

Page 1:

RRCA Music Theatre Company Logo
Proudly Presents

Gypsy Logo Here

A Musical

Book by Arthur Laurents

Suggested by the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee

Music by Jule Styne

Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Produced for the Broadway Stage by DAVID MERRICK and LELAND HAYWARD

Produced with special arrangement and the music and dialogue material furnished by
TAMS-WITMARK MUSIC LIBRARY, INC., 560 Lexington Avenue,
New York, New York 10022

April 17-20, 2008

Page 2

Act I

Various cities throughout the U.S.A. Early 1920's to the early 1930's.

Act I

Scene 1: Vaudeville Theatre Stage, Seattle
Let Me Entertain You

Scene 2: Kitchen of a Frame House, Seattle
Some People

Scene 3: Road Between Seattle and Los Angeles
Some People Reprise

Scene 4: Backstage of a Vaudeville Theatre, Dallas
Small World

Scene 5: On Stage of a Vaudeville Theatre, Los Angeles
Baby June and Her Newsboys

Scene 6: Hotel Rooms, Akron
Mr. Goldstone

Little Lamb

Scene 7: Chinese Restaurant, New York
You'll Never Get Away From Me

Scene 8: Stage of Grantziger's Palace, New York
Dainty June and Her Farmboys
Broadway

Scene 9: Grantziger's Office
If Momma Was Married

Scene 10: Theatre Alley, Buffalo
All I Need is the Girl

Scene 11: Railroad Platform, Omaha
Everything is Coming Up Roses

Act II

Scene 1: Desert Country, Texas
Toreadorabels
Together Wherever We Go

Scene 2: Backstage of a Burlesque House, Wichita
You Gotta Get A Gimmick

Scene 3: Backstage Corridor

Scene 4: Backstage and On Stage: Wichita, Detroit, Philadelphia, Minsky's
Small World Reprise
The Strip

Scene 5: Louise's Dressing room

Scene 6: Bare Stage After the Show
Rose's Turn

A Note from the Director

Welcome to the show that many people call the Greatest American Musical. Welcome to GYPSY! This show is pretty much perfect. The score by Jule Styne is magnificent. The book by Arthur Laurents is flawless. Stephen Sondheim's lyrics are right on target. The characters and their problems are fascinating. In fact, since this show opened on Broadway in 1959, there has been no less than four first-class revivals on Broadway, including the one that's playing right now. I'm not sure any other show can claim that. In fact, Monroe audiences have had the chance to see two current Broadway shows this season with GYPSY and our last show, CHICAGO.

The two shows have a lot in common. They both take place in the same time period, although GYPSY covers a longer span of time. They both involve two women in extraordinary circumstances and they both use Vaudeville in the telling of the story. But GYPSY has a greater variety of characters and locales. In GYPSY, we have people of all ages, from very young children to senior citizens. And the show is literally a journey for the three main characters, Rose, Louise and Herbie, as they travel from Seattle to various cities all over our country, ending up in New York City. It is also an emotional journey for them, as they come to terms with each other, and try to sort out their complicated relationships. And boy do they

entertain you! In this classic story, loosely based on the life of stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, there are some powerhouse numbers. I'm sure you know them: "Together, Wherever We Go," "Small World," "Everything's Coming Up Roses," and the one-of-a-kind "Rose's Turn."

Kellie Lajiness has choreographed all the musical numbers authentically and wonderfully. But we're all so spoiled; we know that she would give us nothing less. Mark Felder has once again assembled an orchestra that really soars. I think this is the largest one we have had for one of the RRCA Music Theater's shows, and they sound fantastic! Listen to that Overture: I think it is the best one ever written. And please, stay for the exit music. You won't be sorry.

Many thanks to our incredible and hardworking cast, and the stage crew that performs feats of heroism with our tiny backstage area, led by the meticulous Jo Jaworski. And relax; we have Mike Trapp handling the lights and Derek Arnold to run the sound. We're in good hands all around. And I want you to meet our newest hardworking member, Elaine Juhasz. She had the difficult job of costuming this huge cast and all I can say is WOW!! Her eye is unerring and boy does she work hard! Thank you Elaine.

And as ever, we have our unsung volunteers, this time they include the parents and grandparents of the younger cast members who helped with pretty much everything and came early and stayed late during our long and grueling rehearsal period. Hope the results are satisfying. And of course, thank YOU, our audience, for giving us a reason to be here. We're all people you know with, to quote a song from the show, one desire: Let Me Entertain You! I hope that we do.

Page 3

The Cast

Mary Kurtz	Rose
Jennifer Bezeau	Louise
Laura Ashley Greer	Dainty June
Brad Miller	Herbie
Ava Rendina	Baby June
Morgan Lemanski	Baby Louise
Mary Timko	Tessie Tura/Stage Mother
Carolyn Sohoza	Mazeppa
Joanna Bacarella	Electra
Patrick Felder	Georgie/Farmboy
Vicki Maxwell	Mrs. Cratchitt
Sarah DeSautels	Waitress/Hollywood Blonde
Matthew Taylor	Pastey
Robert Yoman	Weber/Cigar/Mr. Goldstone
Edward Sohoza	Uncle Jocko/Mr. Kringelein
Christina Compean	Balloon Girl
Sydney Stewart	Jocko Kid
Rebecca Ward	Jocko Kid
Taylor Timko	Jocko Kid
Hannah Timko	Jocko Kid
Nick Timko	Jocko Kid
Savannah Thorne	Jocko Kid
Mark Naida	Newsboy
Connor Knowles	Newsboy/Clarence
Nick Mahalak	Newsboy

Cody McCaffrey	Newsboy
Gabriel McGowan	Newsboy
Zach Morgan	Tulsa/Cow
Drew Batton	Yonkers/Farmboy
Nathan Stanifer	Farmboy
Jason Angel	Farmboy/Phil
Anthony Ferrer	Farmboy/Photographer
Danielle Morhbach	Agnes/Amanda
Alex Carone	Hollywood Blonde
Olivia Bacarella	Margorie May
Kylie Parks	Hollywood Blonde
Kaitlyn Durocher	Hollywood Blonde
Sarah DesAutels	Showgirl
Susan Gall	Showgirl
Katie Derbeck	Showgirl
Amy Terrasi	Showgirl
Nisan Douglas	Showgirl
Katie Michael	Showgirl/Cow

The Orchestra

DIRECTOR	Mark B. Felder		
VIOLINS	Anne Hendrikx Ann Felder	HORN	Dianne Newberry
VIOLA	Bernal Koch	CELLO	Jim Anderson
REEDS	Paul DeVee Tim Brakel Russ Carpenter Hank Lehrer Richard Alder	TRUMPETS	Bob McMillan David Tippett Brian Sullivan
		KEYBOARDS	Elizabeth Stewart
TROMBONES	Mike Miller David Bachar Kevin Shope	BASS	Chris Morelli
		DRUMS	Steve Whitford

Page whatever

Cast Bio's

John Bacarella (Director)- In the five short years that John's been back in Monroe, he's been able to make his annoying presence felt in the creative community. He cannot help but stick his nose in wherever there is a theatrical production that will tolerate his highly overrated opinions and futile efforts in tastemaking. He has managed NOT to alienate everyone that he works with, but doesn't know how much longer his luck will hold out. His family still speaks to him (on occasion) and still leaves the door unlocked when he comes home at midnight. Some of his past endeavors include: Chicago, 42nd Street, JC Superstar, and Urinetown with the RRCA Music Theater, shows with the QuagMeyer players at MCCC, including the upcoming Fantasticks in May, Directing shows for SMCC and the Summer Youth Theater here at the RRCA. He thanks you all for the opportunity (and the ulcer!)

Mark B. Felder (Music Director)- Mark comes to the RRCA with a history of excellence and a background of directing over one-hundred musicals and performing in countless others. He has directed for Monroe Community Players, Monroe Repertory Theater, Huron Civic Theater, SMCC Alumni Theater as well as Southgate and Wyandotte Community Theaters. He also served as musical director at Crowell Opera House for twelve years. You saw him last as music director for the RRCA's production of "Chicago". In 1991 Mark was given the opportunity to become music director for the Chicago portion of the National Tour of "Into The Woods". For that he earned the "Obie" award for best Chicago musical director and was nominated for the prestigious "Jeff" award for best music director. On the local scene Mark can regularly be seen performing with the Johnny Knorr Orchestra. He recently retired as band director at Jefferson High School, but can still be seen directing the Monroe College-Community Band. In his spare time (?) he teaches education classes at MC3 and The University of Toledo, works for a fund raising company and runs his own Recording Studio, "Vivo Productions".

Kellie M. Lajiness (Choreographer) -Kellie shares her life with her husband Tim and three children Nolan, Bryce and Monique. An advocate for providing high quality dance training to the community, Kellie celebrates her 11th Season as Dance Director for the RRCA Dance Academy where she instructs and attends to the artistic and administrative needs of the school and Repertory Performance Company. She also teaches dance technique courses and dance history at the Monroe County Community College, conducts special workshops for dance exploration in many local schools, and often co-produces, directs and choreographs musicals and other venues through the RRCA. Kellie is a critically acclaimed and well traveled featured performer, choreographer, and instructor, prolifically experienced in concert dance, studio work, ballroom and musical theatre. Kellie holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance from Western Michigan University where she received the Presidential Scholar Award and was a member of the faculty. She obtained her Masters in Dance from The Ohio State University with a concentration in choreography and performance. Kellie is a Regional Representative for the Michigan Dance Council and a member of Cecchetti Council of America and MAPHHERD. She was recently recognized by the MCISD Creative Expressions for her work in mentorship programs. It has been a thrill to be part of such a great production team and cast!

Mary Kurtz (Rose)- Mary adds Rose to a list of roles that include the witch in *Into The Woods*, Snoopy in *Your A Good Man Charlie Brown*, Sister Robert Ann in *Nunsense* and Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*. Love to Niki and Jason.

Jennifer Bezeau (Louise)- This is Jennifer's fifth production with the RRMTTC. She played Anytime Annie in *42nd Street*, had numerous parts in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, played Bonnie LeTour in *Anything Goes*, and played Hope Cladwell in *Urinetown*. Jennifer has performed in several musicals, operas and plays throughout her career. She holds a Bachelors Degree of Music Education in vocal music and musical theatre from BGSU. She currently works for the RRCA teaching Creative Dramatics and Summer Theatre Arts Camp.

Laura Ashley Greer (Dainty June)- Being her ninth show, Ashley can most definitely say that Dainty June has been her most fun role yet. Some previous roles include: "Belle" in *A Christmas Carol* with the Toledo Rep., "Dancer/Reporter" in *Chicago* here at the RRCA, and "Narrator" in Mason High School's production of *Joseph*. She would like to thank her mother, father and brother, John, Kellie, Mark, and all of her friends and family I love you!!!

Ava Rendena (Baby June)- Ava is a 4th grade student at St. Mary School. She has been in *The Sound of Music*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Best Little Christmas Pageant*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, *Many Moons*, and school productions. She also plays tennis and takes piano but she is happiest on stage.

Morgan Lemanski (Baby Louise)- Morgan appeared this winter as Lillian in Monroe Community Players rendition of *Cheaper by the Dozen* and caught the acting bug. She has danced 9 years, 7 of those at RRCA Dance Academy and is a fifth grader at Trinity Lutheran School. Morgan has always enjoyed singing and is excited to be able to sing, dance, and act in this production.

Mary Timko (Tessie Tura)- After returning to the stage in RRMT's *42nd Street*, she played Suzanne in MCP's *Bedroom Farce* and in RRCA's SYT's *Joseph*. Many thanks to her husband, Dave, for his endless love and support as well as her four children - Taylor, Hannah, Nick, and Jake-for understanding their mom's love of the theatre.

Carolyn Sohoza (Mazeppa)- Aside from her first ever "stripper" role, Carolyn has been cast as some very "unique" characters. She was most recently the murderess Velma Kelly in RRCA's *Chicago*. She's also played a Russian Male Dancer, a Jewish Male Bottle Dancer, a Nubian Slave, a Belly Dancer, an Enchantress, and a "reserved" British Stage Manager. She'll be playing the French Feather Duster, Babette, in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* for the Southgate Community Players in May. Love to her family for their support!

Joanna Bacarella (Electra)- Joanna is currently a freshman at Monroe County Community College. Past roles with the RRMTTC include roles in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Urinetown*, and in the Summer Youth Theater's production of *Once Upon a Mattress*. Thanks so much to my family, friends, and everyone else who had to put up with my crazy schedule, and good luck to the entire cast of *Gypsy*!

Vicki Maxwell (Mrs. Cratchitt)- Vicki has taken time off from the stage, but has been in shows such as *Steel Magnolias*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Most recently she directed *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* for the RRCA's Summer Youth Theatre and was in *Anything Goes*.

Edward Sohoza (Uncle Jacko/Mr. Kringlen)- This is Ed's first show with the RRCA. Other roles include performances with the Southgate Community Players as Zoser in *Aida* and the Innkeeper in *Fiddler on the Roof*. He'll also be joining his wife Carolyn in SCP's production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* in May. Ed isn't new to the stage however, he has performed with several local bands playing guitar and singing lead vocals. Ed would like to thank his wife and two sons for their love and encouragement.

Matthew Taylor (Pasty)- Matthew Taylor has been in several productions at the RRCA: *West Side Story*, *Grease*, *South Pacific*, and *42nd Street*. Matt has a degree in Network Administration and is currently in school for another technical degree in Wide Area Networking. He works for TOAST.net Internet Service in Toledo and lives in Erie.

Robert Yoman (Weber/Cigar)- Bob is a long-time member of Monroe Community Players and was seen on stage as Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* and as Herod in RRMT's *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Bob would like to thank Mike, John and Kellie for letting him "play" in their production.

Christina Compean (Balloon Girl)- Christina is 13 years old and is in seventh grade at St. John School. She has been in *South Pacific*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Oliver* and *Once upon a Mattress*. She also takes dance and singing lessons

Sydney Stewart (Jocko Kid)-

Rebecca Ward (Jocko Kid)- Rebecca Ward, 9, is a third grade student at Custer Elementary in Monroe. She enjoys singing and performing for her built-in audience of three siblings.

Savannah Thorne (Jocko Kid)- Savannah is 10 years old and in the 4th grade at Ida Elementary. She has taken voice lessons for 3 years, and in turn, has had solo performances-such as The Veteran's Program at Ida Elementary. Previous productions Savannah has performed in include *Cheaper by the Dozen* (Monroe Community Players), *Hansel and Gretel* (Ida Elementary).

Mark Naida (Newsboy)- Mark is a 6th grader at St. Michael School. He enjoys playing soccer, singing, playing the piano and is a brown belt in Karate. He was in the cast of *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Seussical* for the RRCA Youth Theater and four productions at school.

Nick Mahalak (Newsboy)-My name is Nick Mahalak and I am 11 years old. I am a 5th grader at St. Mary Grade school. This is my 4th production. I played "Charlie" in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever", I played "Bill" in "Cheaper by the Dozen" and I recently played "Dill" in "To Kill A Mockingbird". I LOVE Theatre. I have done some voice work in the Warner Brothers movie *Fallen Angels*. When I'm not acting, I play football for the Irish, I play AA Ice Hockey for the Ice Hawks, basketball for St. Marys. I also enjoy skateboarding in my LITTLE free time.

Cody McCaffrey (Newsboy)- Cody has taken dance classes at the RRCA. His first stage performance was last summer in *Once Upon A Mattress*. He has enjoyed working with all of the cast and directors, and plans to be involved in more performances in the future.

Gabriel McGowan (Newsboy)- Gabriel is a fifth grader at St. Mary's Grade School. He fell in love with the theatre when he watched the production of *Tom Sawyer*. In fourth grade at St. Mary's, Gabriel won the lead role in the *Little Christmas Tree Play* in which he sang a solo. He enjoys playing sports, having fun with family and friends, and making people laugh. Gabriel was in the play *Oliver* with the Community Players. He is the son of Sheila and Shaun McGowan and has an older sister, Veronica.

Zach Morgan (Tulsa/Cow)- Zach comes to us from Jefferson High School where he is a senior. His past roles include Roxie's Baby, Tailor, and Featured Dancer in "*CHICAGO*." He is thrilled to be playing such an interesting role in *Gypsy*. He enjoys everything about the cast and would like to thank his mother, grandparents, and God for all of their support.

Olivia Bacarella (Marjorie May)- Olivia is a ninth grader at SMCC who enjoys cooking, making videos for Youtube. She plays piano and clarinet. Shows: *Once Upon A Mattress*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Damn Yankees*.

Alex Carone (Hollywood Blonde)- Alex has been in numerous productions, both with the RRCA and the Community Players. The sophomore at Jefferson High won the Best Actress Award with MCP last year for her role in Best Christmas Pageant Ever. She enjoys singing and song writing.

Drew Batton (Yonkers/Farmboy)- Drew has been dancing at the RRCA for 10 years and has performed in the RRCA's Graduation *Ball*, *Cinderella*, *Nutcracker*, *Oliver*, *King and I*, *Damn Yankees*, and the ballet *Wizard of Oz*. He was in Cantrick Middle School's *Bugsy Malone Jr.* and Monroe Community Players' *On Golden Pond*, from which he was awarded the 2004/2005 Young Actor Award

Nathan Stanifer (Farmboy)- Nathan is a 14-year-old honor student at St. Michael's. He is very involved in theatre both with the River Raisin Centre for the Arts and Monroe Community Players. Nathan enjoys musicals as well as plays. With the production of *Gypsy*, this marks his 13th role. When not on stage, Nathan plays soccer and ice hockey.

Patrick Felder (Georgie/Farmboy)- Patrick has already performed in several musicals. It seems as if the theater bug bit him in Monroe Community Player's production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Since then he played the title role in *Tom Sawyer* for RRCA Summer Theater and the role of Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls* for Monroe Middle School as well as roles in "Once Upon a Mattress" and "Footloose". What's next?

Anthony Ferrer (Farmboy/Photographer)- *Gypsy* is Anthony's 13th show, so the stage is like his second home! He would like to thank God for being his Lord and Savior and his family and friends for all of their love and support. He would also like to thank John, Mark, Kelly, the cast and crew, and everyone else who have put so much hard work into this show. Anthony is thrilled to perform for you and hopes you all enjoy the show! Break-a-leg cast!

Danielle Morhbach (Agnes/Amanda)- Currently a freshman at Monroe High School, she is delighted to be in her seventh show with the RRCA. Unfortunately, the role of Agnes came rather naturally to Danielle, as she can often be the epitome of a "dumb blonde" despite being a brunette. Danielle would like to thank God for absolutely everything, and her friends and family for putting up with her.

Kylie Parks (Hollywood Blonde)- Kylie is a student at MHS. She was part of the chorus in *Oklahoma!* at Monroe High. She enjoys singing and acting and hopes to continue those pursuits in the future.

Kaitlyn Durocher (Hollywood Blonde)- Kaitlyn has been acting and dancing since she was very young. She currently is also in the production of *High School Musical* for Monroe Community Players, and has been in 8 other productions. She thanks God and her family for helping her get where she is now.

Sarah DesAutels (Waitress/Showgirl/Hollywood Blonde)- It has been a pleasure to work with everyone involved with this production. "Gypsy" is my third show here at the RRCA and hopefully not my last. Thank you to everyone supporting this fantastic organization.

Susan Gall (Showgirl)- Susan was seen in RRMTTC's *Jesus Christ Superstar* as an apostle. She is in a student at EMU. She would like to thank her parents, Rosie, Russ, Wil, Mrs. Arting, and to the cast for an unforgettable experience.

Amy Terrasi (Showgirl)- Amy played one of the lady birds in SMCC'S production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*, was involved in two productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and played the part of Marty in *Grease* in 2003 at her grade school. Amy has gladly enjoyed making new friends from this show:)

Katie Michael (Showgirl/Cow)- I want to thank Kelly, John, and Mark for allowing me to take part in the show. I want to thank my boyfriend Matt (Pastey) for making the show so much fun. I also want to thank my family for support. I am a member of the RRCA Dance Academy. I am currently attending MCCC, I hope to transfer to University of Toledo to major in Art History and Business.

Director	Dr. John Bacarella
Choreographer.....	Kellie M. Lajiness
Conductor and Vocal Director.....	Mark Felder
Producer.....	Mike Trapp
Stage Manager.....	Jo Jaworski
Costumes.....	Elayn Juhasz, Michelle Sontag and Cast Members
Rehearsal Accompanist	Elizabeth Stewart
Stage Crew.....	Paula Stanifer, Jessica Wisienki,, Andrew Shileds, Brendan Finley, Natasha and Victor Randazzo
Lighting Designer.....	Mike Trapp
Sound.....	Derek Arnold
Scenery Construction.....	Mike Trapp, John Wright, Tim Lajiness, William Thorne, and Cast
Set Painting and Design.....	Lois Morris , Kim Lemanski, and Cast
Props.....	Katie Michael and Cas
Spotlight.....	Susan Dragich
Makeup.....	Holly Self, Laura Borrelli
Hair.....	Jason Angel

Special Thanks To