

TEXARTS ASSOCIATION OFF BROADWAY SERIES 2009-10 SEASON

Todd Dellinger, Executive Director Robin Lewis, Artistic Director Jim Morris, Board Chairman

NUNSENSE

a musical comedy

Book, Music and Lyrics by
DAN GOGGIN

Directed & Choreographed by
BAMBI JONES*

Musical Director Dustin Struhall
Producer Todd Dellinger

Stage Manager & Dance Captain Robin Lewis*
Assistant Stage Manager Juliette LeBlanc
Set Design by Todd Dellinger
Carpenters Marc Dellinger, Ken Naftzger,
Steve Groves, Spencer Carter & Will Stokes

Audio Designer Clayton DeGuerre
Lighting Designer Scott Tatum
Lighting Operator Wade Ratliff
Costume Support Kam Morris

STARRING

Marijane Vandivier* □ Janis Stinson* □ Patty Rowell
Emily Bem □ Ashley McKay

Musicians Dustin Struhall, Trevor Detling, Kyle Sigrest, Kent Dugan & Andy Beaudion



* denotes Member, Actors Equity Association of America. Equity artists appear in this production under Special Professional Theater Agreement with Actors Equity Association.

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WELCOME TO TEXARTS!

Hello! And welcome to TexARTS' Kam and James Morris Theater for our second "Off Broadway Series" season of great professional theater! We're pleased to share with you a season of laughter and love with a touch of the bittersweet...a series of productions that each earned their place in the canon of beloved American musicals and theater for their ability to move people - to laugh, sometimes to cry, but always to do what only great live theater can do - transform, entertain and inspire.



As we enter our fourth year-our second in this permanent space, made possible in part thanks to the generosity of Keller Williams of Lake Travis-TexARTS celebrates tremendous growth and popularity. From our Academy, which now boasts over 530 registrations, to this professional "Off Broadway Series," which now boasts a regular audience nearing 1,000 patrons per show, TexARTS is setting the pace for a vibrant future. The institution's now three-quarters-of-a-million dollar budget sustains a regular staff of seven now and more than 8,000 square feet of facility. Nearly two-thirds of the budget goes to training youngsters in everything from musical theater to ballet to Shakespeare, visual art and much more for ages three thru adult. Some ten percent of the overall budget equates to free or reduced tuition for families in need. Some five percent represents Broadway guest artists & teachers coming to & from TexARTS to teach, direct and/or perform - continuing to raise the bar, inspire youngsters and audiences and set us apart from the rest.

One of the remarkable things about TexARTS is that we do so much - hundreds of youth class & rehearsal hours each week, 50 weeks a year...hundreds more each month in professional series rehearsal or performance and numerous community events ranging from Child Protective Services to the Junior League Christmas bazaar - on relatively so little. Where most nonprofits rely on 40% or more in contributions to survive, TexARTS has accomplished all this with just 10%. However, in order to stay healthy as we grow, we now need to increase contributed income so that we can...develop educational programs that will go into the public schools; expand our scholarship offerings; continue to keep only the best professional teachers & staff; bring on a production team leader to take on the tiresome work of coordinating and building our professional and student productions and; continue to keep our prices for classes, tickets and events affordable while maintaining only the highest quality.

We hope you'll join us in reaching our goals and reaching for the stars. And now, sit back, relax & enjoy the show!

Todd Dellinger, Executive Director & Robin Lewis, Artistic Director

Todd Dellinger (TexARTS Co-founder & Executive Director/Producer) is the Executive Director and co-founder of TexARTS. Todd was previously Executive Director for "A Noise Within" Classical Repertory Theater in Los Angeles and prior to that, Executive Director for the Elisa Monte Dance Co. and, earlier, Martha Graham Dance Co. and School in Manhattan. He has been a Director of Development for John Houseman's Acting Co. and California Music Theater, among others. Directing credits include *Always...Patsy Cline* at TexARTS, *Waiting for Godot* and the musical, *Working for The American University* and the upcoming TexARTS Great Shakes production of *A Midsummers Night Dream*. He has produced all of TexARTS' productions at the Paramount and here at the Kam & James Morris Theater. He has taught at The American University in Washington, D.C. and at St. Edwards University as well as various youth classes at TexARTS and elsewhere. As an actor, Todd performed in the company of the Shakespeare Theater at Folger and Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., Sacramento Theater Co. and for the Zach (HSM1) as well as on WUSA (CBS), Washington and in various industrial and commercial films.

Robin Lewis (TexARTS Co-founded & Artistic Director) is Artistic Director and co-founder of TexARTS. Robin is a veteran of Broadway shows *Fosse*, Disney's *Beauty And The Beast* (as well as the Los Angeles Company), *Victor/Victoria*, *A Christmas Carol at Madison Square Gardens*, and the first national tour of Mel Brooks' *The Producers*. Other tours include *A Chorus Line* and *Hello, Dolly!* as well as the Los Angeles company of *Beauty And The Beast*. Other regional include North Shore Music Theater, Beverly MA, California Music Theater, Santa Barbara Civic Light Opera and St. Louis Stages, among others. Directing and/or choreography credits include Oklahoma Lyric Opera, Zachary Scott Theater (Critics Circle & B. Payne winning, 2007 & 2008), Zilker Theater Productions (Critics Circle winning) and more, including various TexARTS productions at the Paramount (Critics Circle-winning) and was honored as the "Keeper of the Fosse Flame" by the Austin Chronicle this year. He recently was appointed Director of Musical Theater Dance, joining two other Broadway professionals in creating a national caliber professional training program for musical theater at Texas State University. Other teaching and/or guest teaching has included Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Oklahoma Univ., adjunct professor for St. Edwards Univ and Univ. of Texas.





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A BIT OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Order of the Little Sisters of Hoboken was founded in the seventh century by Saint Wilfred, a bishop of England. He established the first convent and school known as the Wilfrid Academy. His motto was "We don't teach beauty--we radiate it!" Many years later a small group of pioneering sisters set out for America to establish a mother house in Cleveland, but they got off the plane in Newark by mistake. The order was "found" by the Newark Airport Police and the new mother house was established in Hoboken, New Jersey. It was at that time that the Order of St. Wilfrid elected to change the name to the Little Sisters of Hoboken and they have been affectionately known as the "Little Hobos" ever since. It was from this convent that Sister Mary Cardelia, Sister Mary Hubert and Sister Mary Robert Anne, set sail for the Mediterranean to establish their leper colony. Today the order has both nuns and brothers as members--all doing various good works in the Diocese of Newark. They also operate Mount Saint Helen's School in Hoboken.

TIME: The Present

PLACE: Mount St. Helen's School Auditorium

CAST

MOTHER SUPERIOR. Marijane Vandivier
 SISTER MARY HUBERT. Janis Stinson
 SISTER ROBERT ANNE Emily Bem
 SISTER MARY AMNESIA Patty Rowell
 SISTER MARY LEO. Ashley McKay

MUSICIANS

CONDUCTOR, PIANODustin L. Struhall
 SYNTHESIZER Kyle Sigrest
 WOODWINDS Kent Dugan
 DRUMS and PERCUSSION. Trevor Detling & Andy Beaudion (sub)

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

"Veni Creator Spiritus" Sr. Robert Anne
 "Nonsense Is Habit-Forming" Cast
 "A Difficult Transition" Cast
 "Benedicite" Srs. Hubert and Leo
 "The Biggest Ain't The Best" Srs. Hubert and Leo
 "Another Surprise" Sr. Robert Anne
 "Playing Second Fiddle" Sr. Robert Anne
 "So You Want To Be A Nun" Sr. Mary Amnesia
 "Turn Up The Spotlight" Rev. Mother Superior
 "Lilacs Bring Back Memories" Rev. Mother and Srs. Hubert, Amnesia & Leo
 "Turn Off The Spotlight" Cast
 "Tackle That Temptation With A Time Step" Cast

THERE WILL BE ONE, TEN-MINUTE INTERMISSION.

Proceeds and donations from refreshments prior to show and at intermission benefit TexARTS education programs. If you choose to partake of alcohol, please do so responsibly and with due respect to your fellow audience members. Thanks!

ACT II

"Growing Up Catholic" Srs. Hubert, Amnesia, Robert Anne & Leo
 "We've Got To Clean Out The Freezer". Srs. Hubert, Amnesia, Robert Anne & Leo
 "Just A Coup'l'a Sisters" Rev. Mother and Sr. Hubert
 "Soup's On" (The Dying Nun Ballet) Sr. Robert Anne & Leo
 "I Just Want To Be A Star" Sr. Robert Anne
 "The Drive-In" Sr. Amnesia, Robert Anne & Leo
 "I Could've Grone To Nashville" Srs. Hubert, Amnesia, Robert Anne & Leo
 "Gloria In Excelsis Deo" Cast
 "Holier Than Thou" Cast
 "Nonsense Is Habit-Forming" (Reprise). Cast

"I spent a great deal of my life around nuns. And most of my experiences left wonderful memories. I wrote *Nonsense* because I wanted to share what I knew to be 'the humor of the nun.' Though it may be hard to believe after you see the play, each of the Little Sisters of Hoboken is based on a *real-life* nun.

Dan Goggin, Author



BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



BAMBI JONES (*Director*) Bambi Jones is thrilled to be making her directorial debut with TexARTS' production of **Nunsense**. She grew up in New York and started acting professionally at the age of 7. Over the past 9 years Bambi has done numerous staged, televised and recorded productions of **Nunsense** and all the sequels. Some of her other stage credits include the London West End premiere of **Show Boat**, the Off-Broadway production of **Menopause The Musical**, as well as performances throughout the U.S. in **Thoroughly Modern Millie**, **And The World Goes 'Round**, **Beehive**, **Little Shop of Horrors**, **Ain't Misbehavin'** and the world premiere of **Whatever Happened To Baby Jane?-The Musical**.



MARIJANE VANDIVIER (*Rev. Mother Superior*) An accomplished, veteran actress, Marijane has performed on the stage in notable roles such as **Steel Magnolias** (*Clarie*), **The Music Man** (*Mrs. Paroo*), **Always, Patsy Cline** (*Louise*), **A Little Night Music** (*Desiree*), **Can-Can** (*Piistache*), **The Importance Of Being Earnest** (*Lady Bracknell*) and many more. She has also acted on national television on PBS' **Flip, Flop Show**, NBC's **Weekend** and as a guest on **Hee Haw**. Marijane has been featured on many radio programs, television and radio commercials, and feature films including **Guilty**, **Paradise Texas**, **The Quiet** and **Angel Of Light**. Marijane is excited to be performing with TexARTS for the second time as now **Nunsense's** Reverend Mother Superior.



JANIS STENSON (*Sister Mary Hubert*) Janis is a 24 year veteran at Zach Scott Theater Center and has appeared in TexARTS' productions of **Big River** and **Damn Yankees**. As a recipient of B. Iden Payne Awards and Austin Critic's Table Awards, Janis has been nominated this year for a B. Iden Payne Award for Best Actress in a Musical for **Caroline Or Change**. She has performed in several regional productions including **Porgy and Bess**, **Crowns**, **Jesus Christ Superstar**, **Ain't Nothing But The Blues**, **Blues In The Night**, **Dreamgirls**, **Streetcar Named Desire** and many others. Janis is a graduate of Prairie View A&M Univ. and is currently employed by the State of Texas.



EMILY BEM (*Sister Robert Anne*) has worked with TexARTS before, in **The Music Man** (*Alma*), **Big River** (*Widow Douglas*) and **Damn Yankees** (*Doris*), in which she and Sister Hubert played sisters long before they were nuns! At Zilker, she was Alice in **My Favorite Year**, the Wardrobe in **Beauty & The Beast**, and Eulalie M. Shinn in **The Music Man**. She did eight shows with Austin Musical Theatre, including **Sweet Charity**. She played Aldonza in **Man of LaMancha** at Sam Bass, and was in **Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah** at the J. Emily, directed **Schoolhouse Rock** for TexARTS, and teaches at their academy. She also teaches acting and voice at Huntington Surrey.



PATTY ROWELL (*Sister Mary Annesia*) Patty Rowell is delighted to be making her TexARTS debut with such a talented cast and production team. Recent Central Texas roles include **Anything Goes** (*Reno Sweeney*), **Little Shop Of Horrors**, (*Audrey*), **Guys And Dolls** (*Sarah Brown*) and **The Music Man** (*Marian Paroo*). Patty has also performed in dozens of productions in Chicago and Houston, including **Oliver!**, **Joseph and the Amazing...**, **Paint Your Wagon** and **Into the Woods**. She studied voice and journalism at Northwestern University in Chicago. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.



ASHLEY MCKAY (*Sister Mary Leo*) ASHLEY MCKAY is thrilled to be making her Texas debut! She holds a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre (Dance minor) from MVC and is now based in New York City. Favorite past credits include: **Little Shop of Horrors** (*Audrey*), **High School Musical** (*Sharpay Evans*), **Disney Cruise Line** (*Swing/Dance Captain*), **The Wedding Singer** (*Julia u/s*, Gateway Playhouse), **Kiss Me Kate** (*Lois Lane*), **Pippin** (*Catherine*) and **Nunsense** (*Sr. Mary Leo*, Maples Repertory Theatre/Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre). Big thanks to my family and Sean for always believing in me!



DUSTIN L. STRUHALL (*Music Director/Pianist*) Dustin has returned to TexARTS as Music Director after conducting the band in **Always...Patsy Cline** last season. Dustin graduated from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ. Credits as a music director include The TX Arts Project Summer Camps (St. Stephen's Episcopal School), **From the Ridiculous to the Sublime with Stuart Moulton** (ACT), **Anything Goes** (McCallum High School Fine Arts Academy), **Overwhelming Underdogs** and **Songs from the boX** (AOR). As a keyboardist, **Rockin' Christmas Party** (ZACH), **Little Shop of Horrors** (NJ), **Wizard of Oz** (Broadway Texas), **Guys & Dolls** (Broadway Texas Academy), **Into the Woods** (VLA, ZTP) and many more.

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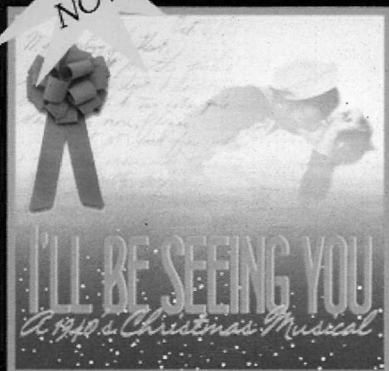
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TEXARTS

Off Broadway Series '09-10

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