

THE
FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE
SEASON 45 — 1992



February 20 - 29, 1992

THE
FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE

Presents

Nunsense

*a musical comedy
by Dan Goggin*

directed by
Jay Burk

produced by
Doris Henley

February 20 - 29, 1992

*Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.
45 West 25th Street, New York, NY 10010*

THE CAST

Sister Mary Regina Sondra Foti
Sister Mary Hubert Glenda Stockton
Sister Robert Anne Bev Rogers
Sister Mary Amnesia Jane Ann Short
Sister Mary Leo Grayce DeWitt

TIME: The Present

PLACE: Mt. Saint Helen's School

Sister Mary Annette designed and built by
Pady Blackwood

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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 motherhouse in Cleveland. But they got off the plane in Newark by mistake. The order was "found" by the Newark Airport Police and the new motherhouse 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 Regina, Sister Mary Hubert and Sister 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.

Production Staff

Director Jay Burk
Producer Doris Henley
Stage Manager Tom Oliver
Choreography Grayce DeWitt
Light Board Operator Jim Moody
Props Lee Batchelor
Special Props by Bruce Birkhead
Wardrobe Dianah Atkins, Wendy Quick
Prompter Margaret Moseley
Set Construction Bob Hughart, Jay Burk,
Lewis Reese, Steve Baker,
Jim Atkins, & Arlen Gourley

Orchestra

Keyboards Jay Burk
Percussion Rusty Myers

Acknowledgements

Don Connors
KUAF
KEZA
KKID
KZBB
KFSA
KFSSM-TV
KPOM-TV

Polly Crews
KTCS
KFPW
KACJ
KLS
KMAG
KHBS-TV
KPBI-TV

Roberts Auto Salvage - Moffett, OK

Prior to the show, there will be various religious musical selections played for your enjoyment.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

WelcomeSr. Mary Regina
"Nunsense is Habit-Forming" Cast
"A Difficult Transition" Cast
"Benedicite"Sr. Mary Leo
"The Biggest Ain't the Best"Srs. Hubert and Leo
"Playing Second Fiddle"Sr. Robert Anne
"So You Want to Be a Nun"Sr. Mary Amnesia
"Turn Up the Spotlight"Sr. Mary Regina
"Lilacs Bring Back Memories"Srs. Regina, Hubert,
Leo & Amnesia
"Tackle That Temptation with a Time-Step"Sr. Hubert
& Cast

ACT TWO

"Growing Up Catholic"Srs. Robert Anne, Leo, Hubert &
Amnesia
"We've Got to Clean out the Freezer" Cast
"Just a Coupl'a Sisters"Srs. Regina and Hubert
"Soup's On" (The Dying Nun Ballet).....Sr. Mary Leo
"Playing Second Fiddle"(Reprise)Sr. Robert Anne
"I Just Want to be a Star"Sr. Robert Anne
"The Drive In"Srs. Robert Anne, Amnesia, & Leo
"I Could've Gone to Nashville"Sr. Mary Amnesia
"Gloria in Excelsis Deo" Cast
"Holier than Thou"Sr. Mary Hubert & Cast
"Nunsense Is Habit-Forming" (Reprise) Cast

Who's who in the Cast

SISTER MARY REGINA, the beloved Mother Superior of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, is originally from a small county in Ireland called Kilquirky. She headed the pioneering group of religious who established the leper colony in the Mediterranean and later returned to Hoboken as Superior General of the Order. After *Nunsense*, Mother Superior says she has no desire to continue in the theatre. But rumor has it that she would consider doing national commercials or a television series to raise money for the Order. Prior to taking her vows, Sister Mary Regina was **Sondra Foti**. Sondra has appeared in *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Front Page*, and *Seahorse*, among others. She has directed *Come Back to the 5 & Dime*, *Jimmy Dean*, *Jimmy Dean*, *Lunch Hour*, and *The Sunshine Boys*.

SISTER MARY HUBERT entered the Little Sisters of Hoboken upon graduation from Precious Blood Elementary School. Sister currently serves the Order as Mistress of Novices, training new recruits. Her position is not unlike a drill sergeant, however, she is the first to point out that her approach is more gentle—but firm. Sister is a little "off-the-wall" at times but this has been attributed to the fact that she was trampled by a camel that went berserk during the annual nativity pageant held in the leper colony. (She was portraying one of the three wise men.) Sister Hubert is the former **Glenda Stockton**. Miss Stockton was last seen at FSLT in *Steel Magnolias*. She was also seen on stage as Miss Mona in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. The sisters rarely discuss the fact that Glenda is in the army.

SISTER MARY ROBERT ANNE was a child of a disadvantaged Brooklyn family. After dropping out of Verna's Cashier School, Reverend Mother took pity on poor little **Bev Rogers** and accepted her into the Little Sisters of

Hoboken, where she became Sister Robert Anne. Today she is one of the most popular sisters with New Jersey kids because she speaks their language. Reverend Mother regrets the fact that a lot of this language is unprintable. Sister Robert Anne had a very checkered career prior to entering the convent. She moved here from Wichita, Kansas where she has appeared in *The Apple Tree*, *She Loves Me*, and other productions.

SISTER MARY AMNESIA is a truly lost soul. She arrived at the convent in her habit without a clue as to her identity...recalling only that a crucifix fell on her head. It has been said that she resembles **Jane Ann Short**, who learned ventriloquism when she became a Little Sister of Hoboken and previously appeared as a hooker in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* and a union organizer in *The Pajama Game*.

SISTER MARY LEO came to the order from an Illinois farm. She entered the convent to dedicate her life to God through the dance. Many people think that she took her name from the famous "leopard," but that is not true. She is named after her Uncle Leo, a notorious Chicago gangster. Sister thought that by taking his name, the Lord would go easy on him. She is a novice and has much to learn. Before joining the Order, Sister was known as **Grayce DeWitt**, who tested her dancing ability by running a dance school. Prior to taking her vow of poverty, Sister supported herself by portraying roles in *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Pajama Game* and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (where she met Sisters Mary Amnesia and Hubert).