

PLAYBILL®

May River Theatre
Ulmer Auditorium
Bluffton, SC

Tennessee
Williams

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

directed by Skip Corris



May River Theatre

PRESENTS

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

by
Tennessee Williams

with

Alex Clark

David McLaughlin

Kay Owen

Jayme Brinson

Lighting Design
Liz McGinnes

Set/Costume Design
Elizabeth Schlieger

Sound Design
Phil Mastman

Light Board Op
Eva Ganzell

Set Construction
Cindy Palko

Sound Board Op
Lyndsay Malphrus

Stage Manager
Haden Gonsowski

Directed by
Skip Corris

Original music composed by Eli Manos

The Glass Menagerie is presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.
440 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016
Phone: 212-683-8960 Fax: 212-213-1539
www.Dramatists.com

CAST

Cast Members

Tom Wingfield	David McLaughlin
Laura Wingfield	Alex Clark
Amanda Wingfield	Kay Owen
Jim O'Connor (Gentleman Caller)	Jayme Brinson

Production / Creative

Director	Skip Corris
Stage Manager	Haden Gonsowski
Light Design	Liz McGinnes
Sound Design	Phil Mastman
Set/Costume Design	Elizabeth Schlieger
Set Construction	Cindy Palko
Light Board Operator	Eva Ganzell
Sound Board Operator	Lyndsay Malphrus

SUMMARY:

Amanda Wingfield is a faded remnant of Southern gentility who now lives in a dingy St. Louis apartment with her son, Tom, and her daughter, Laura, who has a physical handicap and debilitating shyness. The father has left home; Tom supports his mother and sister with a shoe-factory job he finds unbearable. When Amanda convinces Tom to bring home from his workplace a "gentleman caller" for Laura, the illusions that Tom, Amanda, and Laura have each created in order to make life bearable collapse about them.

This production has two acts with a fifteen minute intermission.



Become Part of the MRT Team!

Volunteer Opportunities Available...



WHO'S WHO



David McLaughlin

as Tom Wingfield

David McLaughlin is an award winning Director, Musical Director, Choreographer, and Actor. Select performance credits include: *The Phantom of the Opera* (Phantom), *West Side Story* (Tony), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Brad), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Albert), *Sunset Boulevard* (Joe Gillis). Select directorial credits include: *RENT*, *Miss Saigon*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Miserables*, *Legally Blonde*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Urinetown*, *West Side Story*, *Heathers*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Reefer Madnes*, and *A Chorus Line*.



Alex Clark

as Laura Wingfield

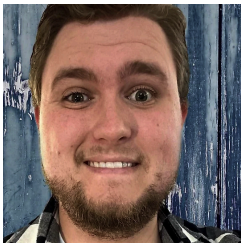
Alex Clark has been involved with theatre for over thirteen years - performing, directing, choreographing, and stage-managing! Last seen in *Heathers*, this is Alex's second show at MRT. Some favorite roles include Catherine in *Proof* and Jocasta in *Oedipus* at USCB where she majors in English Secondary Education. Alex also works as a theatre teacher at Heritage Academy and writing tutor at USCB.



Kay Owen

as Amanda Wingfield

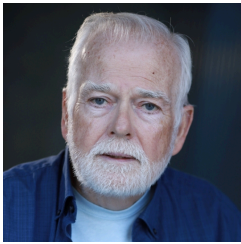
Kay is grateful for the opportunity to perform with dedicated & talented people. This is her 2nd appearance at MRT, *You Haven't Changed A Bit & Other Lies*. Her last role was in *Moon Over Buffalo* with Coastal Stage. Kay teaches belly dance at Revolution Ballroom in Beaufort. She lives on Distant Island with 7 cats & her sweet husband, George.



Jayme Brinson

Jayme is so grateful to be in his third show with MRT. Jayme is excited to dive into a more serious role with the *Gentleman Caller* and explore new avenues of acting within Tennessee Williams work. Jayme wants to thank May River Theatre for welcoming him into the family and providing a safe space to explore all aspects of the theater.

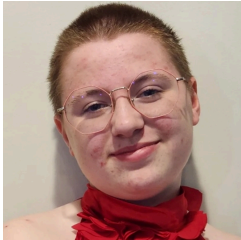
WHO'S WHO



Skip Corris

Director

Before coming to Bluffton, Skip enjoyed a dual career as an actor/director (O'Neill, Williams, Miller), and academic teacher in the Ohio prison system, while also serving on the state Hostage Negotiation Team. As a teacher, Skip was able to bring plays and dance pieces inside the walls of correctional facilities, and also got passes for his inmates to see Shakespeare and other plays he directed outside the walls.



Haden Gonsowski

Stage Manager

Haden is 17 years old and a freshman at USCB. This is Haden's second time stage managing for a May River Theatre production. Haden was stage manager for MRT's production of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. Haden has also been in shows such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Something Rotten*, *The Revolutionists*, *As She Likes It* and *A Christmas Carol*.

May River Theatre is excited to have the amazing cast and crew of *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* present their SCAD thesis production
March 10 - 12.

Tickets available through the MRT website.



THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE

BY JIM CARTWRIGHT

APRIL 28 -
MAY 7, 2023

DIRECTED BY LIZ MCGINNES

CAST: Ellie Friedman, Diane Reed Carter, Gregg
Steele Heppner, Elizabeth Schlieger,
Liz McGinnes, and Tony Falgiani.

AUDITIONS

APRIL 16 & APRIL 17, 2023



SHOW RUNS
6/30/23 -
7/09/23

Directed by
Elizabeth Schlieger

Music Directed by
David McLaughlin

Auditions open to the public ages 18+. We will be having both video and in person auditions for this show.

PAUL C. SHIRLEY, DMD
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



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MRT - A Series of One Acts - The Full Story

When developing our Series of One Acts our desire was to present an opportunity for young directors and new to us directors an opportunity to explore the type of theatre they wanted to present. To explore stories both old and new in a relatively risk free environment. With a few minor changes we are excited to open our submission process for our 2nd annual Series of One Acts. We can't wait to see what's brought to the table, or stage, that is. - MRT Board

New 2023 Series of One Acts Guidelines:

- One Acts need to be between 30 and 45 minutes.
- One Acts will be preformed in a Black Box setting.
- Both published and new plays will be considered.
- 2 One Acts will be paired and preformed during each weekend of performances.

General Information:

All Submissions are due by April 1st. Only shows where the entire script has been provided will be considered.

- Auditions will be held in July, 2023 and are open to the public.
- Performance Dates: August 4, 5, 6 and August 18,19, 20
- Royalties above \$250 will be the responsibility of the director.
- Directors will receive a \$250 stipend.
- Directors will receive up to \$250 for costumes/props.



Help us help you! Please take a moment to fill out the linked form



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

REFLECTIONS OF PERCEPTIONS

"This play is memory..."

People far smarter than I have said that our lives can be viewed as reflections of what we and others perceive ourselves to be.

Tennessee Williams, in the events of the play as well as his detailed commentary accompanying the text, introduces the characters in THE GLASS MENAGERIE through the memory of its narrator/participant Tom Wingfield.

Years after escaping his crushing St. Louis tenement to pursue - as did his father before him - the life of wanderer, Tom returns to the apartment he shared with his mother Amanda, and sister Laura, only to find the rooms uninhabited.

Wracked by guilt and regret over abandoning Laura and Amanda, Tom embarks on a memory journey through his last tumultuous months at home.

But memory often plays tricks, and so the events of Tom's life are sifted through many symbols – the grill-like bars of the fire escape outside the apartment, the ancient Victrola left behind by the absent father, whose portrait as a young, handsome soldier seems to mock Tom, his sister Laura, and his mother Amanda.

Amanda's own recollections of a happier life as a sought-after southern beauty are colored by her later desperation, while Laura sees herself from inside her memories of a painfully shy and "crippled" failure, with a slight physical disability barely perceptible to others.

The most important symbol, however, is Laura's collection of figurines - reflective pieces of shimmering glass which give her momentary respite from her painful day to day existence.

And so upon his return to the neighborhood, Tom tortures himself with memories of sadness, failure, loss, and the aching question of what may have become of Amanda and Laura.

But in addition to his text, Mr. Williams provides us with an extensive commentary the expressionistic, non-realistic play he has created.

Tom tells us that he is presenting truth in the form of illusion – but is his statement the truth of the play or is it itself illusion?

Memory, Williams tells us, can be tricky; not only tricky, but flawed.

And so as Tom concludes his visit reflecting on his sadness and loss, Tennessee Williams' commentary presents us with small, silver slivers of hope:

Has Amanda, who held the family together for years after her husband's desertion, given up her beautiful, unrealistic dreams of plantation life and regained the strength to carry on after Tom leaves?

Has Laura's long dreamed of encounter with her Gentleman Caller Jim O'Connor left her with the hope and confidence to now leave behind her crippling self-consciousness?

And finally, despite his illusory escape from a life of desperation in St. Louis, is perhaps the only Wingfield who remains trapped in memory our character/narrator, Tom?

MEET THE MRT BOARD



MISSION: May River Theatre is a nonprofit organization committed to engaging the Bluffton community through a breadth of quality theatrical performances that facilitate growth in both the production and understanding of the entire theatrical experience.

VISION: May River Theatre is the area community theatre that performers seek out when looking for productions that both challenge and showcase their full abilities, that new community members become involved in to build lasting relationships, and finally, MRT is the area community theatre that patrons attend who are interested in being entertained and challenged by a breadth of traditional and contemporary productions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Elizabeth Schlieger

Vice-President: Christa Fortney

Treasurer: Jeff Corry

Jennifer Green

Jayne Brinson

Liz McGinnes

Ellie Friedman

Gregg Heppner

Cindy Palko

May River Theatre is a nonprofit corporation with a 501(c)(3) IRS determination.

It's going to be a great year!

MAY RIVER THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

THE RISE AND FALL OF
LITTLE VOICE

BY JIM CARTWRIGHT



*The
Addams
Family*
A NEW MUSICAL
COMEDY



A graphic for the May River Theatre Company. On the left is a circular logo with 'May River' in a blue script font at the top, 'THEATRE COMPANY' in a smaller font below it, 'PRESENTS' in a white font on a blue banner across the middle, 'A SERIES OF ONE ACTS' in a white font below the banner, and '2023' at the bottom. The logo is surrounded by a decorative border of small gold dots. To the right of the logo is a blue rectangular box with the text 'Now Accepting Submissions' in white, bold, sans-serif font.