

ALLEY BILL

Back Alley Theatre

presents

AMAZING GRACE

The Back Alley Theatre
Laura Zucker & Allan Miller
Producing Directors

presents

AMAZING GRACE

Starring (in alphabetical order)
CHRISTINE BORNA/MICHELE CARDENAS
CARMEN DUNCAN
JIM HIESTAND
PATRICIA HUSTON
JAMES A. WATSON JR.

Written by
SANDRA DEER
Directed by
ALLAN MILLER
Produced by
LAURA ZUCKER
Set design by
DON GRUBER
Lighting design by
LAWRENCE OBERMAN
Costume design by
CATHY CRANE
Sound design by
REID WOODBURY

Cast in order of appearance:

Grace Tanner.....PATRICIA HUSTON
Josh Shepard.....JAMES A. WATSON JR.
Maggie Ames.....CARMEN DUNCAN
Troy.....JIM HIESTAND
Ramona Hernandez.....CHRISTINE BORNA
MICHELE CARDENAS

There will be one intermission.

Setting: The deck of Grace Tanner's
house on the beach at Malibu.

Originally produced by The Alliance
Theatre Company.

The following actors are standing by:
Gloria Dorson (Grace), Daryl Roach
(Josh), Richard Weygint (Troy).

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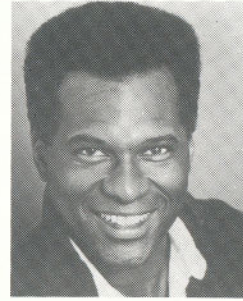
CHRISTINE BORNA (Ramona Hernandez) Her first performance was a "pants" role at the age of eight weeks, playing Baby Jesus in a Christmas musical in Woodland Hills. She made her acting debut in a family production of YOU'RE IN LOVE, CHARLIE BROWN at Montiel's Little Theater, Tuscon, Arizona. She trained at Cal State Northridge with Constance Wolff. She was a featured dancer in a community performance of LORD OF THE WIND in Reseda and was a soloist at the Christmas Eve Pageant at Our Lady of Grace in Encino. Other interests include ballet, gymnastics, swimming, reading and music by Mozart.



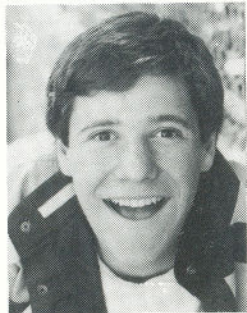
MICHELE CARDENAS (Ramona Hernandez) trained from the age of two with Connie Ponce and the Nosotros Acting Workshop. She has danced throughout the Los Angeles County with the Los Angeles Dancers and also with Ballet CoCo. Her stage appearances include MURDER AT MOTHER GOOSE, BLUE BIRD and SNOW WHITE, and she also appeared in the U.C.L.A. student film L.A. Lottery. Her interests include swimming, dancing, bike riding and playing handball.



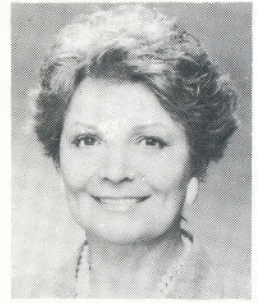
CARMEN DUNCAN (Maggie) has worked extensively in theatre, film and television in her native Australia and England. Her theatre credits include two other portrayals of characters named Maggie: in AFTER THE FALL, for which she received the Critics' Award for Best Actress of the Year, and CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF for the Queensland Theatre Company. Her most recent stage appearance was in BLYTHE SPIRIT at the Australian Opera House. Her film work includes Harlequin (released as Dark Forces in the States) for which she was nominated for Best Actress in the Australian Film Institute Awards, and Touch and Go, which also earned her a Best Actress nomination in the Sammy Awards. Her numerous television appearances have included eight leading roles in series, and many guest roles.



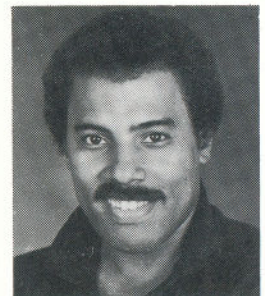
DARYL ROACH (Josh) last appeared in the Back Alley Theatre's production of THE GREEKS and is happy to return in AMAZING GRACE. Last year he appeared in the Delaware Theatre Company's production of Robert Lowell's BENITO SERENO, while doing a recurring role of the television soap opera "One Life to Live" as the character Andy Moore. Mr. Roach received the Drama-Logue critics award for Outstanding Performance in the South Coast Repertory production of MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS. His recent guest starring roles in episodic television include "It's a Living," "Superior Court" and "Spencer for Hire." Mr. Roach's latest film appearances have been Space Camp and the role of Chuck the Jamaican bicycle shop owner in Pee Wee's Big Adventure.



JIM HIESTAND (Troy) began his acting career at the age of fifteen when he appeared in his high school production of BYE BYE BIRDIE. He also appeared in BECKET and starred as a crippled boy in MAGIC TO DO which was written, produced and directed by Larry Gabriel. He has studied acting under Brooke Bundy, Andrew Naganian and is currently attending Gene Bua's "Acting for Life" class. Along with his television commercial work, he has been featured on "The Judge" as Judge Franklin's grandson.



PATRICIA HUSTON (Grace) was last seen at the Back Alley in SAND MOUNTAIN. Her performance received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle nomination. Last year Ms. Huston was also honored with a Drama-Logue award for her performance in THE OCTETTE BRIDGE CLUB at the West End Playhouse, and the L.A. Weekly Ensemble Award for HAMLET at the Megaw. You may also have enjoyed her performance in IN THE SWEET BYE AND BYE here at the Back Alley as alternate with Rue McClanahan. Some recent television credits include the recurring characters Hilda on "L.A. Law" and Sarah on "General Hospital," as well as guest appearances in "I Married Dora," "The Law and Harry McGraw," "Hill Street Blues," "Cheers," "Gimme A Break" and the movie of the week "Deadly Care" with Cheryl Ladd. Ms. Huston is one of the charter members of the Lucille Ball Desilu Workshop.



JAMES A. WATSON JR. (Josh) is forty-two years old, and has been performing for the last twenty years in film, stage and television. Training with John Fernald of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, Mr. Watson went on to work at ACT in San Francisco performing IN WHITE AMERICA. At the Mark Taper Forum, Mr. Watson appeared in DREAM ON MONKEY MOUNTAIN. In 1969 he acted in his first film, Halls of Anger with Calvin Lockhart and Jeff Bridges. Mr. Watson has starred in over seventy television shows and motion pictures, including The Organization with Sydney Poitier, Golden Girl and Airplane II. For four years he was seen in the recurring role of the Assistant District Attorney on the television show "Quincy," and also in the role of Nell Carter's boyfriend on "Gimme A Break." His most recent television work includes "Stingray," "Hill Street Blues," "Matlock," "Hotel," and "Amen." AMAZING GRACE marks Mr. Watson's forty-third stage appearance.

SANDRA DEER (playwright)'s first play, SO LONG ON LONELY STREET, premiered at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, under the direction of Kent Stephens and went directly from there to Boston and New York. This summer there are productions of LONELY STREET running at the Palace Theatre in Watford, England, and at the Marietta Theatre in the Square in Atlanta. Ms. Deer serves as Literary Manager and playwright for the Alliance Theatre and has written a number of stage adaptations which have been produced there, including GREAT EXPECTATIONS, DON QUIXOTE, and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. She is currently working on a new play for the Alliance and a film project with Bo Bartlett and Charles Gohmann. Ms. Deer is part of the Hunger Project and the commitment that we avert the famine right now threatening the people of Ethiopia. Her children Jennifer Deer, an actress in New York City, and Chad Johnson, a junior at Earlham College, are the light of her life. Laura Zucker and Allan Miller have reminded her of the rich pleasure of working in the theatre, and she thanks them.

ALLAN MILLER (Producing Director) most recently directed THE EARLY GIRL, JACQUES BREL IS..., and IN THE SWEET BYE AND BYE. Also at the Back Alley he directed and appeared in the long-running hit ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN, which he co-produced in its original Los Angeles premiere. Mr. Miller won a 1981 L.A.D.C.C. Award for his direction of THE FOX at the Back Alley, and subsequently directed it Off-Broadway at the Roundabout Theatre in New York. Mr. Miller has taught at the Dramatic Workshop, Circle in the Square, HARYOU ACT Inc. in Harlem, the New Lafayette Theatre, The Focus Theatre in Dublin, New York University, New York City College, and the Yale School of Drama. Trained as an actor in New York, his career includes over fifty plays (most recently WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?), a hundred and fifty television episodics and pilots (most recently "thirtysomething"), fifteen movies made for television, nine feature films and seven soap operas.

DON GRUBER (Set Designer) has designed more than thirty productions in Southern California over the past five years. He received his M.F.A. in Scenic Design from California State University, Long Beach. He currently teaches scenic and lighting design at Long Beach City College where he has designed such shows as FEMALE TRANSPORT, GODSPELL, NOISES OFF, STREAMERS, WAIT UNTIL DARK, MARAT/SADE and GETTING OUT. Mr. Gruber has designed numerous productions around Los Angeles, including HARVEY, TRUE WEST, AT THE MAT, SOMEONE'S WAITING and DESTINATION DINOSAURS. Mr. Gruber designed the recent production of WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? at the Back Alley. He has designed for such companies as Walt Disney Productions, the Anaheim Cultural Arts Center, the Young Americans and the Uprising Theatre. Mr. Gruber is currently the resident scenic designer for the International City Theatre in Long Beach where he designed WEST MEMPHIS MOJO and TENNESSEE IN THE SUMMER last season. He received two Drama-Logue Awards for these productions. He has just designed A WOMAN WITHOUT A NAME.

LAWRENCE OBERMAN (Lighting Designer) is a recent graduate of California Institute of the Arts where he had the privilege to design for theatre, dance, music and performance art. Mr. Oberman is presently in production with FREEDOM OF THE CITY at Theatre West. His most recent light designs include AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS at El Camino College, ELECTRA for Grove Shakespeare Festival, and NOISES OFF at Long Beach City College. He designed the lights for WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? at the Back Alley Theatre.

CATHY CRANE (Costume Designer) is making her Back Alley Theatre debut with this production. She is resident costume designer for Long Beach City College where she has designed over twenty productions in the past four years, including MARAT/SADE, HAY FEVER, THE MISER and EXTREMITIES. Other designs include TENNESSEE IN THE SUMMER, EDEN COURT, and QUIET END for the International City Theatre. Just recently, her work on Theatre West's production of THE MAGIC PRISON opened before receptive audiences. Other work includes OHELLO and SIR THOMAS MORE for The Globe Theatre. Ms. Crane received her Master of Fine Arts degree at California Institute of the Arts in 1984 and since then has made California her home.

REID WOODBURY (Sound Designer) has been in Los Angeles for two and a half years and has been working as an audio for video sound mixer. Mr. Woodbury is originally from Kansas City where he has done many sound designs and composed music for academic, civic and professional groups. He was a staff engineer at the University of Missouri (K.C.) and in 1981 he received a B.A. in Music, specializing in electronic music and audio recording. He also worked four seasons for the Missouri Repertory Theatre as a sound technician. This is his sixth sound design in the Los Angeles area. He has designed sound at the Back Alley for several productions, including SAND MOUNTAIN. Currently he is running his own classical recording service.

LAURA ZUCKER (Producing Director) founded the Back Alley, along with Allan Miller, in 1979. Ms. Zucker serves on the board of Arts, Inc., which administers the Arts Loan Fund and Business Volunteers for the Arts program in Los Angeles. She has served on the board of the Los Angeles Theatre Alliance, was a panelist for the California Arts Council, and presently serves on the steering committee of the National/State/Local Partnership Grant Program. She attended the Yale School of Drama and received her B.A. from Barnard College. She has produced twenty-three plays for the Back Alley.

This project is funded in part by the California Arts Council, a State agency, and the L.A. City Cultural Affairs Department. This performance is made possible in part through the sponsorship of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors and the L.A. County Music and Performing Arts Commission.

The Back Alley is a member of Theatre Communications Group, California Theatre Council, California Confederation for the Arts and the League of Producers and Theatres of Greater Los Angeles.

As a not-for-profit theatre, the Back Alley relies heavily on the generosity of our contributors. Ticket revenue accounts for only 60% of theatre expenses; the balance is earned through contributed income secured through grants from corporations and foundations and through INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT. Gifts from individuals comprise the largest and most reliable segment of our contributed income. Please think of joining the distinguished list below. The Back Alley Theatre gratefully acknowledges the invaluable support of the following donors.

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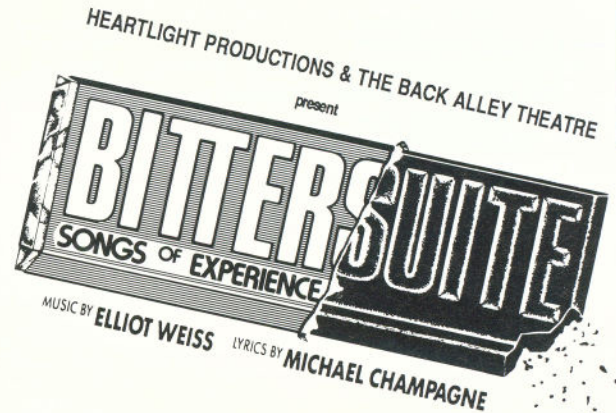
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