

PLAYBILL

CAYMAN DRAMA SOCIETY

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Another quality presentation by the CAYMAN DRAMA SOCIETY

in Association with The CAYMAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

Proudly Presents *Steel Magnolias*



"ANNELE"

Rebekah Jefferson

"SHELBY"

Kristine Gray

"M'LYNN"

Susan Howe

"TRUVY"

Teri Lynne

"CLAIREE"

AliceAnne Brunn

"OUISER"

Mary Anne Kosa

Playing at PROSPECT Playhouse, Red Bay

Thursday - Saturday • **February 6-22, 2014** • Play starts at 7.30 pm

\$25 Adults • \$10 Students (17 and under)

Purchase Tickets by calling 938-1998
or email: boxoffice@cds.ky



 Cayman Drama Society

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Chairman's Message



Steel Magnolias! WOW! As the title suggests, the main female characters in this incredible comedy-drama, can be both as delicate as a magnolia and as tough as steel. Many of you here tonight may remember the film directed by Herbert Ross in 1989 starring Daryl Hannah in the role of Annelle, Dolly Parton as Truvy, Sally Field as M'Lynn, Olympia Dukakis as Clairee, Shirley MacLain as the grouchy Ouiser (pronounced "Wee-zer") and Julia Roberts as the lovely Shelby. Well, I can certainly tell you all here tonight you are in for a real treat; our cast of six are equally talented!

Set in Louisiana, the play focuses on the lives and friendships of six women and the bonds and support that come through sharing their triumphs and trag-

edies. The entire show takes place in Truvy's beauty shop, where they discuss the mysteries of life, and death, husbands and children and, of course the ever important hair and nails!

Steel Magnolias was written by Robert Harling in memory of his diabetic sister, Susan Harling and who was the inspiration for the play and subsequently the film. It has many memorable quotes, one the my personal favourites: "I would rather have thirty minutes of wonderful, than a lifetime of nothing special".

Through the talented direction of our own Peter Kosa, he has brought these six steel magnolias to life. I have to congratulate him for putting together the magnificent cast who have made the



Chairman's Message

characters real and the emotions even more real. Thank you to Peter and his production team and our very talented cast members. We certainly appreciate all of your hard work and energy, especially right after the Christmas holidays!

Diabetes is a disease characterised by elevated glucose. In the US alone 26 million Americans live with diabetes and it is frightening to note that with the rise of obesity, type II diabetes has become an epidemic in industrialised, first world societies. We are lucky in Cayman to have the Cayman Islands Diabetes Association, an official member of the International Diabetes Federation, an organisation of over 200 member associations in more than 165 countries. CIDA's mission is to "work towards a future without diabetes by creating awareness, providing education to our community; while improving the lives of diabetics and their families". Further information on how you can help this worthy cause can be found at www.caymandiabetes.com or on their Facebook page. The Cayman Drama Society is proud to be able to support the association through donations from our production of Steel Magnolias.

CDS productions are only made possible through our patrons, sponsors, friends of the theatre and our volunteers. We would like to specifically thank Butterfield who continue to support us as

a Platinum Patron, LIME who provide telecommunication services, Ropers who keep our house clean, iEye News who continue to provide advertising and articles for our shows. Wigglypen and OSA who continue to support us through donations of services in kind, Paige from Paige and Co. for her time, talents, and props and Debbie Walker from the Salon who has also assisted with props and backstage. We continue to be a 100% volunteer organisation and the only way that we can do so is with your help and support. **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Our membership committee is now our Membership and Volunteer committee, so if you can help, in ANY way, please contact them at membership@cds.ky.

Finally, thank you for coming to this our first show of 2014. This year is proving to be a very exciting season. Don't miss our next production, Legally Blonde coming in March!

Share the show!
Sheree Ebanks
Chairman, 2014.

Theatre Manager's Message

Welcome to the first major production of the 2014 season – Steel Magnolias. Our opening social back in January was an Evening of Readings directed by Phil Pace. We have in rehearsal Legally Blonde (The musical) and also we are providing set piece rehearsal facilities for the local movie The Devil You Know.

This means that your theatre has never been more active with more than one group using its facilities nearly every day. I would like to thank the Theatre Management committee stalwarts, Tracy Moore and Bill Mervyn, for sharing the load on the occasional security issues which crop up while I am off island.

2014 is a massive season and we have to fit work in somehow. Some of the things we would like to do as soon as possible are (a) to update the auditorium including walls and floor as required; (b) to paint the publicly visible concrete walls outside of the theatre, and (c) to make some changes on stage to help with future fast-change box set construction.

All of this takes time and money – but it also takes volunteers.

Consider joining the Theatre Management committee if you have one of the skills that it takes to keep our theatre maintained and our costs low. We are looking for people who can build and maintain stuff, design lighting and



maintain lights; create sounds and design sounds for shows using SCS11, and anyone who genuinely wants to pitch in.

Come on - Share The Show
Paul de Freitas

Welcome, from the Director

I have the good fortune to live in a wonderful place, I have always thought of Cayman as an island where we all can reinvent ourselves, as often as we wish! Bankers become dive instructors, lawyers become marathoners or arctic explorers. We all have the chance to do the things we always wanted to do at home. The Cayman Drama Society is one of those places that facilitate our mittyesque dreams. We have a strange annual ritual here where we all get together over a glass (or six) of wine, and plan our upcoming theatrical program. It was at one of these production “meetings” that this production was born, the key ingredients (other than the wine) being a terrific script and a wealth of highly capable women actors in the society.

We auditioned over 60 people for the six roles and it would have been possible to produce two or three excellent ensemble. Despite the challenges of a very short production period, a cold/flu/virus that worked its way through the cast and oh yes christmass/newyears holidays the cast and crew have worked incredibly hard to bring our play to you. Thanks of course are due and the list is exhaustive. The CDS, Paul De Freitas, Bill Mervyn, the Phoenix Group lend a hand gang, my producer Debbie Hand, the stage management, backstage and



props crew (all women). As with all my endeavours Mary Anne my wife (Ouiser), figures prominently in this production as actor, muse, and technical spiritual and financial advisor, I truly could not think of doing this without her help.

I hope you enjoy seeing the show as much as we enjoy performing it for you. Share the show !

Peter Kosa
Directory, Steel Magnolias



About our Performance

Steel Magnolias is a comedy–drama play about a group of Southern women in northwest Louisiana.

Written by Robert Harling, based on his experience with his sister’s death. The title suggests the “female characters are as delicate as magnolias but as tough as steel”. The magnolia specifically references a magnolia tree they are arguing about at the beginning.

The play opens on Shelby’s wedding day and takes place in the fictional northwestern Louisiana parish of Chinquapin at Truvy’s in-home beauty parlour where the women regularly gather.

The play covers events over the next

three years with Shelby’s Type 1 diabetes and how the women interact at times with conflict but in the end resolved friends: Shelby’s decision to have a child despite the complication that can be with the condition, Clairee’s friendship with the curmudgeon Ouiser; Annelle’s transformation from a shy, anxious newcomer in town to a good-time girl then repentant revival-tent Christian; and Truvy’s relationships with the men in her family. Although the main storyline involves Shelby, her mother M’Lynn, and Shelby’s medical battles, the underlying group-friendship among all six women is prominent throughout the drama.



Cast of Characters



Rebekah Jefferson



Teri Lynne



AliceAnne Brunn

Rebekah Jefferson - Annelle

Rebekah Jefferson, who plays the role of Annelle, has always been an enthusiast of the stage. From childhood and throughout her teenage years she was involved in school productions, musical ensembles, small group performances, solo singing and speech items.

After completing her high school education, Rebekah attended Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, where she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with a concentration in Vocal Studies. During her time at FSC, Rebekah was very involved in Opera Theatre, performing in such productions as Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel", Gilbert and Sullivan's "Trial by Jury", and Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" as Cherubino. She also toured with the Flamenco Group, American Gypsies, in 2006 with performances mainly at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Centre.

In 2004, after completing her degree, Rebekah returned home to Grand Cayman and was appointed as a Music

Teacher at Sir John A. Cumber Primary School, where she has remained for the past ten years. Rebekah has produced and directed quite a number of Musicals, including her most ambitious project to date, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, which boasted a very talented cast of over 60 kids.

Rebekah regards acting as her first love and would like to thank her family and friends for their continued support and encouragement. She would also like to thank her director Peter Kosa for allowing her to enjoy this valuable experience.

Teri Lynne - Truvy

Teri hails from the great white north has been acting for over twenty years. She graduated with a B.A. in Theatre Arts with honors from the University of Winnipeg. She went on to receive her MFA in Education from the University of Manitoba. Teri's background includes teaching drama and film at several well-known institutions such as: The University of Winnipeg, Prairie Theater

Cast of Characters



Kristine Gray



Sue Howe



Mary Anne Kosa

Exchange, Manitoba Theater for Young People and The Panache Talent Agency. Simultaneously, she developed her own theater company called The Backyard Theatre School.

In addition to teaching theatre, film and TV acting, Teri has been cast in over a dozen commercials internationally, and has been cast in a handful of TV and Feature Films including: *Woman Wanted*, *The David Milgard Story*, *The Crimson Code*, *Never Back Down* and *Away We Go* (to name a few), and has been in dozens of plays (from Shakespeare to Neil Simon) and has toured Canada with Pendulum Productions showcasing three original productions.

Teri has been the Orlando Producer for the internationally acclaimed film competition *The 48 Hour Film Project*. Teri has been appointed the Creative Director of the Cayman Islands International Film Festival that will premier early 2015. Currently Teri is a radio personality and has been co-hosting the morning show with JB on Spin 94.9 FM for over the past three years.

This is Teri's second production for The Cayman Drama Society and she is over joyed to be a part of such a talented and creative cast of women. Teri would like to thank her friends, family and the love of her life Dillon for supporting her through her artistic journey, as anyone who lives with an actor knows, we generally think more with our hearts than with our heads.

AliceAnne Brunn - Clairee

AliceAnne is thrilled to be back on stage at CDS, especially to play her favorite character, Clairee, in one of her favorite shows! She enjoyed working with Sue, Pete, and Mary Ann in *Wit* a few years ago, and has thoroughly enjoyed working with them again and making new friends in this show. AliceAnne grew up in Norfolk, Virginia, as the daughter of a Navy pilot. Before settling there at age 10, she and her family had lived in several places in the South-eastern United States (and in pre-Castro Cuba). She and her husband met in graduate school in clinical psychology at



Baylor, in Waco, Texas, where they lived and worked, until coming to Cayman in 2007. She now teaches Behavioral Science and Ethics at St. Matthew's University, where she is also Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Her accent is derived in part from her life in Virginia and Texas, of course, but also from her the genuine "Steel Magnolias" in her father's South Carolinian family. She dedicates her performance to "Mammy," her paternal grandmother, Crystabel Claire Myers Coleman, of Pamplico, South Carolina.

Kristine Gray - Shelby

Kristine is happy to be in her second production with the Cayman Drama Society. She has had a diverse upbringing in Kuwait, Philippines, France and Thailand before completing law school in England. Her first introduction to the stage was in *The Canterbury Tales* at the Théâtre de Fontainebleau in France. Since moving to the Cayman Islands three years ago, Kristine has been involved in various media, including a PSA for the Crisis Centre and the CDS's production of Spanish playwright Federico Garcia Lorca's *Blood Wedding* and *The House of Bernarda Alba*, in which she appeared as Adela.

When not acting, she pursues her other passions of playing piano, guitar, singing and exploring the world.

Sue Howe - M'Lynne

Sue started acting in Canada. Amongst her favorite productions there was "The Woolgatherer" (as Rose) , "Cowboy Mouth" (as Cavale)

Sue has been performing, directing and producing on the CDS stage at Pros-

pect Playhouse since 1996. Her performances include "Last Panto/Last Tango" (as Joyce), "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" (as Martha), "Ghost Writer" (as Ruby), "Death of a Salesman" (as Linda Loman), "Moon Over Buffalo" (as Charlotte Hay), "Wit" (as Susie Monahan), "Caytube" (both as writer and actor).

She started co-directing and co-producing under the wing of Penny Phillips for the shows "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)", "The Complete History of America (Abridged)". She then directed "Haywire", "Annie Get Your Gun", and the recent "Stomp the Rock", which she also created with her daughter Hannah Howe and Tom Blake.

"I feel very fortunate to have played such wonderfully written characters, and I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to portray M'Lynn and to be on stage with this great cast in "Steel Magnolias".

I'd like to thank my family for their amazing support and patience which allows me to call the Playhouse my second home.

Mary Anne Kosa - Ouiser

Mary Anne is a graduate of the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. She's always had a passion for theatre but outside of performing in high school musicals and later directing high school musicals, she really was only able to hit the boards again as an actor here in Cayman with CDS.

Directing is another love and she has done several local productions.

Our hardworking Cast and Crew



From left to right: Deanna Thompson, Mary Anne Kosa, Pat Steward, Gwynneth Hamilton, Ashleigh Moore, Sue Howe, Teri Lynne, Kris Gray, Rebekah Jefferson, Alice Anne Brunn and Debbie Walker. Missing from photo: Alison Parker, Lisa Parks, Ushani Abeynayake, Paul deFreitas, Debbie Hand, Peter Kosa, Phoenix Group crew, Marvette Darien, Jan Zora, Malcolm Ellis, Eric St-Cry & Rosa Scarpellini.

Director	Peter Kosa
Producer.....	Debbie Hand
Set Design.....	Peter Kosa
Set Construction	Phoenix Group, Bill Mervyn
Set Paint & Decoration	Sue Howe, Jan Zora, Gwynneth Hamilton
Sound and Light Production ...	Deanna Thompson, Paul deFreitas
Sound Effects	Paul deFreitas
Stage Manager.....	Patricia Steward
Hair & Makeup	Debbie Walker
Music	Mary Anne Kosa, Malcolm Ellis
Props and Costumes	Gwynneth Hamilton, Ashley Moore, Allison Parker
Lobby Decoration	Sue Howe
Photography	Debbie Hand
Promotion	Marvette Darien, Debbie Hand
Front of House.....	Lisa Parks, Ushani Abeynayake
Bar Management	Eric St-Cry, Rosa Scarpellini



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Cayman Drama Society
at The Prospect Playhouse

Updates ...

The Cayman Drama Society Annual General Meeting was held on January 14th with approximately thirty attendees. Reports were received from the Chairman, the Theatre Manager and the Treasurer. As a result of the elections the following are your 2014 Executive Committee:

Chairman

Sheree Ebanks

Deputy Chairman/Theatre Manager

Paul DeFreitas

Secretary

Gwynneth Hamilton

Treasurer

Vijay Singhera

with Debbie Hand, Jacqueline Frank, Rory Mann, Ashleigh Moore, Alison Parker, Teri Quappe, Rosa Scarpellini and Eric St-Cyr rounding off the rest of the Executive.

A big thank you goes out to our retiring executive committee members Niamh Hutchinson, Tracy Moore and Neil Rooney for all of their hard work in 2013 in continuing to build your society.

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The Ministry of Culture congratulates the Cayman Drama Society on another great production. The arts connect, unify and inspire both audience and actors and we thank you for serving as an outlet for our people's creativity.



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