as the musical theatre historian Stanley Green has put it, the Rodgers and Hart collaboration "was a near-perfect combination of frequently sharp, sophisticated lyrics set to music that was just as frequently warm and lyrical."

Special Thanks to:

Amro Music Store
Margaret Welch

Musical Numbers

On Your Toes Company
Manhattan Company

Got to Be, Can't Be

It's Got to be Love Ann
Here in My Arms Kent
Falling in Love With Love Carla
Happy Hunting Horn Tony & Boys
That Terrific Rainbow Jude & Girls
Blue Room Barry & Ann
I Married an Angel Tony
You're Nearer Kent & Carla
You Mustn't Kick It Around Barry
Lover Jude
This Can't Be Love Company

A Cozy Little Nest

Mountain Greenery Ann & Kent
Den of Iniquity Barry & Carla
There's a Small Hotel Tony & Jude

That's Show Biz

Roxy Music Hall Barry
Johnny One Note Carla

Where's That Rainbow?

Spring Is Here Tony
Little Girl Blue Jude
A Ship Without a Sail Kent
Why Can't I Ann
This Funny World Carla

You Took Advantage of Me Ann & Barry

Fascinating Women

The Most Beautiful Girl in the World Kent
Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered Ann
The Lady Is a Tramp Tony
To Keep My Love Alive Jude

Too Good to Be True

It Never Entered My Mind Carla
He Was Too Good to Me Jude

Conversation with Flying Plates

Everything I've Got Ann & Tony
I Wish I Were in Love Again Barry & Jude

Hat Number

Sing for Your Supper Girls

Isn't It Romantic

Isn't It Romantic Company
Where or When Kent
My Heart Stood Still Carla
Wait Till You See Her Barry
My Funny Valentine Ann
I Didn't Know What Time It Was Tony
My Romance Jude
With a Song in My Heart Company

Who's Who

The McCoy Theatre is deeply grateful to the artists who have contributed so generously of their time and talents to this concert.

Laura Canon (light designer/technical director) returned this year to the McCoy after a four-year absence. While away, she did post-graduate study at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Laura has designed the lighting for most of the McCoy productions, was set designer for *Carnival*, *Wonderful Town*, and *Brecht on Brecht* and on stage was the unforgettable Salome in *The Robber Bridegroom*.

Heather Coleman (assistant stage manager) is a sophomore voice major. She is a member of the Rhodes College Singers and Rhodes Chorale and recently played the role of Cherubino in the Rhodes Music Department's concert version of *The Marriage of Figaro*. Heather made her McCoy debut as June in *Chicago*.

Kemper Durand (percussion) has set the beat for several McCoy productions, including *Cowardy Custard* and seven previous Benefit Concerts. If you ever need a lawyer with a great sense of rhythm, Kemper is your man.

Kent Fleshman was last seen as Pish-Tush in Opera Memphis' *Mikado*. He also played John Jasper in Theatre Memphis' *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. This is Kent's third Benefit, and he has appeared at the McCoy in *Company*.

Barry Fuller has appeared in numerous Benefit Concerts and has directed many of the McCoy's most memorable shows: *Company*, *Candide* (twice), *Sweeney Todd*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *The Gondoliers*, *Little Mary Sunshine*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, and most recently, *Chicago*.

Tony Lee Garner is Artistic Director of the McCoy Theatre, Chairman of Rhodes' departments of theatre and music and conductor of the Rhodes College Singers and Rhodes Chorale. His contributions at the McCoy range from performer, director, to musical director in many productions and he has performed in all nine Benefit Concerts.

Carla Good returns to the McCoy for her second Benefit Concert and was seen in the McCoy's production of *Company* playing the neurotic bride. Other credits include playing the schizophrenic Rosa Bud in Theatre Memphis' *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Carla is a member and soloist of The Gary Beard Chorale, and in her "spare time" works for Varsity Spirit Corporation.

Frankie Grace (bass) has played "in the pit" of a host of musicals in the city. She has played in all eight of the previous Benefit Concerts at the McCoy as well as in nearly all our musical productions over the last thirteen years.

David Jilg (set and costume designer), last year placed second at the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival national design competition for his *King Lear* set design at Tulane University. He was recently notified of his nomination for New Orleans *Gambit's* Big Easy Awards for best set design and best costume design for *The Pirates of Penzance* at Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre.

Jude Knight is well-known as a leading lady in Theatre Memphis musicals: *My Fair Lady*, *Oh Coward!*, *Camelot*, *The Sound of Music*, *She Loves Me* and most recently, as Drood, in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. At the McCoy, she has appeared in seven previous Benefit Concerts and *The Mound Builders*.

Jeremy Ramey (piano) is a Rhodes graduate, has received his M.M. from Northwestern University and has done post graduate study at Juilliard, Curtis Institute of Music. At age 18, Jeremy played his first McCoy Benefit Concert!

Marla Rolfs (stage manager), is a junior theatre major and was most recently seen at the McCoy in *The Glass Menagerie*. In addition, played Martha in *The Children's Hour* at Germantown Community Theatre and designed lights for the Little Theatre at Theatre Memphis.

Ann Sharp has been seen in all Benefit concerts at the McCoy as well as in *Sweeney Todd*, *Anyone Can Whistle*, *On the Razzle*, *Candide II* and *Company*. She performs frequently at Theatre Memphis, most recently in the musicals *Into The Woods* and *I Do, I Do*.

Bennett Wood has been associated with all of the previous McCoy Benefit Concerts, either as director, deviser or director/deviser. He has also directed for the McCoy *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Mound Builders* and *The Tempest*. He has appeared onstage at the McCoy in *The School for Scandal*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *Nicholas Nickleby* and *The Gondoliers*. His next project is co-directing Stephen Sondheim's *Follies* with Sherwood Lohrey at Theatre Memphis, opening June 8.