

July 23-25, 30-31 & August 1, 2015 | 7:30 p.m.



*A Song can
change your Life*

Conceived by
Joby Czarnecki
with direction by
Joby Czarnecki
Drew Stark &
Haley Harper



*How will it end?
The choice is up to you!*

A Song can change your Life

The Cast

The Performers

Christon Bertrand *

Johnathan Best *

Rachel Davis *

Sean Dyess

MJ Etua

Brian Hawkins

Heather McGinn

Brenda Mayo

Justine Moser

Ryan Savage *

Erica Smith

Graham Young *

The Musicians

Jamie Dyer *

Haley Harper

Olivia Long *

Andrew Van Loon *

* SCT Debut

The Production Team

Direction Team	Joby Czarnecki, Drew Stark and Haley Harper
Stage Manager.....	Bonnie Oppenheimer
Lighting	Heather Shaw
Sound.....	Lorraine Hughes
Assistant to the Stage Manager	Andrew Lark
Choreography	Drew Stark
Set Design	Drew Stark, Joby Czarnecki, Wayne Durst and Clara Seitz
Sound Design	Thomas La Foe
Lighting Design.....	Clara Seitz
Mashup Arrangement.....	Carole Sorenson
Costumes	Sue Snow
Casting Consultation	Patty Archer and Carole Sorenson
Musical Consultation	Drew Dieckmann and John Brocato
Poster Design	Stacy Clark
Lobby Photography.....	Marc Measells
Lobby Design.....	Joby Czarnecki and Drew Stark
Reception Decorations	Brian Hawkins, Thomas La Foe and Joby Czarnecki
House Manager Coordinators	Barry & Grace Ward
Box Office	Cam McMillen & Marsha Williams
Reception Coordinators.....	Brian Hawkins and Paula Mabry

Set Construction

Drew Stark ■ Wayne Durst ■ Thierry Czarnecki
Clara Seitz ■ the cast and crew

Act I - Present Time

Act II - Three months later

There we will be a 10-minute intermission between acts.

About The Music

One Fine Day

by Gerry Goffin and Carole King, arranged by Mac Huff

There She Goes

by Lee Mavericks

For Once in My Life

by Orlando Murden and Ronald Miller

Remember When

by Alan Jackson

Maybe

by Jasmine van den Bogaerde (Birdy)

I Gotta Feeling

by Allan Pineda, Jaime Gomez, Will Adams, Stacy Ferguson, and David Guetta

Talkin' Smooth

by Kate Voegele

Love Song for No One

by John Mayer and Clay Cook

Your Heart is as Black as Night

by Melody Gardot

When I Fall in Love

by Victor Young and Edward Heyman

Proud Souls

by Jason Boland

Passionate Kisses

by Lucinda Williams



You Can't Hurry Love

by Edward Holland, Lamont Dozier, and Brian Holland, arranged by Mac Huff

Watershed

by Emily Saliers, arranged by Christon Bertrand

Superwoman

by Steve Mostyn, Linda Perry, and Alicia Keys

I'm Yours

by Jason Mraz

Ragged Company

by Grace Potter, Matt Burr, Scott Tournet, and Bryan Dondero

Somebody to Love

by Freddie Mercury, arranged by Adam Anders, Tim Davis, and Roger Emerson

Have a Little Faith in Me

by John Hiatt

Lost Myself in Search of You

by Matt Nathanson

Dream a Little Dream of Me

by Wilbur Schwandt, Fabian Andre, and Gus Kahn

Cupid

written by Sam Cooke

(What a) Wonderful World

by Sam Cooke, Herb Alpert, and Lou Adler

Question

by Rhett Miller

I Believe in a Thing Called Love

by Daniel Hawkins, Ed Graham, Frankie Poullain, and Justin Hawkins



About The Cast

Christon Bertrand

Christon is a sophomore at Mississippi State University majoring in music with a focus on vocal performance. Originally from Beaumont, Texas, Christon studied instrumental education and vocal performance at Lamar University. Before moving to Starkville, Christon served in the US Navy aboard the USS Gettysburg as a gas turbine systems mechanic. In the fall of 2014, Christon participated in the MSU opera workshop's production of *Guys and Dolls* as "Big Jule." *A Song Can Change Your Life* is his second theatrical production and his first with SCT.

Johnathan Best

Johnathan works for Cumulus Radio in downtown Columbus, which is also his hometown. You can additionally hear Johnathan on Saturdays from 3:00 – 7:00 PM on 99.9 The Fox. Johnathan is proud to be a 2nd-degree black belt in the World Tang Soo Do Association. He once had the distinct honor of training under the late Jae Chul Shin, who trained the oh-so-well-known Chuck Norris ("It was only for a weekend, but it is still a cool story to tell!"). Johnathan is a theatre major at MUW with only 2 more semesters to go ("Wish me luck!"). Being so close to the end of his college days has inspired him to broaden his horizons in the theatrical field, so he auditioned for *A Song Can Change Your Life*. If how much fun he's had in this production is any indicator of how much fun you will have watching it, then you are in for a good time. "Enjoy!"

Rachel Davis

Rachel Davis is thrilled to be making her debut with SCT! She discovered her love of theatre at an early age and since then has been a part of 15 theatrical productions. Her favorite credits include "Cinderella" in *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, "Cinderella's Mother" in *Into the Woods* and "Glory" in Delta State University's production of *Almost, Maine*. When she's not playing her ukulele and singing, Rachel attends classes and teaches at MSU, where she is pursuing her Master's degree in English. She thanks everyone at SCT for being so welcoming and for giving her a chance to participate in this fun production. She also thanks her wonderful husband and family for all of the love and support.

Sean Dyess

Sean Dyess is excited about returning to the stage, having previously appeared in SCT's productions of *Rumors*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Almost, Maine*. He is a software developer and a Leo who enjoys long walks on the beach, a soft ocean breeze and a cold drink on a hot day. He also just realized he wants to move to the beach and open a tiki bar. Investors welcome.

M. J. Etua

This summer's musical marks M. J. Etua's 17th year as a cast member. In real life she teaches Theatre Arts, French I and French II at Louisville High School. Since 1998, M. J. has served as the creative force behind Project P.L.A.Y., SCT's summer children's theatre. This year also marks M. J.'s first year as the Festival Chair of the High School Drama Festival of the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC). "I am so proud of the reputation SCT has, not only in Starkville, but also statewide and nationally. We are known as a community theatre with the mission to promote the arts enthusiastically. The SCT summer musical has become a vital part of our season and our mission. I hope our hard work this summer encourages others to get involved with spreading that mission."



Brian Hawkins

Brian Hawkins can't imagine summer without performing in an SCT musical revue, with his appearance in *A Song Can Change Your Life* being his 17th summer production at the Playhouse on Main. Favorite roles with SCT include "Smudge" in *Forever Plaid* and *Plaid Tidings*, the villainous "Julian" in *Communicating Doors* and hypochondriac "Phil" in *Inspecting Carol*. When not running amok on the SCT stage, Brian works as marketing manager with the Buffalo Wild Wings Bar and Grill in Starkville. He thanks this amazing cast and crew – particularly Joby, Drew and Haley – for their perseverance and dedication, M. J. for also reaching summer show No. 17, Brenda for the opportunity to share two awesome songs and his BWW team for allowing him the opportunity to do something he loves. Brian dedicates this performance to all the music teachers, conductors and directors who have helped him discover songs that changed his life.

Heather McGinn

Heather has appeared in several shows at SCT, most recently *Almost, Maine*. She has been a member of the Starkville Symphony Chorus for the past five years and has a passion for performing. Heather has made her home in Starkville with her fiancé Shane Warren, their two dogs and cat. “*A Song Can Change Your Life* has been a fun and innovative show! I hope the audience has as much fun ‘changing’ our stories as we will have performing them.”

Brenda Mayo

Brenda looks forward to every summer for the musical revue, and this year was no exception. “Each and every revue has been a great adventure from my first summer in

10 Out of 10: A Perfect Score to this year’s *A Song Can Change Your Life*.” Brenda was last seen as “Hope” in *Almost, Maine*.

Whether onstage or backstage, she loves every minute with her SCT family. She gives her thanks to Joby, Drew and Haley, for including her this summer (as well as the fabulous cast and crew).

“It’s always fun working with old friends and making new ones.” As always, she thanks her son, Zak, for always backing her up and her aunt, Scottie, for taking care of everything else so she can go play and do what makes her happy.



Justine Moser

Justine is excited to be involved with this project: her second show at SCT! When she is not on summer vacation, binge watching *The Wire* or acting silly on stage, you can find her running around a 10th-grade classroom in Columbus teaching onomatopoeia and character analysis (and other useful English things). Justine is a Yankee at heart but has made Mississippi her home for the past seven years. In that time she has learned the usefulness of saying “y’all” and understood the beauty of hot, sweltering summers (sorta). Having moved to Starkville last summer from the Delta, Justine is excited to see such a thriving theatre within this community and looks forward to future shows!

Ryan Savage

Ryan is the son of Ron and Tammy Savage. He sings in the New Prospect Baptist Church choir in Hamilton, but when he's not doing that he spends his time working on independent films and shorts. He has appeared in CenterStage at Itawamba Community College as well as with the ICC choir. After transferring to East Mississippi Community College, he joined the Musical Theater there, as well as the band. He now attends MUW majoring in communication with a minor in theatre. In his last performance, he played "Sebastian" in William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. This is Ryan's first production with SCT.

Erica Smith

A Song Can Change Your Life is Erica's third production with SCT.

Originally from Brookhaven, she now lives in Starkville and works in Athletic Academics at MSU. She has participated in various church and school performances throughout the years and most recently performed with SCT last summer in *Unexpected Song: Broadway Re-Revued*. She debuted in *A Christmas Cabaret* and has loved SCT ever since. She has had so much fun getting to know this amazing cast and crew and is looking forward to sharing the stage with them. She sends a special thank-you to her family and friends for supporting her!



Graham Young

Graham is the son of Tom and Cathy Young. He graduated from Columbus High School in 2010 and is currently studying theatre at MUW, where he starred as "The Cat" in Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat*. He is hoping to become successful in both the theatre world and the voice acting community. *A Song Can Change Your Life* is his first appearance in a musical production, and also his first production with SCT.

SCT would like to apologize for having left the following patrons out of the lists that were published in the programs during the past year:

Vance and Jo Ann Watson
Johnnie Sue Wijewardane

About The Musicians

Jamie Dyer

This is Jamie's first experience with SCT, although he has been involved in several musicals with TheatreMSU as either a cast member or part of the band. By day Jamie is a professor of meteorology in the Department of Geosciences at MSU, but by night he shows his true North Georgia roots by pickin' on his banjo (and mandolin or guitar when the occasion calls). Always a fan of new experiences and opportunities, Jamie is looking forward to being involved in *A Song Can Change Your Life*.

Haley Harper

A Song Can Change Your Life is Haley's eighth musical production at SCT. Her previous piano-playing roles include *Ug: the Caveman Musical*, *The Fantasticks*, *Voices in the Night*, *A Catered Affair*, *A Christmas Cabaret*, *Unexpected Song: Broadway Re-Revued* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Haley thanks Joby and Drew for all of their hard work and dedication to this show. She extends a huge thank-you to the talented cast for being patient and eager to learn. She also thanks her awesome bandmates, Jamie, Andrew and Olivia, for playing with her. Lastly, Haley shares a special thank-you with her parents and sisters for always supporting and helping her with each show. "I could never do all this without y'all! Enjoy the show!"

Olivia Long

Olivia is a student at MSU studying biological sciences and performing undergraduate research with plant tissue cultures and genetics. She has been playing bass for nine years and is a member of the MSU Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band. She has also performed with the Starkville Symphony Orchestra for nearly three years. Olivia thanks her parents, John and Denesha Long, for supporting her in all of her scholarly, athletic and musical endeavors. Olivia also thanks Joby for giving her the opportunity to play with SCT this summer.

Andrew Van Loon

This is Andrew's first production with SCT. An engineer by day, Andrew comes to Starkville from the Land Down Under, a.k.a. Australia. Andrew sends thanks his beautiful wife for her love and support.

From the Directors

I'm not sure I have the words to say how amazing this experience has been. I've had these stories percolating in my head for the better part of a year now. It's been a surreal journey seeing them brought to life. I hope that when you see this show, you find a connection to the compelling characters – that their story is your story. I've been most of these characters in my life; I hope someday to be Brian and Brenda.

I am forever grateful to Drew Stark, who despite thinking I might be completely crazy, looked at me and said, "I think we have a show." To all my performers, thank you for not balking at the idea of "extra" songs and complicated storylines and for being patient with Drew, Haley, and myself over these last few months (now just do what Bonnie tells you and we'll all be happy).

Let me also not understate the role of my friends and family in this process; they've been invaluable. And finally, a special thanks to my beloved husband. As the saying goes, "every love story is beautiful, but ours is my favorite."

Joby Czarnecki

Special Thanks

Scotty's Wine and Spirits ■ Aunt Marti's Bakery
De Rego's Bread ■ Old Venice Pizza Company
Cloud 9 Artisan Marshmallows ■ Theatre MSU
John Brocato ■ Drew Dieckmann
Edwin Ellis ■ John Wells
Wayne Durst ■ Thomas La Foe
Marc Measells

From the Directors

Each creative endeavor presents its own set of challenges that as artists we find both daunting, yet captivate our imagination. Through hard work and ingenuity the outcome of those efforts make the accomplishment that much sweeter. When Joby presented me with the idea of *A Song*, I admit to finding her concept unique, particularly for a musical, but in meeting her I instantly recognized her passion for bringing her concept to life on stage.

Together we charted our course, determined to iron out the logistics of a variable storyline, not only for our actors, but also for our musicians and technicians. We, as artists, must continue to grow and be inspired by those around us and I have to admit that I couldn't be prouder of what we have been able to accomplish. This undertaking would not have been achieved without the dedication of our musicians, our technical crew, and particularly this talented cast who have given so much of themselves to the success of this show.

I would like to especially thank Wayne Durst, whose technical expertise and patient instruction has been invaluable, the superb collaboration of all our musicians, my mother whose daily grace constantly reminds me where true strength comes from, and lastly to Joby for creating such a "dream team" and whose patience and faith in my work galvanized our efforts to produce such a novel theatrical endeavor. Enjoy!

Drew Stark



Shep's Cleaners

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Starkville, MS 39759

We strive to keep you looking your best!

Hours of Operation:

7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday)
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Same -Day Service:

Tuesday-Friday; in by 8:00 a.m. - out by 4:00 p.m.

AUDITIONS

One Slight Hitch

By Lewis Black

Directed by Thomas La Foe



ONE
Slight
HITCH

Monday, August 3 and Tuesday, August 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Onstage at the Playhouse on Main

For more information, please contact Thomas at tlafoe@gmail.com.

THE CAST

DOC COLEMAN, 50-60; the father; a general practitioner; a charming, eccentric conservative; usually straight-up

DELIA COLEMAN, 50-60; the mother; in a constant state of panic

RYAN, early 30s; until seven months ago, he had lived with Courtney for two and a half years

P.B., 16; Doc and Delia's daughter; loosest in the family

MELANIE, 20-something; Doc and Delia's daughter; a nurse; attractive and psychotic

COURTNEY, the bride; Doc and Delia's daughter; freelance writer; has just published her first novel which was almost successful

HARPER, early 30s; the groom; logical and wealthy

Tabor Management

200 S. Montgomery, Suite 201

Starkville, MS 39759

(662) 324-0506

www.tabormangement.com



A Message from our CAO

Whether this is your first time in our playhouse or your hundredth, it's my pleasure to welcome you tonight.

Our summer fundraiser is one of our annual chances to, as a nonprofit organization, build our operating budget for the upcoming 38th season. Just by buying your ticket for this performance, you're helping us build sets, sew costumes, host receptions, and provide scholarships for the 2015-2016 season.

Thank you for your support!

I am pleased and honored to be entering the new season as SCT's first Chief Administrative Officer, and my role is to keep us doing what we already do well and help move us forward in providing more great entertainment for our patrons, more enrichment opportunities for local students, and more chances to have a hand in outside community events and volunteer projects.

I look forward to serving you and this theatre, and I truly hope you enjoy this evening's show and will invest in a season ticket for our next exciting slate of performances.

Gabe Smith

Chief Administrative Officer, Starkville Community Theatre



Photo by Connor Guyton / SDN

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17 Summers of Music



OUR 2015-2016 SEASON

September 17-20
and 22-26, 2015

Comedy by Lewis Black



ONE
Slight
HITCH

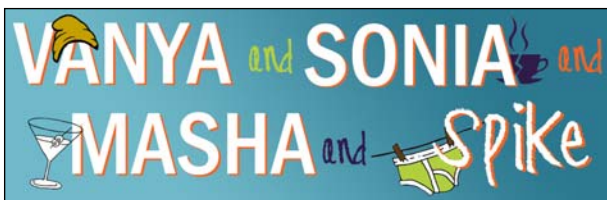


November 12-13
and 15-21, 2015

Musical by
Dan Goggin

February 18-21
and 23-27, 2016

Comedy
by Christopher Durang



April 14-17 and
19-23, 2016

Farce
by Ken Ludwig

SEASON EXTRA

May 24-28, 2016

Drama by
Jon Robin Baitz

