



*The  
Taffetas*

*A New Musical*

*September, 1994*

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The Fort Smith Little Theatre  
presents

# THE TAFFETAS

A Musical Journey Through the Fabulous Fifties

Conceived by

RICK LEWIS

Additional material by

ARTHUR WHITELOW

Musical and Vocal Arrangements by

RICK LEWIS

new version June 23, 1993

Directed by  
SONDRA FOTI

Produced by  
PHANITA WILLIAMS

September 8-18, 1994

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

JANE ANN SHORT (Kaye) began her affair with the Fort Smith Little Theatre in 1984's "An Evening with Cole Porter." Since that time, she has appeared in "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas", "Pajama Game", and "Noises Off" (in which she shed articles of clothing in each production), and "Nunsense", (in which she shed her brain as sister Mary Amnesia). In her day job, she works as a legal assistant at Warner and Smith Law Firm. The rest of her life is spent trying to aggravate everyone. It's dirty job, but someone's got to do it.

TRACY RISLEY (Donna) is a Resource Teacher at Ballman Elementary School. She graduated from Southside where she participated in the Madrigal dinner for 3 years. Tracy attended Oklahoma Christian in OKC and appeared in "A Marriage Has Been Arranged". Since returning to Ft. Smith, she has performed with *One Accord*, an accapella women's group from West-Ark Church of Christ. This is Tracy's first show with Ft. Smith Little Theatre.

LYNDA TAYLOR (Peggy) is making her debut on the stage of the Fort Smith Little Theatre. However, she is no stranger to those of us backstage. She served as a prompter for "Miss Firecracker Contest" and "Rumors". Lynda also wants everyone to know that she is not really like the character she plays in "Taffetas" - just wait till you see her. Lynda is a Speech-Language Pathologist with the Fort Smith Public Schools

BEV ROGERS (Cheryl) moved to Vian, OK from Wichita, KS three years ago to be closer to her retired parents. She brought with her four teenage offspring-Jennifer (19), responsible for her mother's re-entry into the world of theatre, Jeremy and Jessica (17), responsible for their mother's crazed outlook on life, and Joseph (15) responsible for his mother's humility. Bev has appeared as Sister Robert Ann in "Nunsense" and Belinda Blair in "Noises Off" at FSLT, plus numerous productions for Derby Community Theatre, (cont'd)

(cont'd) Kechi Playhouse and Wichita Association for the Arts prior to her relocation. She had her singing debut with a high school girls gospel quartet, at the age of 12 and is choir director for First Presbyterian Church in Sallisaw, OK. Musicals have always been her favorite theatrical production.

CLYDE HUTCHINGS (Rick Lang) first appeared on stage at FSLT last year in "84 Charing Cross Road". He has worked on other shows doing lighting and sets; "Miss Firecracker Contest", "Rumors", and "Daisy Pulls It Off". He has studied tap for two years with Grayce DeWitt, but this is his first singing performance, other than the shower. He is currently working at St. Edward Mercy Medical Center.

LeANN BLACK (Galaxy Girl) is making her debut at FSLT. but, she is no stranger to modeling. Her career started as a child, when she was the model child her parents had always dreamed about. Since then she has modeled for the infamous Mary Kay Cosmetic Co. She is pursuing a modeling career, but she has not yet quit her day job at ABF Freight Systems.

RONALD JOHNSON (Cameraman) has just finished a successful run in the FSLT production of "A Few Good Men". He again appeared for tryouts of "The Taffetas" not to be on stage but to work as crew on props. Well, Soni thought he would be good in the part of the cameraman and the rest is history. Here he is again!

CLARK RISLEY (Stagehand) holds a BSE in speech from Oklahoma Christian. He was involved in all areas of theatrical productions while there. This is his first appearance on the FSLT stage.

RILEY BLACK (Doggie in the Window), at only 5 months is a newcomer to the Little Theatre and the world in general. His past performances include looking pitiful when left alone, and acting innocent after piddling on the floor. His hobbies include sleeping, chewing up ink pens, and barking throughout the wee hours of the morning. Riley hopes to continue his acting career in an off-Broadway production of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" later this year.

(cont'd next page)

## THE CAST

KAY	Jane Ann Short
DONNA	Tracy Risley
PEGGY	Lynda Taylor
CHERYL	Bev Rogers
RICK LANG	Clyde Hutchings
GALAXY GIRL	LeAnn Black
CAMERAMAN	Ronald Johnson
GRIP	Clark Risley
DOGGIE IN THE WINDOW	Riley Black

## THE SETTING:

The Dumont Television Network proudly presents:  
"SPOTLIGHT ON MUSIC"  
From New York City - 1953

## THE PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR	Sondra Foti
PRODUCER	Phanita Williams
CHOREOGRAPHER	Paula Sharum
SET DESIGN	Jay Burk
SET CONSTRUCTION	Jay Burk, Darrell Smith, Steve Smith
STAGE MANAGER	Jean Santana
PROPS	Marty Morris, Bruce Birkhead
FASHION COORDINATORS	Wilma McCauley, Carole Rogers
LIGHTS	Jim Moody, Michael Newcity
SOUND	John Heyn
MUSICAL DIRECTOR	George Mann
GALAXY PRODUCT DESIGNER	Bruce Birkhead
PIANO	George Mann
PERCUSSION	Rusty Myers
LOBBY FLORAL DISPLAY	Bruce Birkhead
CHAMPAGNE NIGHT HOSTS	PRN Patient Rental Needs

*There will be a ten-minute intermission between the acts*

(Who's Who cont'd)

GEORGE MANN (Music Director) is Director of Music for Goddard United Methodist Church, something which supports his musical habit. His introduction to the Little Theatre came last year as musical director of "Broadway". He has accompanied seven years worth of musicals for Southside High School. George tends to be adversely affected by nasal allergies, but is hopeful that this will not be a factor during the performances of "Taffetas". His hobbies include calligraphy, foreign language and soothing the bruised ego of his Yorkie-Poo, Pippin, who has had a difficult time accepting the fact that he didn't get the part of the "doggie in the window".

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## Director's Greeting

*Dear Patrons,*

*Thank you so very much for attending our production of "Taffetas". I know you will enjoy it. It should bring back lots of memories and many of you will be able to sing every song. The cast is too young to remember these songs, but during rehearsal, Phanita, Wilma and I have been singing them all.*

*The cast has worked very hard on this show - It's nearly all four-part harmony, and with 19 musical numbers in the show, and the choreography and lines, they certainly had a lot of work. But let me say this, they have had a great time. The giggling and misbehaving made me feel like I was in a classroom, sometimes.*

*I have a wonderful cast and crew, as you will see. We have had a lot of fun and that is what community theatre is all about. I only hope you enjoy this show as much as we have.*

*Soni Foti*