

PLAYBILL

Trinity Street Players Present

SIDE SHOW



OCT
12-28

DIRECTED BY ERIC VERA
BOOK & LYRICS BY BILL RUSSELL
MUSIC BY HENRY KRIEGER

Side Show

Book and Lyrics by Bill Russell and Music by Henry Krieger

Director-Eric Vera | Musical Director-Paul Pew | Choreographer-Adam Roberts

Cast

Daisy.....	Ann Catherine Zárate
Violet.....	Sarah Zeringue
Terry.....	Kirk Kelso
Buddy.....	Andrew Cannata
Jake, Cannibal King.....	Roderick Sanford
Sir, Ensemble.....	Rick Felkins
Auntie, Bearded Lady, Ensemble.....	Michelle Alexander
Fortune Teller, Ensemble.....	Ryan Smith
Ray, Tod Browning, Geek, Ensemble.....	Leslie R. Hethcox
Sir's Lawyer, Half Man Half Woman, Ensemble.....	Michael Reyna
Camera Man, Three Legged Man, Ensemble.....	Robert Joseph
Tattoo Girl, Ensemble.....	Lariena Armstrong
Houdini.....	Steve Williams

Production Staff

Stage Manager.....	Meredith Connely
Set Designer.....	Steve Williams
Lighting Designer.....	Chris Conard
Sound Designer	Scott Ferguson
Costume Designer.....	Colleen PowerGriffin
Assistant Choreographer.....	Ryan Smith
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Kailynn Cannata
Spotlight Operator.....	Ryan Davis

TSP Staff

Artistic Director.....	Ann Zárate
Technical Director	Steve Williams
Graphic Designer	Elizabeth O'Brien
FBC Business Manager.....	Marshall Smith

Band - Alan Jefferson, Drums; Paul Pew, Piano;

Adrienne Banks, Cello; Syd Polk, Reeds

A Note From the Directors

Musical revivals offer today's audiences so much. They offer a sense of nostalgia and the past, all while commenting on present day and looking toward the future. And Side Show has a lot to say about 2018. The extraordinary lives of Daisy and Violet Hilton highlight the ways differences both unite and divide us. The musical's exploration of themes revolve around racial tensions, physical disabilities, and the differences that are not always visible to the naked eye. The incredible cast of "freaks" we meet throughout the work, drive this idea home as well.

But who are the true "freaks?" Though social media and technology have changed the ways we gawk at those different than us, we still want to watch, and more importantly, comment.

Daisy and Violet are like everybody else. They are our friends, our sisters, our mothers, our next-door neighbors. They want everything we want. And they teach us. They teach us to keep around the people who "will love you as you are."

You came to look at the freaks. You came to see a show, and by golly, you are going to get one. Sit back, relax, and welcome to the Side Show!

— Eric Vera, Director

In a world of increasing hostility and division, it's the job of art to pick up where our schools, courthouses and even churches are leaving off. What does it mean to separate humans into categories of "normal" and "the other." From football, to scholarship, to our neighborhoods, to religion, to politics, to war; as a community we are quickly becoming subject matter experts on what it means to (at best) dehumanize those around us and (at worse) institutionalize those distinctions.

"See what Hollywood seeks," Daisy sings, and it stings a little. Because she turns the mirror back on us. For their story is ours as well.

—Ann Zarate, Artistic Director

Historical Timeline

February 5, 1908 Daisy & Violet are born to Kate Skinner in Brighton England. It was reported that they were the first conjoined twins born in the UK who survived more than a few weeks.

1911 "The United Twins" toured Britain. Mary Hilton, "Auntie," procured the twins after aiding in their birth. The twins also toured Germany and Australia.

1916 "The Hilton Twins" toured America.

1926 Bob Hope danced with the twins as "Dancemedians."

1931 The twins sued their managers: Mary's daughter Edith and her husband Meyer Meyers. They won their freedom.

1932 The twins starred in the film *Freaks*.

1936 Violet married gay actor James Moore as a publicity stunt.

1941 A second publicity stunt: Daisy married Harold Estep, known as dancer Buddy Sawyer, who was also gay.

1951 The twins starred in *Chained for Life*, an exploitation film loosely based on their lives.

1961 They took a job at a grocery store in Charlotte, North Carolina.

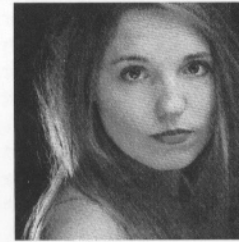
January, 4 1969 the twins died of Hong Kong Flu in NC; first Daisy, then Violet four days later.

October 16, 1997 *Side Show* opened at the Richard Rodgers Theater.

In 2012, Leslie Zemeckis filmed a documentary, *Bound by Flesh*, about the sisters' lives.

November 17, 2014, having undergone re-writes, *Side Show's* revival opened at the St. James Theater on Broadway.

Cast & Crew



Ann Catherine Zarate (Artistic Director/Daisy) founded and serves as Artistic Director for both Trinity Street Players and HBMG Foundation's National Winter Playwrights Retreat in Creede, CO. Ann has performed at Creede Rep, Id Theatre, ZACH, Austin Playhouse, Robidoux Resident Theatre, and studied vocal performance with Betty Buckley. In a past life, she served First Austin as Rev. Ann Pittman, but now has found her favorite role to be that of Happy Homemaker: partner to playwright, Manuel Zarate and mother to Baby Z. Here's to the freaks! annzarate.com



Sarah Zeringue (Violet) is humbled to be sharing this story alongside some of Austin's finest artists. Sarah performed in TSP's *Blood Brothers* (Linda), and TSP/AJRT collaborations *Into the Woods* (Cinderella) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava). Credits: *Seminar* (Kate – Jarrott Productions), *The Art of Remembering* (Rebecca – AJRT), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Columbia – Doctuh Mistuh), *Triumph of Love* (Leonide) and *Chess* (both Austin Playhouse), as well as with ATP, City, Different Stages, ZACH, Casa Mañana, and other companies throughout Oklahoma and New York.



Eric Andrew Vera (Director) is an experienced director, educator, performer, and is delighted to direct for TSP. Eric served as executive artistic director of the Camille Playhouse in Brownsville, Texas before becoming a Ph.D. student at The University of Texas at Austin. Eric holds a B.F.A. from UT and an M.A. from The University of Northern Colorado. In Austin, he received a B. Iden Payne nomination for his portrayal of Horton in *Seussical* (ZACH). Eric is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA.



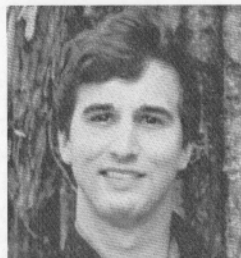
Steve Williams (Technical Director/Set Design/Houdini) is happy to return to the role of Houdini, which he also played in *Ragtime* (ZACH). On the other side of the curtain, he is excited to work on this show as a designer. Steve's been performing at TSP since 2011, but coming on as Technical Director in 2017, Steve designed both *Kindertransport* and *J'oy Vey*. Other design credits include: *Blood Brothers* (TSP), *Tarzan*, *A Funny Thing Happened...*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Cabaret* (Georgetown Palace).



Paul Pew (Music Director) is a veteran of scores of shows #pun and is excited to be working with Trinity Street Players for the first time. He has directed *Cabaret*, *Phantom*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Cyrano*, *Next to Normal*, *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *Evita*, *Parade*, *Last Five Years*, *Secret Garden*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Fantasticks* and *Showboat* back in 1980. He teaches math at McCallum High School, where he is also active in the theater program, and sings with Conspirare.



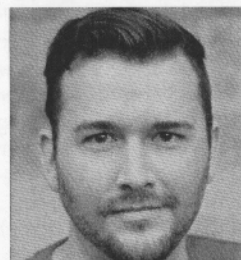
Adam Roberts (Choreographer) is thrilled to return to Trinity Street Players! Adam is Senior Creative Director at Shalom Austin, Producing Artistic Director of the Austin Jewish Repertory Theater, Co-Founding Artistic Director of TILT Performance Group, and Director of Music at St. Luke United Methodist Church. He holds a master's degree in music from the Florida State University and an Executive Certificate in Arts & Culture Strategy from the University of Pennsylvania/National Arts Strategies. Learn more about Adam and his work at adamkroberts.com.



Chris Conard (Lighting Designer) is an Austin-based artist, designer, carpenter, and scenic painter. He graduated from Santa Fe University of Art and Design with a BFA in Technical Theater design. He is interested in creating original work that challenges the viewer, the institutions of normality, and perspectives of reality. He was the recipient of the 2017 and 2018 Austin Critics Table Award for Best Set Design and the 2017 B. Iden Payne Award winner for Outstanding Set Design and was nominated by the Austin Critics Table for Best Lighting Design in 2017. Chris is pursuing his MFA in Design and Technology from UT.



Colleen PowerGriffin (Costume Designer) has designed, draped, and run wardrobe for educational, regional, and touring productions. Local design credits include *Significant Other*, *Seminar*, *The Father* (Jarrott Productions); *Grease*, *And Then There Were None* (TexARTS); *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Summer Stock Austin). As a draper, Colleen has developed and built costumes for ZACH, Zilker Summer Musicals, Texas State University, St. Edward's University, UT Austin, UT Arlington, Harris Costumes Fort Worth, Jaston Williams, and The Old Globe Theatre in San Diego.



Scott Ferguson (Sound Designer), is both designer and performer. He's designed sets for *How to Succeed...*, *As Butterflies*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Into the Woods*, *The Art of Remembering*, and *W.*, for which he was nominated for a B. Iden Payne. Favorite performances include Leo in *Parade* and the Out Youth fundraiser at Austin's St. Luke United Methodist Church. Scott is the Technical Director of TILT Performance Group and Austin Jewish Repertory Theater where he also works in digital design.



Meredith Connely (Stage Manager) holds an MFA in Directing and has directed, designed, and stage managed for various theatre companies around the country, including local companies Austin Shakespeare, Zilker, Doctuh Mistuh, City Theatre, Jarrott Productions, Georgetown Palace, Trinity Street Players, and others. Favorite productions include *Same Time*, *Next Year* (Director – Georgetown Palace Theatre), *The Buddy Holly Story* (Stage Manager – Georgetown Palace Theatre), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Director – City Park Players), and *Oklahoma* (Stage Manager – Black Hills Playhouse).



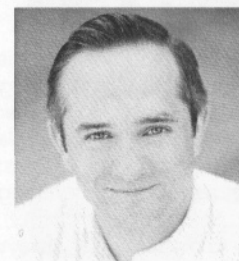
Kailynn Cannata (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to return to TSP. Past productions at TSP include *Songs That Slay*: *Songs of Art*, *Faith and Halloween* and *Dani Girl*. Kailynn has also stage managed and worked for Zilker Theatre Productions for the past 10 years, including productions of *All Shook Up*, *Shrek the Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Footloose the Musical*, *Annie*, & *Beauty and the Beast*.



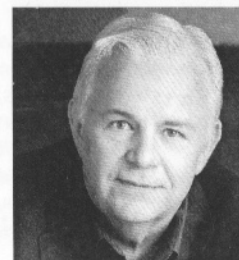
Michelle Alexander (Auntie/Bearded Lady/Ensemble) is excited to join this cast of beautiful freaks. A native Austinite, she's performed at many theaters. She was most recently seen as Sylvia in *Zilker Summer Musical: All Shook Up*. Other performances include *Mary Poppins*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *ZACH's Christmas Carol*, *The Vibrator Play*, *Xanadu*, (ZACH); *Trust Me, Love* (Austin Scottish Rite); and *The Art of Remembering* (Austin Jewish Repertory). She is the Theatre Arts Director for Brentwood Christian School.



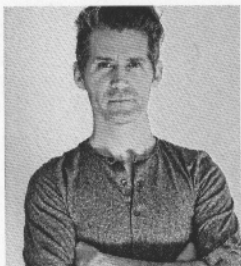
Lariena Armstrong (Tattoo Girl/Ensemble) is thrilled be making her TSP debut. You may have recently seen her in *Mame* and *42nd Street* (Georgetown Palace), *NunSense* and *Chicago* (City Theatre) and the *Wizard of Oz* (Zilker). She wishes to thank her teachers at Sky Candy for her newfound circus skills, her family for their unwavering love and support, and the creative team for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing experience.



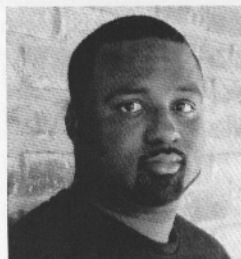
Andrew Cannata (Buddy Foster) is ecstatic to be back at TSP where he performed as Raph in *Dani Girl* (B. Iden Payne award) and *Songs That Slay*. Other credits include Chad in *All Shook Up*, Scarecrow in *Wizard of Oz*, Lord Farquaad in *Shrek*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Zilker); Marius in *Les Miserables*, and Younger Brother in *Ragtime* (ZACH). He would like to thank everyone who has supported his passion of theatre, especially his family and his beautiful wife, Kailynn.



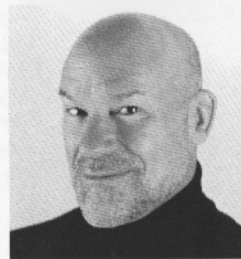
Rick Felkins (Sir/Ensemble) is happy to be back at Trinity Street Players where he played Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* for which he received a B. Iden Payne nomination (TSP/Austin Jewish Repertory Theater). He was last seen onstage at City Theater in *The Seafarer* and also appeared there in *Pageant*; *Love, Valour, Compassion*; *A Man for All Seasons* and *12 Angry Men*. Favorite local performances include *42nd Street* and *King Arthur* in *Spamalot* at the Georgetown Palace.



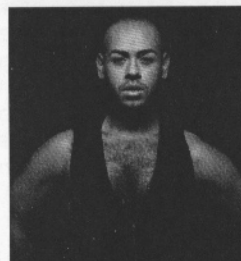
Leslie R. Hethcox (Ray/Tod Browning/Geek/Ensemble) At TSP: *Wolf/Cinderella's Prince*, *Into the Woods*. Regional favorites include: *Beauty & the Beast*; *Blood Brothers*; *Cabaret*; *Chicago*; *The Drowsy Chaperone*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *Oklahoma! Pageant*; *Ragtime*; *Romeo & Juliet*; *The SantaLand Diaries*; *Sophisticated Ladies*; *Singin' in the Rain*; *Follies*; *The Tempest*. Tours: *MS Asuka*; *MS Seaward*; *Queen Elizabeth II*; *Fame* (European). Companies: Ballet Mississippi; Chamberlain Ballet; Ft Worth Ballet; Lone Star Ballet. Film: Richard Linklater's *Bernie*.



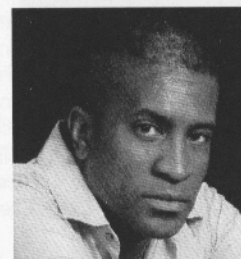
Robert Joseph (3 Legged Man/Ensemble) is excited to make his TSP debut! While old home videos would indicate that he has always been a performer, he was most recently seen on stage as Junior in *Dearly Departed* (Georgetown Palace). Favorite roles include Walter Lee in *A Raisin in the Sun* and Lucien in *The Boys Next Door*. Robert thanks God the Creator, for giving man the ability to create, his middle school drama teacher Lloyd Clingman, and his parents, family, and friends for their unending support. Wakanda forever!



Kirk Kelso (Terry Connor) is elated to return to TSP after a performance here in *Blood Brothers* in 2012. Favorite local roles include Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* (Zilker) for which he received a B. Iden Payne nomination; Arles Struvie/Didi Snavey/Vera Carp/et al in *A Tuna Christmas* (Georgetown Palace); Miss Texas in *Pageant: The Musical*, Gregory Mitchell in *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (City Theatre). He's had several Broadway World Austin awards for musicals and comedy. kirkwerks.com



Michael Reyna (Half Man Half Woman/Ensemble) is excited to be back with TSP in *Side Show* after performing in *Dani Girl* last year. He's also currently in *Wake Up Brother Bear* at ZACH. Austin Credits: *Singing In The Rain*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (ZACH); and *Esther's Follies*. NY Credits: Frank in *Rocky Horror*, Victor/Victoria, and *Something Outrageous*. Film/TV: *Step Up 3D*, *Mildred Pearce* (HBO), *Law and Order*, and *SVU*. Thank you to my family for always encouraging me.



Roderick Sanford (Jake) has appeared in numerous musical theatre productions throughout the Austin area. They include *DreamGirls*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Once On this Island*, *The Gospel At Colonus*, *Blues In The Night*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Ain't Misbehaving*, *It Ain't Nothing But The Blues*, *Porgy & Bess*, *Ragtime*, *The Full Monty*, *RENT*, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe* and ZACH's *A Christmas Carol*.



Ryan Smith (Assistant Choreographer/Fortune Teller) recently played the title role in a staged reading of *Esther, A New Musical*. Regional Theatre: Mary Poppins, *Les Misérables*, *RENT*, *Jesus Christ Superstar/Jesucristo Superestrella* (ZACH), *City of Angels*, *Peter Pan*, *The Sounds of Music* and *Oliver!*. Favorites include Pam in *Baby with Austin Theatre Project* and *Baker's Wife* in *Into the Woods* with TSP and Austin Jewish Repertory Theater which earned her a B. Iden Payne nomination. She's a graduate of AMDA in NYC.

Become a Member of the TSP Entourage!

Trinity Street Players is a nonprofit theater relying on the generous passion of volunteers to make everyone's theater experience excellent. From first entering the building to after the curtain falls, it takes a dedicated village to tell a story successfully. Help us create great art in the heart of Austin! Sign up online or in the lobby tonight!

I Gotta Be Social

You're gonna have to turn off that phone before the show starts cuz... theatre etiquette and stuff. Seriously though, your face lights up when you're texting in the dark. We can totally see you posting on Pinterest from the stage.



BUT, if you're thinking about checking in on Facebook before you switch it to silent and stuff it in your pocket, then "like" Trinity Street Players and tag us in your post!



Do you just have to find the perfect filter for that pic you took of our fabulous set? Hashtag with #TSPSideshow and check out the other posts and photos!

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Dave Anderson, Trinity Street Entourage Coordinator; and to First Austin members & friends for help with construction, technology, donating costume pieces, props, and concessions! Chrislyn & Philip Adkins, Amy Brees, Deb Keenan, Rhonda Machen, Jared Slack, Debra Watkins, David Weaver, & Sarah Zeringue Manuel Zarate, Debbie & Geary Zeringue!

Trinity Street Players Ten Years Keeping Art in the Heart of Austin 2008-2018

Aria Da Capo

The Diaries of Adam and Eve

Inherit the Wind

Steel Magnolias

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

You Can't Take It With You

The Fantasticks

Incident at Vichy

Shadowlands

The Nerd

Three Viewings

Proof

Blood Brothers

Coriolanus

Almost Maine

The Sunset Limited

Marvin's Room

Fiddler on the Roof (with AJRT)

Haunted Songs, a cabaret fundraiser

Our Town

Heralding the Holidays, a cabaret fundraiser

Into the Woods (with AJRT)

Lone Riders, a new work by Carol Krause

Oh the Places You'll Hide, a cabaret fundraiser

After the Fair (with Mainstreet Musicals)

Dani Girl

Songs That Slay, a cabaret fundraiser

J'oy Vey, a new work by Lojo Simon and Anita Simons

Kinderttransport (with AJRT)

Sideshow

Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins (with R&R Productions)

The Tiny Burger, A new work by Alice Stanley

Trinity Street Players, ETC, and R&R Productions present...

RED HOT PATRIOT!

The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins


by Margaret Engel and Allison Engel
directed by Richard H. Pegg
starring Rhonda Brown

"Spectacular!"
- North Denver Tribune

"Kindred Firecracker
Rhonda Brown once
again lights up the
theater as Ivins!"
- TheatreColorado

NOV 2-4

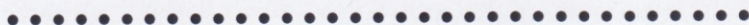
8pm & 2pm
with a special post-show
talk-back Sunday with
Valinda Bolton
& Suzi Poynter



Tickets \$30 | trinitystreetplayers.com | Trinity Street Playhouse
901 Trinity Street Austin, TX 78701

Next Up at Trinity Street Players

Spend election weekend at the theatre with Texas' own Molly Ivins! Laugh at **Red Hot Patriot** - three days only! Nov 2-4 with special female-paneled talkback with Suzii Paynter, Valinda Bolton, and actor Rhonda Brown after Sunday's matinee!



Auditions for **The Tiny Banger**
written by by Alice Stanley directed by Adam Sussman
October 20th

Sign up for your audition online
or email reservations.tsp@gmail.com

Dope Fiend, Jailbird, and their son Tiny Banger are a homeless family trying to survive an increasingly hostile city illustrated by a contemporary spin on Charlie Chaplin's Tramp archetype and film aesthetic. Pervasive perceptions about homelessness illuminate the criminalization measures that keep this family trapped in the cycle of homelessness and incarceration. As the silent film world strips away, audiences encounter the messy, complex world in which the family actually lives.



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