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August 12-21, 2021

Directed by Scott Waddell

PROUD
Mary
THEATRE COMPANY

Sordid Lives is presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. ConcordTheatricals.com

SORDID LIVES

by Del Shores

Directed by Scott Waddell

Starring

Our Cast Brother Boy - Scott Waddell

Dr. Eve - Susie Kocher

Ty - Zachary Urban

Latrelle - Samona Jilton McMillan

Noleta - Jada LaShay Bell

Sissy - Lori Lee

Lavonda - Elizabeth Colson

Juanita - Patty Bloomer

Wardell - Ken Snart

Odell - Sandy Staggs

G.W. - Mark Monaghan

Bitsy Mae - Jessie Cantrell

Stage Manager

Samantha Jemmott

Hair & Makeup Design

Sun Jane Schwalm

Producer

Sandy Staggs

Lighting Tech

Quinn Davis, Max Davis

Costume & Wig Styling

Samantha Jemmott & Sun
Jane Schwalm

Scenic Design

Sandy Staggs & Scott
Waddell

Scenic Painting

Katherine Rausch

SPECIAL THANKS: Artists Collective Spartanburg,
Spartanburg Little Theatre, Samona McMillan, Tim Drum

Casket for SORDID LIVES courtesy of



Tommy Harris



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Director's Note

by Scott Waddell

Somebody posted on Facebook a couple of years ago “Theater is life!” I re-posted it and thought nothing more about it. Last year was difficult for many people—Black Lives Matter; George Floyd and Breonna Taylor; the Covid pandemic and over 500,000 deaths. Everything shut down—the schools, the restaurants, businesses and yes, theater. I did *Sordid Lives* virtually in the summer of 2020 and Spartanburg Little Theatre’s *Love Under the Stars* virtually this Valentine’s Day, but something didn’t feel “right.” The magic of theater is the audience. Performing live gives me such a thrill, an adrenaline rush unlike anything else. We are finally getting back to “normal”, whatever that is! I used to complain about having to go to play practice, music rehearsals and set builds. You never really know how much you miss those things until they are taken away from you. Finally, we get to perform *Sordid Lives* to a REAL audience! I’ll never take practicing for a play/musical for granted again!

To my wonderful cast—WE DID IT! I’m so proud of the work you ALL have done! It was my pleasure to be your director, but most of all for you to become my friends! Sandy—thank you for entrusting me with this show—I hope I didn’t let you down! To my wonderful mentors—Jay Coffman, John Fagan, Mary Nicholson, Gail Bagwell and the other countless directors I’ve had the pleasure of working with for over 40 years—thank you for cheering me on and your faith you put in me! To Randy and our families—thank you for letting me go my own way and forgiving me when I had play practice and missed our family time together. And lastly to my theater friends, from college to Summerville, from Atlanta to Greenville, from SLT and TLT—WE’RE BACK and I’ll never take for granted that Facebook post ever again! THEATER IS LIFE! At least mine is! Enjoy the show, o-kay? ☺

F. Scott Waddell
Director

Our Cast

Patty Bloomer (JUANITA) from Gaffney is so excited to be a part of the cast and crew of *Sordid Lives*. This is her first show with Proud Mary and is thrilled to be given this opportunity. Some of her acting roles include Chick Boyle in *Crimes of the Heart*, the Principal in *Who’s Crazy Now* and Martha Gillette in *The Game’s Afoot*. Her absolute favorite role is theatre mom to J.R., Coby and Katie. She has produced many shows at Gaffney Little Theatre where she also serves on the Board of Directors.

Susie Kocher is playing doctor **Dr. Eve** and is honored to share the stage with Scott Waddell and all of the wonderful cast! Huge thank you’d to our director and friends from The Proud Mary Theater Co. She would like to dedicate all of the performances to her mother Dolores Dore who passed away last September. Susie traveled to Chicago the week before opening to

celebrate the life of this feisty Irish legend! My mother would have come to this show but would have been shocked by Dr. Eve’s shenanigans!!

Jessie Cantrell (BITSY MAE) is new to the Proud Mary stage! She has loved getting to work with this great group of people! She has a BA in Theatre from Limestone College. Some of her favorite acting credits include Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*, Princess Fiona in *Shrek the Musical* and Euterpe in *Xanadu*. She has directed & choreographed at the Gaffney Little Theatre, where she was recently elected as a board member and has taught camps & classes at the Spartanburg Youth Theatre. Many thanks to Sandy and Scott!

Jada LaShay Bell (NOLETA) is thrilled to be returning to the Proud Mary stage! She was last seen in *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*. She has a BFA in Theatre from Limestone College. Some of her favorite acting credits include Mattie Fae in *August: Osage County*, Penny in *You Can’t Take It With You*, Poppy in *Noises Off*, and Jimmy Wyvette in *The Red Velvet Cake War*. She has directed numerous shows at the Gaffney Little Theatre, where she serves as a board member. Jada would like to thank Sandy and Scott for this amazing ride!

Samona McMillan (LATRELLE) grew up in an active theatre family and because of this can never throw anything away because "it might be needed as a prop". She got her start at Johnson City Community Theatre where some of her favorite roles were Babe in *Crimes of the Heart* and Trudy in *Steel Magnolias*. Samona also appeared as Ellie Mae in *Tobacco Road* at Olde West Dinner Theatre. Her claim to fame is having appeared as an extra in Disney's *Goodbye Miss Fourth of July* and also an episode of *America's Most Wanted*. Samona wants to thank her family for their support and especially Sandy Staggs and Scott Waddell for giving her this opportunity.

Mark Monaghan (G.W.) loves to laugh. His favorite comedic film is *Sordid Lives*, and has been since first seeing it on the big screen in Palm Springs, CA. He is grateful to producer, Sandy Staggs and director, Scott Waddell, for bringing laughter back into our lives. He is humbled to be joining this stellar cast of actors. This is his first performance with the award-winning Proud Mary Theatre Company. His favorite prior performances include *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Greater Tuna*, and *Vanya, Sonya, Masha, & Spike*. Mark’s favorite previous roles in musicals include *The Fully Monty*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *The Sound of Music*, *Monk-Y Business*, *The Cradle Will Rock*, *Damn Yankees*, and *Annie*.

Mr. Monaghan is a graduate of the Florida State University School of Theatre, and continued training with the Alliance Theatre School, the SAG/AFTRA On Camera Acting School. Locally, he studied voice with Dr.

Keith Jones of Converse College. His performance is dedicated to Mr. Richard Shaw.

Elizabeth Colson (LAVONDA) is excited to be back onstage with Proud Mary Theatre Company where she was last seen as Trudy in *Boy*. Elizabeth is a proud graduate of Clemson University where she earned a B.A. in Performing Arts. She also studied at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in London, England. She has been involved in several productions throughout South Carolina, Chicago and London. Elizabeth would like to thank Scott and Sandy for the opportunity to be part of this incredible production. Special thanks to friends and fur baby Harry. Elizabeth would like to dedicate this performance to her beautiful God Daughter, Aria.

Zachary Urban (Ty) is a rising senior at USC Upstate where he studies Theatre and Communications. He is a Spartanburg native and has been actively involved in the local theatre scene. From his formative years at Dorman High School and the Spartanburg Youth Theatre, to recent creative endeavors with USC Upstate Theatre, Spartanburg Little Theatre, the Upstate Shakespeare Festival, and Proud Mary Theatre, Zachary has enjoyed every moment spent telling great stories. Notable roles include Willy Wonka (*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*), Lysander (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Cowboy (*The Boys in the Band*).

SCOTT WADDELL (Brother Boy & DIRECTOR) is thrilled to be in his 1st production with Proud Mary. No stranger to SLT, his favorite roles over 27 year include: *Memphis*, *The Civil War*, *Peter Pan*, *Noises Off*, *Not Now Darling* and in one of his dream roles as Edna in *Hairspray!* Scott serves on the Board of Directors of SLT and has also appeared in over 30 other shows throughout SC and GA. He has directed *Love*, *Sex & the IRS* and *Vania*, *Sonja*, *Masha and Spike* for the Tryon Little Theater. His favorite role is just being Uncle Cotty to nephews Will, Gavin and Liam. Thanks to family and friends-especially Mom and Randy!

Lori Lee plays **Sissy** in Proud Mary Theatre Company's *Sordid Lives*. Favorite shows and roles include *Mamma Mia*, *Almost Maine* and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* at Tryon Little Theater; Vernadette in *The Dixie Swim Club*, Angela in *Honky Tonk Angels*, Cathy in *The Last Five Years*, Louise in *Always Patsy Cline*, Mrs. Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Martha in *The Secret Garden*, *Dearly Departed* as Suzanne, Mrs. Potts in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, Madame Thenardier in *Les Miserables* and many others. Lori is a graduate of North Greenville University, and Converse College. She has also had the opportunity to join several traveling troupes and choirs allowing her to use her talents in, England, Italy, Ireland, Austria, Canada, Maine, Florida, New York, Nevada,

North Carolina, and across South Carolina. Lori works for Security Finance and is a member of the chancel choir at Trinity United Methodist Church in Spartanburg.

Ken Snart plays the bartender Wardell. He recently relocated to North Carolina after retiring from the State of Wisconsin after 30 years. Ken has always enjoyed being involved in the theater and has had many wonderful experiences. In addition, he has been in many different music groups of many different genres including the Asheville Gay Men's Chorus and Master Singers in Eau Claire, WI. Fvorite roles: "The Music Man" – Mayor Shinn; "Oklahoma" – Ali Hackim; "West Side Story" – Doc; "The Wizard of Oz" – Uncle Henry; "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" – Coggins; "Snow White" – The Huntsman; "A Little Night Music" – Member of the Quintet; "Godspell" – Jesus; "The Miracle Worker" – Captain Keller.

Sandy Staggs (Odell/Producer) is Artistic Director of Proud Mary Theatre Company, theatre critic/publisher at CarolinaCurtainCall.com and founder of the Spartanburg Fringe Arts Festival. In addition to producing the award-winning *I Am My Own Wife*, the critically-received *The Boys in the Band*, and *Fun Home*, he has several local acting credits including Proud Mary's *Movement* and *Southern Baptist Sissies*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Upstate Shakespeare Festival).

SAMANTHA JEMMOTT (Stage Manager/Wigs) Samantha has been a musical theatre performer for over 15 years, a costume and props designer for just under 10 years and a performance teacher for 8 years. After earning her BA in Musical Theatre from Marywood University, she began working with several companies across multiple states until her work brought her to Upstate SC. Locally, she most recently worked as the Costume and Props Designer for Grimm's Fairy Tales (Montford Park), Props Designer for Lion King Jr. (Greenwood), Costume Designer for Matilda (Market Theatre), and Stage Manager for 9 to 5 (Centre Stage).

SUN JANE SCHWALM – Wigs, Hair & Makeup

Sun J Schwalm is delighted to be returning to Proud Mary Theatre Company! Favorite credits include *VAMPIRE LESBIANS OF SODOM*, *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*, *TWELVE ANGRY MEN*, *JULIUS CAESER*, *SPRING AWAKENING*, *HELLO DOLLY*, *HAMLET*, and *VELVET CURTAINS*. From Valparaiso, Florida, Sun is currently a Photography and Graphic Design student in Greenville, South Carolina. She hopes to someday disappear mysteriously.