

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director, presents



Music and Lyrics by Ed Kleban, Book by Linda Kline and Lonny Price 1961: The Reluctant Debutante, The Lady's Not for Burning, Home of the Brave, Liliom, Born Yesterday, Sabrina Fair, Waiting for Godot; 1961-62: Six Characters in Search of an Author, The Moon is Blue, The Tavern, Look Back in Anger, Mrs. McThing, The Little Foxes, Waiting for Godot, The Member of the Wedding, Physician in Spite of Himself, Don Juan in Hell; 1962-63: To Gettysburg, And Someday I'll Die, Rock-a-bye Charles, Purile Victorious, The New Drunkard, All the Way Home, The Hostage, Two for the Sessaw, Julius Gastas, Eight Up the Sky; 1963-64: Zoo Story, The American Dream, The Time of Your Life, Night of the Iguana Colon Dracula (Or a Musical Mania from Transylvania), Champagne Complex, The Caretaker, The Empeacy Jones, 1964-1965: Alice in Wonderland, Oh Dad Poor Dad Momma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Factin 'S Sad, The Little Hut, Thurber Carnival, The Tender Trap, Tea and Sympathy, Of Mice and Men; 1965-1968: The Solid Gold Cadillac, In White America, The Glass Menagerie, Write Me a Murder, Thieve's Carnival, Dak of Index on Wisit to a Small Planet, The Devil's Disciple, Cat's Eye, Stop the World I Wan to Get Off; 1966-678: The Boylirend, Eh? Pantagleize, The Innocents, Stop the World I Want to Get Off; The Great Sebastians, A Funns-Ling Hoppened on the Way to the Forum; 1961-1988. Gallow's Humor, The Cave Dwellers, The Roar of the Greagepath the Smell of the Crowd, The Miracle Worker, The Venetian Twins, The Fantasticks; 1969-70: Tartuffe, The Adding Machine, Loot, Celebration, Hedda Gabler, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum; 1970-117: The Station Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Issa, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobods-Loves, an Abatross, Anything Goes; 1971-72: The Play's the Thing, The Me Nobody Knows, Indians, The Philantroptst, Colette, The Venetian Twins, The Rainmaker; 1972-73: Twice Over Lightly, Company, The Itregular Figart of Monsieur Ornifle, And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little, The Emperor Jones, The Front Page, School Jon Wives; 1973-14 Cannerbury Tales, The Boys 1961: The Reluctant Debutante, The Lady's Not for Burning, Home of the Brave, Liliom, Born Yesterday, Sabrina Anything Goes, A...My Name is Alice, Season's Greetings, Inflaetities; 1986-87: Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Patiol Porch, The Showoff, A Little Night Music, Animal Farm, Lies and Legends; 1987-88: A Luv Musical, Light Up the Sky, Benefactors, Waltz of the Toteadors, Personals, Safety, Topgirls, El Gesticulador; 1988-89: Claptrap, Clap Yo' Hands, Taking Steps, The Middle of Nowhere, A Quarrel of Sparrows, The Colored Museum, Hunting Cockroaches, The Fantasticks; 1989-90: Broadway, The Fantasticks, The Traveling Lady, Nothing Sacred, Woman in Mind, The Road to Mecca, Grouche A Dienn Revue, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum; 1990-92: Joanna's Husband David's Wife; 1992-93: Carole Cook in Dress Up!, Stringbean, Waiting for Godot, Heartbeats, The Fantasticks, The Helds Chronicles, Homeward Bound, Amateurs; 1992-93: Shirley Valentine, Assassins, Born Vesterday, Deniro Legunin Pague, The Piano Lesson, Picky Games, Digry of a Madman, Droadsins, Born Yesterday, Denise LeBrutyin Revue, The Piano Lesson, Risky Games, Diary of a Madman, Drood; 1993-94: A Small Family Business, Ball Games, Wholly Moliere, Shadowlands, The Fantasticks, Always Patsy Cline, Hello and Goodby. 1994-95: The Knife Thrower's Assistant, Fortinbras, Tiger Lady, Mandragola, The Frogs, The Fantasticks, Lucky Stiff, Black Nativity, A Tale of Two Cities, Manchild in the Promised Land; 1995-96: Pump Boys and Dinettes, The Gingerbread Lady, All in the Timing, The Cocoanuts, The Price, Our Town, The Fantasticks, Black Nativity Tespacco Road, All I Really Need to Know I learned in Kindergarten; 1996-97: Mur-Fantasticks, Black Nativity Padacco Road, All I Really Need to Know I learned in Kindergarten; 1996-97: Murderer, For Whom the Spirity in Belle Tolls, Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All to You, Into the Woods, Sylvia, Blithe Spirit, Once on This Island, Arcadia, A Grand Night for Singing, Black Nativity, The Fantasticks; 1997-98: Burn This, Nice Peaple Dancing to Good Country Music, Amphitryon, Racing Demon, Dreams from a Summer House, Old Micked Songs, Rise&Shine, June Moon; 1998-99: Old Wicked Songs, Death Defying Acts, The Three-penny Opera, We Wan Pay We Won't Pay, The Miser, Triumph of Love, Gross Indecency The Three Trials of Oscar Wilds, as Bees in Honey Drown, Lady in the Dark; 1999-2000: Beyond Therapy, The Boy Friend, Broken Glass, The Women, Company, Major Barbara, Mizlansky Zilinsky or Schmucks; 2000-2001: I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!; How the Other Half Loves; The Happy Times; Saturday Night, Art; The World Goes 'Round; 2001-2002: The Unexpected Guest; Over the River and Through the Woods; Absurd Person Singular; Spinning Into Butter; God's Man in Texas; Side Show 2002-2003: The Great Sebastians; A Class Act, Comic Potential: Requiled Again: Copenhagen: Paris-Dallas Project: Bathoy the Musical Potential: Beguiled Again; Copenhagen; Paris-Dallas Project; Batboy, the Musical

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The Theatre Three playbill is a publication of Theatre Three, Inc. 2800 Routh Street, Dallas, Texas 75201.

This playbill is published for A Class Act, the first show of the 2002-2003 season,

"BEHIND THE SCENES."

Cover art by Harland Wright Playbill Editors: Jac Alder, Kimberly Richard

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Even if it doesn't run any longer, donate your vehicle, and we'll tow it at no cost too! The money will provide much needed funds for costumes...or medical coverage for an actor. And you get to deduct the maximum blue book value regardless of condition!

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The Hoblitzelle Foundation kindly awarded Theatre Three a grant for installing a new air-conditioning system for the facility. Last June, work began on these enhancements. The work has been completed and we sincerely thank Hoblitzelle for its generosity.

CONTRIBUTORS to the Threshold Campaign whose bricks have not yet been installed include Paul and Barbara Bierbrier. Theatre Three looks forward to adding their names to the threshold bricks at the entry to the theatre, and extends sincere thanks to these generous individuals.

Regarding Theatre Three ..

Theatre Three is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit cultural institution founded in 1961 by Norma Young, It serves to celebrate and honor the three essentials of theatre for which she named it: gifted playwrights, talented theatre artists, and adventurous audiences.

Regarding this performances...

- There will be a fifteen minute intermission. Concessions are available in the lobby.
- Cameras or recording devices of any kind are prohibited.
- Please turn off (or silence) all cell phones and pagers.
- Please finish refreshments in the lobby.

For theatre goers with disabilities...

- Please feel free to call upon our staff for assistance.
- Wheelchair locations are available at stage level.
- Half of the seats may be reached by handrails.
- A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- Handicapped parking is next to the Dream Café and the new Sigel's, The Epicurean.

Regarding parking

All parking is free. Surface parking surrounds The Quadrangle. Garage (tower) parking is accessible just off Routh on Laclede Street.

IN MEMORIAM

Contributions have been made in memory of or from the estates of ...

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Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, all memorial gifts, unless otherwise designated are placed in the theatre's new permanent building endowment fund.

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Dear Playgoers,

Below are listed some very special Theatre Three angels. All 618 of these people gave just a little extra to Theatre Three. Each year, when a subscriber renews or playgoer becomes a new subscriber, they have the option of donating to the theatre by adding a small donation to the price of their tickets. Theatre Three attributes these donations to the Bravo Campaign and the donors are recognized in one playbill each season. About a third of Theatre Three's subscribers became Bravo Donors for the 2002-2003 season.

This year I am especially proud of our Bravo donors. A subscriber represents a loyal audience — an essential part of theatre. This little extra pledge represents an important kind of gift during a time when support from major corporations, foundations, and the City of Dallas is limited. Some donors gave \$5, while others gave \$50. It isn't the size of the gift that mattered, it was the loyalty demonstrated. Thanks to them for constant support and participation.

We have an exciting season planned and I hope you'll enjoy every moment of it! Thank you,



JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director of Theatre Three

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THEATRE THREE presents the second show of the 2002-2003 season...

Permission for this production has been granted to Theatre Three by The Rodgers & Hammerstein Theatre Library, 1065 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 2400, New York, NY 10018 www.mh.com



Music and Lyrics by **Edward Kleban Book by Linda Kline and Lonny Price**

A CLASS ACT was originally produced by Manhattan Theatre Club and previously developed by Musical Theatre Works

Artistic Staff:

Director: Michael Serrecchia Musical Director: Terry Dobson **Assistant Director**: David Larson Set Design: Jac Alder **Lighting Design: Mike Gamer** Costume Design: Patty Korbelic Williams Wigs and Make-up: Ryan Smith **Production Manager:** Linda Harrison

Carpenters and Painters:

Jeffrey Schmidt, Linda Harrison, Vicki Phung, Jennifer Clary, Brendan Hogan, Carl Munoz, Nick Jirasek, & Trey Albright **Propmaster:**

Linda Harrison

Master Electrician:

Carl Munoz

Electricians:

Jonas Houston, Nick Jirasek

Production Stage Manager:

*Harland Wright

Production Assistant:

Rebecca Finley and Rebecca Pense Special Thanks: **Light Board Operator:**

John Forkner

Floor Manager:

Rebecca Pense

Cast:

Julie Stirman — Lucy Shay Edwards — Bobby/Michael Bennett *Doug Jackson — Ed Kleban *Ashley Puckett Gonzales — Felicia Jon Paul Burkhart — Charley/ Marvin Hamlisch *Kyle McClaran — Lehman Engel *Jennifer Freeman — Mona *Candace Evans — Sophie * indicates members working under Actor's Equity Association contracts in this production

Musicians:

Terry Dobson — Piano/ Conductor Ellen Kaner — Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone Michael Dill — Flute, Saxophone Peggy Honea — Bass Mike McNicholas and Nate Buonviri — Percussion Troy Freeman — Rehearsal Pianist

Cecilia Flores / Eastfield College for desk chairs

The Quadrangle for rehearsal space

Synopsis of Scenes:

Act One:

Scene I: The stage of the Shubert Theatre in New York City — February, 1988

Scene II: Hillside Hospital, 1958

Scene III: The Shubert Theatre, 1988

Scene IV: The BMI Musical Theatre Workshop, 1966

Scene V: Ed's Apartment, 1966

Scene VI: A Recording Studio at Columbia Records, 1966

Scene VII: Columbia Records, 1971

Scene VIII: Outside the Royal Alexandra Theatre in Toronto, 1972

There will be one fifteen minute intermission

Act Two:

Scene I: The Shubert Theatre, 1988/ Manhattan, 1973

Scene II: Sophie's Laboratory, 1973

Scene III: Central Park, 1973

Scene IV: Michael Bennett's Studio. 1973

Scene V: the Public Theatre, 1974-1975

Scene VI: Manhattan, 1975-1976

Scene VII: The Nightmare, 1976-1985

Scene VIII: Sophie's Laboratory, 1985

Scene IX: The BMI Workshop, 1986

Scene X: St. Vincent's Hospital, 1987

Scene XI: The Schubert Theatre, 1988

Musical Numbers:

*Additional lyrics by Brian Stein **Additional lyrics by Glenn Slater 18etter used with permission of the Kleban Foundation, Inc.

From A Chorus Line: Conceived, Choreographed and Directed by Michael Bennett: Book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante; Music by Marvin Hamlisch; Lyrics by Ed Kleban

Act One:

*Light On My Feet — Ed & Company One More Beautiful Song — Ed, Sophie, & Company Fridays at Four — Company Charm Song — Lehman & Company **Paris Through the Window — Ed, Bobby, & Charlie Mona — Mona Under Separate Cover — Lucy, Ed, & Sophie Don't Do It Again - Felicia & Ed Gauguin's Shoes — Ed & Company

Follow Your Star — Sophie, Ed, & Company

Act Two:

‡Better — Company Scintillating Sophie — Ed The Next Best Thing to Love — Sophie Broadway Boogie Woogie - Lucy §One — Company **İBetter** — Reprise — Ed & Company Say Something Funny — Company When Dawn Breaks — Ed Self Portrait — Ed & Company

BIOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTORS



ichael Serrecchia (Director) has had a wide and varied exposure to the American Musical Theatre, having been an original cast member of seven Broadway musicals. After moving to Dallas in 1985, Michael helped found the Denton Light Opera Co. In 1990. he joined The Turtle Creek Chorale and served on the artistic staff for two seasons. 1999 brought the collaboration of Michael and Robert Emery in the formation of Crossroads Theatre. Their productions of Steel Magnolias, Genderella, and Pageant (which won the Peoples Choice Column Award for best musical and best director of a musical for Michael) have become legendary. Earlier this season Michael directed the original musical To A

Dancing Star for the Turtle Creek Chorale and Rodgers and Hammerstein's Some Enchanted Evening for Plano Repertory Theatre. Michael has circled the globe three times as Chita Rivera's dance partner and in December 1999, Michael was honored as "Gypsy of the Year" along with the other original cast members of A Chorus Line in New York City at the Palace Theatre, But most importantly of all, Michael has just returned from Vermont where he was joined in Civil Union to Michael Robinson.



recently celebrated his 22nd anniversary as a member of the Theatre Three artistic staff. He has worked as an actor (Beyond Therapy, Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music, Sylvia, and For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls), director/accompanist (for over 50 productions), a stage director (Tomfoolery, I Love You, You're Perfect Now Changel, Art and Blood Brothers), and as Theatre Three's company manager. He was most recently seen on Theatre Three's stage as Hugo in God's Man in Texas.



avid Larson (Assistant Director) is very excited to be working at Theatre Three, especially with his longtime collaborator, Michael Serrecchia. They have teamed for such shows as Steel Magnolias, Generella, and Pageant at The Crossroads Theatre, also, The Wizard of Oz and many of the Turtle Creek Chorale productions. As an actor, you may have seen him recently as Northumberland in Shakespeare Festival's Henry IV, parts 1 and 2 or Cross Stage Right: Die! at The Pegasus Theatre. This is for Eddie.



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STAFF OF THEATRE THREE

..Executive Producer-Director

Administration

Terry Dobson. Company Manager, Joan Sleight, Director of Business Affairs; Nick Rushing, Computer Service Manager, Kimberly Richard, Director of Publications and Staff Communications

Production

Harland Wright, Director of Design; Terry Dobson, Musical Director, Patty Korbelic-Williams, Costumer, Linda Harrison, Production Manager, Jeffrey Schmidt, Master Carpenter, Trey Albright, Production & Facility Assistant

Customer Services

Tommy Looney, Subscription and Box Office Manager, Carol Crosby, Director of Telemarketing; Patty Korbelic Williams, Performance Box Office Supervisor; Rebecca M. Dees and Elaine Foster, Assistant Performance Box Office Supervisors; John Lang, House Manager, Darius Warren, Daytime Box Office Supervisor, Sally Cole Ainsworth, Assistant Daytime Box Office Supervisor; Jared Graham, Electronic Publications; Regan Adair, Tony Banda, Kristen Lamberth, Nancy Meeks, Liz Mikel, Ryan Smith Reservationists; Adair Ahrens, David Curtis, Roger Wilson, Telemarketing Staff; Jennifer Clary, Rebecca Roberts Finley, John Forkner, Brendan Hogan, Susannah Linnett, Rebecca Pense, Greg Wohead, Intern Staff,

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS







Jon Paul Burkhart

Shay Edwards

Candace Evans

Guiding Light, Walker.

Broadcast/Film:

Jennifer Freeman

on Paul Burkhart (Charley/Marvin Show and still Hamlisch) is pleased to be making downstairs in Dallas' his Theatra Three debut. Jon was last seen in Henry IV with the Shakespeare Festival of Dallas. playing Francis, the drawer. Other theatre roles include: Dogberry/Verges. Much Ado About Nothing: Roy. Cosi: Tom, Keeping Tom Nice: Arvide. Guvs and Dolls and Dr. Einstein, Arsenic and Old Lace. Jon is currently producing the second film he wrote entitled Easy Money. Jon holds a BFA in musical theatre performance from the University of

Oklahoma.

Chay Edwards

is very excited to be

returning to Theatre

in last season's

production of Side occasionally performs longest-running show. I Love You. You're Perfect, Now Change!. Some of Mr. Edward's favorite past productions have included: Cabaret. Into the Woods, Sweeney Todd. & Peter Pan. Shay wishes a special thank you to Terry Dobson for his continuing support.

Texas Ranger, Dr. T and the Women, and national/regional commercials. voiceovers and industrials. Ms. Evans has an MFA in Classical Acting and after relocating from NYC, taught for the theatre department of Southern Methodist University.

Symphony, the Wichita Sinfonia and the Oklahoma City Philharmonic. Favorite regional credits include: Carousel (Julie Jordan, OKC Lyric Theatre), The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Rosabud, OKC Lyric), Allegro (Beulah. Lyric Stage). Songs for a New World (Plano Rep). Words & Music by Kem (Magnolia, Stage One in Wichita), Fiddler on the Roof (Hodel, Garland Summer) and South Pacific (DTC). In December, she will once again be a guest soloist with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic. All love to her family, friends. and Troy.

andace Evans (Sophie) National/International Tours: Private Lives. Threepenny Opera, Macbeth, Grapes of Wrath, Side by Side by Sondheim

(Bobby/Michael of A Class Act. He was Theatre

Regional: Arena Stage, New American. Skylight Opera Theatre, Shakespeare Bennett) Festivals of Colorado. Wisconsin, and Dallas. Theatre Three, Lyric Three in this production Stage, and Watertower ennifer Freeman (Mona)

is thrilled to be back at Theatre Three after playing the role of Violet Hilton in Side Show. She recently completed the tour of Wizard Of Oz performing at Dallas Summer Musicals. Kansas City Starlight Theatre, Atlanta Theatre of the Stars. and Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. She has sung with the Dallas

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED



Ashley Puckett Gonzales



Doug Jackson



Kyle McClaran

Julie Stirman

shley Puckett Gonzales

(Felicia)

was last seen as Mother/Mrs. Dickens in Dallas Children's Theatre's Alexander and the Terrible...Bad Day. Other roles include Dot/Marie in Sunday in the Park with George, Alice in My Favorite Year at PRT each of which earned her Leon Rabin Awards. Frenchy in Casa Manana's Grease. Shy in Casa Manana's Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. Tamara/Watts/Cutie in Theatre Three's *The* Women, Maria in GCT's The Sound of Music, DCT's national tour of Island of the Skog and many more. Directing credits: Garland Children on Stage's Henry and Ramona and GCT's Yes Virginia There is A Santa Clause. Ashley is thrilled to work with this talented company.

oug Jackson (Ed Kleban)

veteran, proudly returns "home" where in 1983 Jac Alder signed him to his first Equity contract for Charlotte Sweet. T3: Little Shop of Horrors (Seymour, Dallas Critics award: Best Actor/Musical), The Threepenney Opera (Peachum), Lucky Stiff, Drood, Ballgames, A Day in Hollywood ..., Pump Boys..., and over a year in I Love You...Change! (T3 & Theatre Too). Recently: Henry IV -Shakespeare Festival Dallas, Our Town, The Front Page — DTC, It's a Wonderful Life -Majestic Theatre. Regional: Gypsy w/ Lainie Kazan, South Pacific (Luther Billis) w/ Cathy Rigby, The Music Man (Charlie Cowell) w/ John Schneider, My Fair Lady w/ Noel Harrison, Baby wi Larry Kert and Carol Lawrence. Local: A Christmas Carol (Scrooge), The Rocky Horror Show (Riff-Raff) All My Sons, Six

a thirty year stage

Degrees of Separation. Cyrano, Cotton Patch Gospel, Comedy of Errors, etc. Directing: Joseph/Dreamcoat. The Music Man. Miss Margarida's Way (Theatre Too), etc. Film: Carried Away w/ Dennis Hopper, JFK. Mississippi Burning, Frequent Fiver, etc. Representation: The Mary Collins Agency. Wife: actress Amy Mills, daughters: Emily and Abigail. Thanks to Jac, Michael, and Terry.

Louis in The Happy Time, Henry II in Lion in Winter, Big Daddy in Cat On A Hot Tin Roof. Elwood P. Dowd in Harvey and Richard III in New York's National Shakespeare Company Awards: Best Actor/ Dallas Times Herald, Best Director/Dallas Observer, and Most Innovative Director/ Dallas Moming News.

yle McClaran (Lehman Engel)

was last seen at Theatre Three in Art as Ivan, and was the director for last season's The Unexpected Guest. recently seen in Dallas Shakespeare Festival's Henry IV as Falstaff. Other favorite roles include Undershaft in Major Barbara, Uncle

back at Theatre Three, after appearing as Helen in Saturday Night, Linda in Blood Brothers, and Daisy Hilton in Side Show. Other credits include Falsettos with Uptown Players. State Fair with Brookhaven Theatre, and Brigadoon and A Christmas to Remember with Lyric Stage. Julie holds a

Bachelor of Music in

Musical Theatre from

the University of Miami

ulie Stirman

is tickled pink to be

(Lucy)

ABOUT A CLASS ACT

merican musical theatre is filled with magical stories of dreams come true that transport audiences to a romantic world of music, poetry, and happy endings. Ed Kleban loved creating these fantastic stories through music. After graduating from the High School of Music and Art, he attended Columbia University, where he wrote music for The Variety Show with book by fellow classmate and developing playwright Terrence McNally. He worked as a record producer at Columbia Records during the 1960's and produced several original cast recordings including Hallelujah, Baby! and Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris. During his career at Columbia, he worked with Andre Previn, Duke Ellington, and Jim Nabors.

However, Ed Kleban's true love was writing music for Broadway shows. To further develop his art, he joined the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop to learn from the legendary Broadway musical director Lehman Engel. In 1961, BMI, a performing rights organization, approached Lehman Engel about teaching a workshop on the basic concepts of writing musical theatre. There would be no tuition charge and class would be open to any writer. Lehman Engel would be the sole teacher and would create a specific curriculum for his students. As an exercise, Engel would assign students to write songs for plays he considered unadaptable for musical theatre such as A Streecar Named Desire and Death of A Salesman. The Workshop blossomed and soon intermediate and advanced classes were added. Although the Workshop originated in New York, Engel also agreed to teach classes in Los Angeles, Chicago, Nashville, and Toronto. Kris Kristoferson is a product of the Nashville workshop. Engel's main goal was to nurture talent and the results of his teaching are some of the best Broadway musical composers and lyricists: Maury Yeston, Alan Menken & Howard Ashman, David Spencer, Clark Gesner, and Carol Hall. Kleban joined the Workshop as a composer, but Lehman urged him to write lyrics as well. Despite composing hundreds of songs, Kleban would be remembered for his

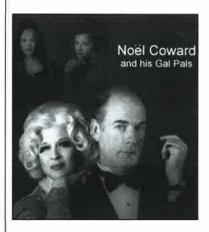
In January 1974, dancer and choreographer Michael Bennett met with 22 dancers in his studio at midnight. After an hour of dancing, they sat down and talked about their careers and why they felt they had to dance. Bennett recorded this discussion and many others. He was determined to tum these dancers' stories into a show. He chose Nicholas Dante and James Kirkwood to write the book, Marvin Hamlisch and Ed Kleban to compose the music and lyrics. Bennett was determined that this story would be almost entirely told in music. Marvin Hamlisch was an ambitious young composer. He had aiready won 3 Academy Awards in one night for Barbra Streisand's The Way We Were (best original song and best original dramatic score) and his adaptation of Scott Joplin's The Sting. He was determined to see his name in lights on Broadway before his thirty-fifth birthday. The result was A Chorus Line, an innovative musical that outlived Ed Kleban. It would be Kleban's greatest success. He won a Tony Award and a Pulitzer Prize for his lyrics.

Kleban's talent was now recognized and he was writing more than ever, but sadly, the projects he dedicated himself to were never produced. When Lehman Engel died in 1982 and left a void in American musical theatre, BMI looked to Engel's students to redevelop the Workshop. Ed Kleban, along with Maury Yeston, Alan Menken and several other BMI members, served as the new leaders of the renamed BMI-Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.

Five years later, Ed Kleban died of lung cancer at the age of 48. Like Lehman Engel, Kleban wanted to nurture talent. Just before he died, he establish the Kleban Foundation to support lyricists and librettists. The Foundation selects the beneficiaries and grants \$200,000 each year. A Class Act was conceived by Linda Kline and Lonny Price as tribute to a talented friend. The songs included in A Class Act had not been professionally produced. After the show debuted, critics hailed it as a valentine to musical theatre and Stephen Sondheim even named the song Better as the song he wished he had written. A Class Act is another Broadway dream come true - just what Ed Kleban wanted.

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Ed Kauffman, The Hollywood Reporter

"...a journey back to wit!"

Red Buttons, Las Vegas Sun

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Noel Coward & his Gal Pals

Gertrude Lawrence, Tallulah Bankhead and Marlene Dietrich

a

Theatre Three, Dallas

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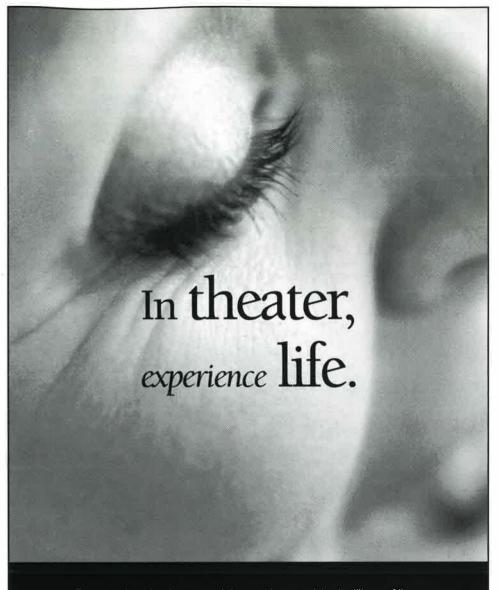


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John Simon, New York Magazine "Enchanting and delicious, Comic Potential glows warmingly..."

Ben Brantley, New York Times
Performance Times:

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A Comedy-Adventure by **Lindsay and Crouse**

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SHOW FOUR NOV 27, 2002 - JAN 4, 2002



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Unmatched for wit, heartfelt feeling. groundbreaking content, and sophistication, the songs of Rodgers and Hart are a great American theatrical treasure packaged as a holiday gift for our playgoers.

SHOW TWO AUG 22 - SEPT 28 2002



Music and Lyrics by Ed Kleban, Book by Linda Kline and Lonny Price

This perceptive, passionate, and amusing musical biography of Ed Kleban, the lyricist of a *Chorus Line*, spins out the story of a life dominated by a passion for theatre, and penchant for women, and a monumental talent

SHOW FIVE: JAN 16 - FEB 22 2003



A Drama by Michael Frayn

How is it that the Nazis didn't get the atom bomb built before America did? In this taut drama, we see the extraordinary combination of science, politics, friendships and near-miss circumstances that changed the world.

SHOW THREE: OCT 10 - NOV 16, 2002



A Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn

Favorite Theatre Three playwright, Alan Avckbourn has looked into the future to write about backstage television when robots will act in soap operas, and everyone's getting confused about what's real!

SHOW SIX: MAR 6 - APR 12, 2003



The Paris-Dallas Project

Paris-based American musician, actor, and director John McLean, working with Theatre Three's Jac Alder, will select, translate, and stage a contemporary Paris-produced play in a project that will give an American premiere to a contemporary French theatrical success.

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