

SMOKE &

MIRRORS

*By Will Osborne
&
Anthony Herrera*

*A Comedy/Murder
Mystery*

*Starkville Community Theatre
Playhouse on Main*

Directed by M.J. Etua



2001

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



2001

Smoke & Mirrors

Director ~ MJ Etua

Assistant Director ~ Lyle Tate

The Cast

HAMILTON ORR	Marcus Vowell
BARBARA ORR	Marianne Ulmer
CLARK ROBINSON	Daniel Morgan
DEREK COBURN	Jeff Matthews
LEROY P. LUMPKIN	Joe Tom Mosley

The Setting

The living room of Governor Robert Tubbsman's beach house on a private island seven miles off the Mississippi Gulf Coast on a sunny, warm summer afternoon.

The Supporting Cast

Props: Ginni & Paul Murray

Electrician: William Baker

Light Board Operator: Steven Mayo

Carpentry: Glen James, Paul Murray

Bar Design & Construction: Riley Moore

Set: Cast & Crew & Friends of the SCT

Set Decoration: Pattye Archer

Poster & Program Cover Design: Dale Jordan

Resident Curmudgeon: Dom Cunetto

The Show's History

Smoke & Mirrors was originally produced by Bell Mare Productions in October, 1991, in a twelve-city tour of the State of Mississippi. The production was directed by John Shearin, with sets by Larry Kadlec, lighting by Bert Foregger, and costumes by Natalie Leavenworth. The stage manager was Michael Parker; company manager was Dale Jackson. The play was performed with the following cast:

Hamilton Orr

Anthony Herrera
A director/producer

Clark Robinson

Will Osborne
A screenwriter

Barbara Orr

Marilyn McIntyre
A publicist and wife

Derek Coburn

Patrick St. Esprit
A film star

Sheriff Leroy Lumpkin

Jack Stevens
The local sheriff

Act One

A summer afternoon on the
Mississippi Gulf Coast

Act Two Scene One

Later that evening

Act Two Scene Two

Very early the next morning

*There will be a 10-minute intermission
after Act One and a 5-minute intermission
after Act Two Scene One.*

About the Actors...

JEFF MATTHEWS

A communication major at Mississippi State University, Jeff is a cheerleader for Universal Cheerleading Association. He is also a full-time bartender at Old Venice Pizza Company, so he invites everyone to come see him there on Martini Mondays. Jeff was Mic Man for MSU from 1998 to 2000. He enjoys playing piano and trombone and hopes one day to own his own bar and grille or to hit the big time on Broadway. This is Jeff's first experience onstage at the Playhouse on Main, and he says it's been a blast: "What can I say, man? They love me!"

DANIEL MORGAN

This is the first production for Daniel Morgan at SCT. Although he has long admired the work done at Playhouse on Main, he has been unable to get a foot in the door—until now. Daniel has done many productions with the Mississippi State Theatre Department, including *Sunset*, *The Odd Couple: Female Version*, *Gypsy*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* When he isn't thrilling audiences with his, um, "fine performances" onstage, Daniel enjoys playing golf, giving blood, improving the economic levels of small, third-world countries, reading, and talking on the phone with friends. He thanks all those involved with the production of *Smoke and Mirrors* and hopes to work with them all again sometime within the next five to ten years. If you would like an audio copy of this bio, please send \$19.95 to the management of the theatre so they can, in turn, give the money to Daniel so he can begin to think about putting something on tape for you. Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn't. I think he really wants to swindle away your money, but you didn't hear that from me. Enjoy the show!

About the Actors...

JOE TOM MOSLEY

Joe is a Starkville native, an MSU graduate, and a former Starkville businessman. For three years, Joe and his wife ran a bed and breakfast in Churchill, Mississippi near Natchez. One of his claims to fame is housing the director, producer, cast, and crew of *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou* during their shoot in Natchez and getting to know the Cohen brothers, Frances McDormand, Charles Durning, and others. Coming away from that experience with a renewed interest in the theatre, Joe appears for the first time onstage with Starkville Community Theatre. He thanks M.J., Lyle, and the cast for the great experience of working with them and learning from them.

MARIANNE ULMER

Marianne has been involved with Starkville Community Theatre since 1984. Her last few productions include *Going to See the Elephant*, *The Moving of Lilla Barton*, *A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody*, and *Rumors*. When not at the Playhouse, Marianne teaches public speaking and interpersonal communication in the MSU Department of Communication. She thanks SCT for many close friends, a rewarding hobby, and much, much laughter.

"The person who knows how to laugh at himself will never cease to be amused." – Shirley Maclaine

"I'm amused many times a day." – Marianne Ulmer

MARCUS VOWELL

Marcus is appearing tonight in his fourth SCT production. You may have seen him in *Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *No Sex, Please*, *We're British*, and *Romance, Romance*. He has also appeared in numerous MSU productions, including *You're a Good Man*, *Charlie Brown*, *Tally's Folly*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Disposal*, and *Eleven Zulu*. He would, at this point, like to acknowledge the hard work put into this production by the cast and crew and thank everyone who has supported him in all of his thespianic endeavors (watch out, it's getting wordy in here), including his parents and his grandparents, but chief among them being his dear friend, Krista. You truly inspire me. Well, there goes any pretense that I'm not writing my own bio. That fake third-person stuff never works. Oh well, enjoy the show!

About the Directors

MJ ETUA

MJ first worked with SCT as the costumer for *Romance, Romance*. She made her directorial debut with *Mousetrap*. During the summer, she directs PROJECT P.L.A.Y. Children's Summer Theatre. She has most recently appeared in *Proposals* as Clemma and *Night of January 16th* as Roberta.

LYLE TATE

Lyle is backstage for the first time as stage manager (and in a cameo role as "falling body") for *Smoke and Mirrors*, and it has definitely been a learning experience. Thanks go to Pat-tye (I promise to keep my cell phone with me more often!--love, Your B****), Dom, Riley, Ginni and Paul (our resident weaponry experts), William, Angel, Mayo, Stephen, Terry, and, of course, to MJ and the cast for really putting it together here. Can I go to sleep now?

About SCT

The Starkville Community Theatre (SCT) was formed in 1978 to provide for the cultural and educational enhancement of the citizens of Starkville and the surrounding areas. Through theatrical productions and workshops for both adults and children, the community theatre makes a valuable contribution to the entire community by providing an outlet for creative expression.

Next Season...

Exact Center of the Universe

- directed by Bob Anderson

Marvin's Room

- directed by Monroe Dewberry

The Foreigner

- directed by Molly Watkins

Bus Stop

- directed by Lyle Tate

A Note from the Director

From the moment I read this play, I knew I wanted to direct it. I thank SCT for giving me the privilege and the opportunity to bring this play to life. Thank you Mr. Herrera and Mr. Osborne for writing such a great piece of fun.

I also thank my cast, Marcus, Daniel, Jeff, Joe Tom, and of course the always lovely Marianne, for working so hard in preparing this show for performance. I was amazed and thrilled to find actors that so well suit the wonderful characters in this show. I hope you, as the audience, will enjoy getting to know them as much as I did.

A great heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone who helped with the set. I am truly thankful for Glen James, Paul Murray, and Riley Moore for their gift of carpentry know-how; William for lighting our lives; Pattye for going shopping; Angel for being one; Ginni for all of the things you do; and of course, thank you "Dad" for coming out of retirement just for me.

To those close to my heart, Stephen C., Pattye A., Ms. Terry Mc.: Thanks for the listening ears, the sounding boards, the shoulders, and the support.

To Family Etua: Akeva abui amu wa te ba'a ma. Zambe a bota'ane wo.

To Lyle...Larry...Lance...etc : Thanks for everything. We did it!

Finally, I thank YOU, audience for letting us share our love of Theatre with you.

A Very Special Thanks...

Boardtown Trading Post ■ Sullivan's Office Supply
Old Venice Pizza ■ Friends of the Library
Krista Wolf ■ Dominic Cunetto ■ Riley Moore ■
Stephen Cunetto ■ Brian Loden ■ Breck Young ■
Anthony Daniel ■ Nancy Miller ■ Dale Jordan
Robert & Joan Wilson ■ Ann Bonner ■ Charles Peterson

And to our Patrons...

PRODUCER

Don and Paula Mabry Bryan and Nora Baker

DIRECTOR

Robert and Pamela Collins Frank and Ann Bonner

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Paul and Freida Buckley Tyrone and Danya O'Bannon
E.O. and Elizabeth Hawkins Tom and Jan Hardy

ACTOR

Horace and Lynn Adams	Bill and Helen Sue Parrish
Bob and Mary Eleanor Anderson	Caroline Simmons
John Robert and Mary Ann Arnold	Charles and Marty Sparrow
Tommy and Laura Lee Cobb	Starkville Women's Club
Stephen Cunetto	Warren and Marilyn Thompson
Brenda C. Garner	Rayford and Diane Vaughn
Frank and Kaki Ingels	Jack and Mary Jo Wallace
Larry and Pam Jones	David and Cheryl Whitfield
Lewis and Pie Mallory	Clyde and Marsha Williams
Charles Peterson and Nancy Miller	Estel and Sara Wilson
Ann Mitchell	Bob and Peggy Wolverton
Warren and Mary Oakley	

STAGE CREW

Sarah Crow	Pepper Holland
Elizabeth Halback	Lyle Nelson
Merrill and Carrie Hawkins	

