

AL6  
Sam Bass Theatre Presents



Adapted by ANTHONY STIMAC from the play by ANNA CORA MOWATT, Music  
by DON PIPPIN, Lyrics by STEVE BROWN

Directed by Frank Bengé

Choreographed by Eve Lerma / Vocal Direction by Heather Rosen

Presented by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



community theatre

(512) 244-0440 [www.sambasstheatre.org](http://www.sambasstheatre.org)

Historic Old Depot Stage, 600 Lee Street in Memorial Park, Round Rock, 78664



# SBCT Board of Directors

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## President's Letter

Hello and welcome to Fashion, the High Style Musical!

We are very proud to present this show and all the other shows we have brought you during the 2009-2010 Season. It's been a great year here at Sam Bass Theatre and we are planning to wrap it all up with our Youth Guild production of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* this summer. We are once again busy putting together a stellar line up for our big 30th Season! Yes, you read that right! We have been producing quality theatre here at SBCT for 30 years!

I can't tell you anything about the shows yet, but what I can tell you is that they cover a wide range of interest and will bring you more of what you've come to expect at The Old Depot Stage. So keep your eyes on your mailbox and our website this summer for the big announcement.

I would like to acknowledge two of our SBCT regulars who have garnered Applause Awards from [austintlivetheatre.com](http://austintlivetheatre.com)! Frank Bengé was recognized for his acting in both *Murdered to Death* and *Waiting for Godot*. Veronica Prior was recognized for her costume design for *Murdered to Death* and her amazing direction of *Waiting for Godot*.

Congratulations to you both!

Enjoy the show!

Lynn S. Beaver, SBCT President

# 2009 - 2010 Season Membership

ANGEL \$3000+

City of Round Rock

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INDIVIDUAL \$15

Linda & Stuart Goldsmith, Rylei Brown, Beverly Tinsley,

Lynn Beaver, Veronica Prior, Linda Myers



If you haven't already done so, please consider becoming a Member of Sam Bass Community Theatre. Your generosity helps us to bring quality live theatre to Round Rock and surrounding communities at an affordable price.



# Bravo!



Congratulations to  
Frank Bengé and Veronica Prior  
for receiving Applause Awards from  
Austinlivetheatre.com



**Frank Bengé**  
Actor in Comedy

*Inspector Pratt - Murdered to Death*  
*Vladimir - Waiting for Godot*



**Veronica Prior**  
Director - *Waiting for Godot*  
Costumes - *Murdered to Death*



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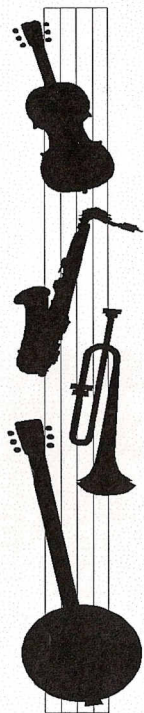
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**David Blackburn (Pianist)** David studied music and theatre at the North Carolina School of the Arts and Appalachian State University. He began his professional career as music director of a summer stock production of *The Apple Tree* at the age of 16. Since then he has been music director for hundreds of musicals. Among his favorites are *Once on this Island*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *The World Goes 'Round* (The Music of Kander & Ebb), *Into the Woods*, *Evita*, *Pacific Overtures*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Who's Tommy*, *The Full Monty*, and *Sweeney Todd*. Mr. Blackburn is an accomplished pianist and has played with the national touring companies of *The Most Happy Fella*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Victor/Victoria*. He has served as Music Director/Conductor for Royal Viking Cruise Line, Carnival Cruises, and American Hawaiian Cruises.

Mr. Blackburn has composed the scores for 18 original musicals. Recently, he composed orchestrations for the award-winning playwright Stephen Dolginoff's new musical *Panic*. He was commissioned by Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, to write orchestrations for their new version of the musical, *Sleepy Hollow*.

# From Our Director



I have been talking about directing *Fashion* at SBCT for close to a decade. I should start this story by explaining that this is not my "first time at the rodeo" when it comes to this show. That fact, more than any other, is why it took me the last decade to get around to doing this show... I needed to line up the right creative team. I hold a very fond place in my theatrical heart for this show and my love affair with it goes all the way back to 1974 when I first saw it Off-Broadway at the McAlpine Rooftop Theatre during its original New York run.

Back in the days when the price of New York theatre didn't mean selling your first-born into slavery, I used to make annual trips to the Big Apple. I would have 1 or 2 shows already planned and purchased but everything else would be a spur of the moment decision based on what was available at the Times Square TKTS booth. That is how I came to see *The Hot I Baltimore*, the first show I directed here, and it's how I first came to see the show that you are seeing tonight. As I sat in the audience, I kept thinking that this was a perfect community theatre show. The next day, I went to the Drama Book Shop to see if it had been running long enough for a script to be published. Happily, it had and I took a copy back home with me to show to Phil Grecian as a suggestion for the upcoming season at the Playhouse In The Park. I even offered to design the set. He liked the script and scheduled it for the next season. I ended up not only designing the set but also playing the only male role in the show. It remains an experience that I remember as being more fun than an actor should be allowed to have. *Fashion* is not your average musical. Heck, it's not even your average evening in the theatre. Although it has many similar qualities to *Dames At Sea* and *Little Mary Sunshine*, both glorious spoofs of show business, it is its own unique animal. First off, it's a musical adaptation of an important piece of theatrical literature by the first American woman to achieve popular success as a playwright. *Fashion* was acclaimed by audiences and critics alike. Theatre historians mark it as one of the first successful efforts to create a distinctively American comedy of manners. Aside from that, however, this adaptation is a musical within a play. We are watching performers rehearse this new musical. So, right off the bat, everyone on stage is playing two different characters at the same time. Not average. Add in the backstage drama that boils to the front and the old adage of "the show must go on" and you have the recipe for comedic mayhem.

Over the last few years the fates began introducing me to the people who were the right creative team for this show. Eve Lerma created the choreography for *All In The Timing* and when she embraced my idea for that production's finale with glee, I knew I had found the choreographer. My vocal director, Heather Rosen, came to the project during *Schoolhouse Rock* thanks to Lynn Beaver and Tara Bonds. I realized that I would probably never get the planets to line up like this again, so when I asked, they all thankfully said yes. The show was then a go...

*Fashion* is not an easy show to describe to people... the closest I've been able to come is that it is like *Hello Dolly* meets *Noises Off*. I sincerely hope that you are as royally entertained as I was 36 years ago...

Frank Bengé, Director



# The Cast

In order of appearance

EVELYN (Mrs. Pearl Tiffany).....LINDA MYERS  
KIM (Colonel Howard).....ASHLEY ZEH  
JEAN (Millinette).....EMILY RAMSEY  
NAN (Adam Trueman).....KATHY FINN  
RICHARD (Count Joliamatre).....GENE STORIE  
RITA (Seraphina Tiffany).....RODNESHA GREEN  
PAT (Mr. Anthony Tiffany).....PEGGY SCHOTT  
SUZANNE (Joseph Snobson).....VERONICA PRIOR  
MARION (Gertrude).....ASHLYN NICHOLS  
PIANIST.....DAVID BLACKBURN



## The Setting

Time:  
Today

Place:

The living room on Long Island, of Evelyn and Edward Rich.

It is also the headquarters of the  
Long Island Masque and Wig Society,  
an organization devoted to the preservation of early  
American drama.

There will be one 15 minute intermission

# Musical Numbers

## ACT ONE

### Pearl's Hat Shop

1. The Rococo Rag ..... Mrs. Tiffany & Company  
Mrs. Tiffany's Drawing Room
2. You're Out Of Fashion..... Count, Mrs. Tiffany & Seraphina  
Mr. Tiffany's Counting House
3. The Good Old American Way ..... Trueman & Mr. Tiffany  
Mrs. Tiffany's Conservatory
4. What Kind of Man Is He? ..... Gertrude & The Flowers  
Mrs. Tiffany's Drawing Room
5. It Was For Fashion's Sake ..... Mr. & Mrs. Tiffany
6. My Daughter the Countess .....Mrs. Tiffany
7. Take Me ..... Seraphina, Snobson, Count, Mr. & Mrs. Tiffany  
Chambermaid's Pantry
8. What Do They Know About Paris? ..... Count, Millinette
9. I Must Devise Some Plan ..... Company



## ACT TWO

### Mrs. Tiffany's Ballroom

10. Meet Me Tonight ..... Company
11. My Title Song ..... Mrs. Tiffany & Company  
Chambermaid's Pantry
12. A Life Without Her ..... Trueman  
Mrs. Tiffany's Drawing Room
13. What Kind Of Man Is He? (Reprise) ..... Gertrude & Colonel  
Howard
14. My Daughter The Countess (Reprise) ..... Mrs. Tiffany
15. My Title Song (Reprise) ..... Trueman & Company



# The Crew

**Director.....Frank Benge**  
**Choreography.....Eve Lerma**  
**Vocal Direction.....Heather Rosen**  
**Additional Musical Staging.....Frank Benge**  
**Stage Manager.....Kimberly Perry**  
**Light Tech.....Ashley Sandal**  
**Costume Design.....Veronica Prior**  
**Art Work.....Tracie Storie**  
**Make Up.....Kaye Brown**  
**Master Electrician.....Kevin P. Schott**  
**Set Crew.....Leila Wood, Matt Wood,  
 Gene Storie, Tracie Storie, Rodnesha Green,  
 Kevin P. Schott, Peggy Schott, Linda Myers,  
 Veronica Prior, Mary Jane Camembert**  
**Rehearsal Recording.....Brett Bachus**  
**Lighting Design.....Tara Bonds**  
**Production Design.....Frank Benge**  
**Programs.....Lynn Beaver**  
**House.....Cynthia Henderson**



*A Note  
of Thanks*



Gene Storie, Tracie Storie, Peggy Schott,  
 Kevin P. Schott, Veronica Prior,  
 Heather Rosen, Eve Lerma,  
 Tara Bonds, Lynn Beaver

**Linda Myers (Evelyn/ Pearl)** - Linda moved to Texas eight years ago to be near her children. In the last two years in Round Rock she has been in *Sordid Lives* and *Romeo & Juliet* here at Sam Bass and *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*, *Annie* and *Harvey* at the Palace in Georgetown. Linda grew up in Nebraska and has performed continuously since high school. Favorite roles include Auntie Em in *The Wizard of Oz*, Lizzie in *110 In The Shade*, Sister Robert Anne in *Nunsense* and *Nunsense II the Second Coming*. She sends out many thanks to the wonderful cast and crew who have been great to work with and especially thanks Frank for letting her do this part even though she hasn't the tiniest sense of fashion!



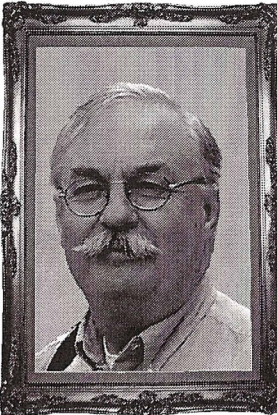
**Ashley Zeh (Kim/Col. Howard)** - Ashley is very excited to be returning to the Sam Bass stage! She has been previously seen in the theatres productions of *All My Sons* as "Lydia" and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* as "Mrs. Irma Slocum". Other favorite roles include "Beline" in the imaginary invalid and "Evelyn" in the *Rimers of Eldritch*. Ashley is currently pursuing a degree in theatre and dance with a focus in acting at the University of Texas at Austin. She would like to thank her mother for her love and support.

**Emily Ramsey (Jean/Millinette)** - Emily Ramsey is a first timer to Sam Bass theatre. She has been aspiring to become a musical actress for several years. Her latest productions include *A Christmas Carol*, *The Second Best Bed*, and *A Midsummer Nights Dream* where she starred as Nick Bottom. Emily hopes to experience many more happy years performing with Sam Bass.





**Kathy Finn (Nan/Adam)** - Kathryn Finn (Nan/Trueman) is a native of Philadelphia, PA. A Graduate of Clarion University with a degree in Speech Communication & Theatre. She served time as a Captain in the U.S. Army; Presently a Claims Specialist for State Farm and a Minister of the Gospel, serving under the leadership of Apostle Charles Moore and Prophetess Cassandra Moore at Higher Dimensions Fellowship. This is her first theatre production since college and is very excited to be a part of this production. She wishes to thank her co-workers at work and church family for their encouragement, support and prayers. And to the cast members, director, musicians etc, it was an honor and a pleasure meeting you all and serving you. You are a very talented and gifted group.



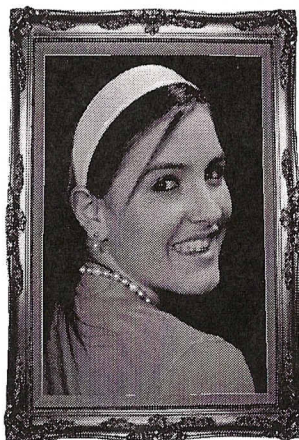
**Gene Storie (Richard/Count Joliamatre)** - Gene has done many shows at SBCT, following in the footsteps of his wonderful children Emily (Ali) and Will. He last appeared as Wardell in *Sordid Lives*. Other favorite roles include Hercule Poirot in *Black Coffee*, Padre in *Man of La Mancha*, Grampa Joe in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, Dr. Chasuble in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and the annual Bar & Grill show for the Austin Bar Association. Gene is very happily married to Tracie, who keeps him young and amused. He serves on the SBCT board as Treasurer, and gave up his day job last year in order to be more frivolous than ever.

**Rodnesha Green (Rita/Seraphina)** - Rodnesha is an avid lover of the theater and is proud to be a part of this production of *Fashion*. This is her first time to perform on the Sam Bass stage and she has greatly appreciated the warm embrace she has received from the theater's company and cast. Other stage performances include *Anton in Show Business*, *Hello Dolly*, *Little Shop of Horrors* along with many other shows and short films. Outside of theater, Rodnesha enjoys writing, singing (especially karaoke), cooking and has a slight addiction to watching *Lost* and *Glee*! Thanks to family and friends who have always been there to support her endeavors and special love and gratitude to her Granny, Lucille.



**Peggy Schott (Pat/Anthony)** - Peggy Schott is having lots of fun finally being back on stage after many, many years. She would like to thank her husband and three children for their encouragement/tolerance... 'you have rehearsal again?' ... and everyone at Sam Bass for giving her the opportunity to stop wishing and start performing!

**Veronica Prior (Suzanne/Joseph)** - Back beyond the mists of time, in a fever of abject terror, Ronni showed up in response to an audition notice in the Round Rock Leader. She had so much fun on stage that there was no stopping her. Over the years, the terror has mellowed somewhat, but the fun, not at all. Among her favourites: Martha Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Stella Livingston in *Light Up the Sky*, and Edna Louise Johnson in *Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. Now she's getting the chance to actually sing and dance on stage! Most recently Ronni has had critical success as a director for SBCT's production of *Waiting for Godot*, receiving an Applause Award from [Austinlivetheatre.com](http://Austinlivetheatre.com). As always, she thanks the company for letting her play.



**Ashlyn Nichols (Marion/Gertrude)** - Ashlyn is very excited to be back on the stage after taking the role as the tree in *Waiting for Godot*. For the past four years she has appeared on stage in shows such as *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Oliver*, *Cats*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *The Producers*, and most recently *Grease*. Ashlyn also has danced since she was 2 years old. She currently is taking classes, at her mothers studio, The Georgetown Conservatory of Dance and at Austin Community College. Ashlyn would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her in everything she does.



**Frank Bengé (Director)** - This is Frank's 13th directorial work for SBCT. Previously he has directed our productions of *Sordid Lives*, *All In The Timing*, *The Women*, *Auntie Mame*, *The Queen of Bingo*, *The Bad Seed*, *Chicago*, *Table Settings*, *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, *The House of Blue Leaves*, *Enter Laughing* and *The Hot l Baltimore*. He also directed the ACoT award-winning *Beauty Queen of Leenane* at the Vortex. Recently Frank also received an Applause Award for his acting in SBCT's productions of *Murdered to Death* and *Waiting for Godot*. He is working on his second stage adaptation, this time being an adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. His previous adaptation of *The Wizard of Oz* was first performed by the SBCT Youth Guild.



**Eve Lerma (Choreographer)** - Eve Tennessee Lerma, known statewide to dance audiences as Eva Tennessee, has been performing non-stop for the past twenty years. With a dance history as comprehensive as it is varied, she quickly accepted the invite to choreograph a show which the director described as "all over the map." Eve has been performing and creating theatre in Austin since 1999, working with theatre companies such as the Vortex, Tongue and Groove, and the Getalong Gang. Specializing in quirky character roles, she has played everything from an amorous ghost to a dancing monkey, a murderous maid, one of the Furies, even a voodoo queen. She can be seen cheerleading for the Holy Rollers on the 2006 A&E television hit, *Rollergirls*, and also in the upcoming Totally Other Productions documentary, *What Is Love?* Eve splits her time teaching pre-school fitness classes and touring with one of her two bellydance troupes. She wishes to thank Ms. Janet Loper for assisting her in the process of perfecting the ballet number for Ms. Loper's daughter, the lovely Ashlyn Nichols.



**Heather Rosen (Vocal Director)** - Heather is Choral Director of C.D. Fulkes Middle School, and has been a teacher with RRISD for 11 years. She recently took her Varsity Choir to UIL and received a Sweepstakes Award. Heather was musical director for *School House Rock, Jr.* last summer for the Youth Guild, and helped pilot a Musical Theatre class with SBCT Board member Tara Bonds last school year.



## This Storyline Has Many Twists & Turns



The Austin Steam Train Association applauds the Sam Bass Community Theatre and their great season of shows. When you want entertainment with additional twists and turns, step aboard the train and take a trip down memory lane. Plus, enjoy the many special event and theatrical trains throughout the year. Schedules and tickets available on the website. Hop online, then hop aboard!

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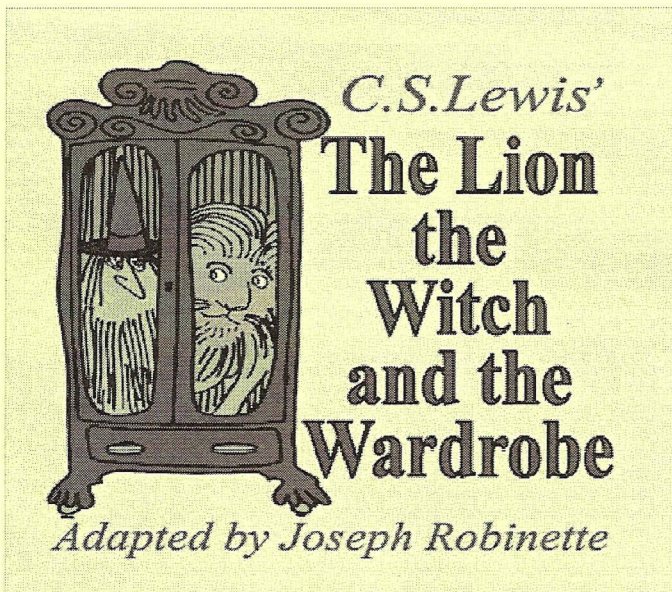
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# Up Next:

**The Sam Bass Youth Guild**

**Presents**



**Auditions - June 7&8 at 7:00 PM**

**Performances - June 23 - August 14**

**All under 18 (graduating seniors too!)**

**welcome to audition.**

**A**

**udition Workshop BEFORE The Lion,  
the Witch and the Wardrobe**

**Auditions!**

**May 22, 2010 at SBCT**

**from 3 to 5 PM**