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THEATRE COMPANY



Proudly Presents

Joseph M. Paprzycki's



Directed by
Christopher "Jumbo" Schimpf

September 10 - October 3, 2010



Anchoring a neighborhood rebirth

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South Camden Theatre Company, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to SCTC in the United States are tax-exempt to the extent provided by law.

Our address is:
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...and all the volunteers who have
helped to get us to this place.

LAST RITES BY JOSEPH M. PAPRZYCKI

ACT 1
The Sentinel's Cry
Fall - 1966

Scene 1 — Walt's Café
Scene 2 — Whitey and Pete's
respective kitchens
Scene 3 — Rectory kitchen
Scene 4 — Walt's Café
Scene 5 — A confessional
Scene 6 — Walt's Café

INTERMISSION

ACT 2
Purgatory
Six months later

Scene 1 — Whitey and Pete's
respective kitchens
Scene 2 — Walt's Café
Scene 3 — Sacred Heart Church
Scene 4 — Walt's Café
Scene 5 — Rectory kitchen
Scene 6 — Whitey and Pete's
respective kitchens and the alley between
Scene 7 — Walt's Café

CAST

Walt Robb Hutter
Sue Sue Giddings
Father William Rahill
Tim Patrick A. Castañeda
Whitey Randall McCann
Pete Dan Reynolds
Mary Liza Herschel
Theresa 1 Hilary Christ
Theresa 2 Deborah Rementer
Mike Tom Ryan
Thug 1 Eddie Mattola
Thug 2 Elijah Molotsky

CREW

Christopher "Jumbo" Schimpf Director
Brad Reiter Assistant Director
Ashley Chambers Stage Manager
Erika Kampf Assistant Stage Manager
Adrian Rooney Lighting Designer
Jim Guckin Lighting Engineer
Robert Bingaman Set Design
Katie Sommers Sound Board

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Funding has been made possible in part by the Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

ABOUT THE ACTORS



ROB HUTTER (Walt) is honored to be joining the *Last Rites* cast and crew for the opening of SCTC's new home. Recent local acting credits include the role of Fagin in *Oliver!*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep* at Forge Theatre, *Never the Sinner* with Maukingbird Productions at The Adrienne. He performed in the zany Allens Lane Production of *Fuddy Meers* under John Bellomo's direction. At the Merriam Theatre, Robb played Marlowe in *Enter Laughing* and was Herb in *Postcoital Variations* at the Philadelphia Dramatists Center. In New York he performed with the American Shakespeare Repertory and was a resident actor for two years with the Cherry Creek Repertory in Minnesota. Robb has a Master of Fine Arts from York University in Toronto. His "day job" as Artistic Director of Philly Senior Stage has him developing and conducting theatre programs for senior adults in retirement communities.



SUE GIDDINGS (Sue) has enjoyed the trip into New Jersey to be part of the *Last Rites* ensemble. Susan has worked with various theatres in and around Philadelphia, most recently appearing in Flashpoint Theatre's production of *boom*, and Amaryllis Theatre's *Rock Doves*. Some favorite roles include Mary Johnny Rafferty (*A Skull in Connemara*), Vivian (*Wit*), Eleanor (*The Lion in Winter*), Doctor (*Agnes of God*), Eileen (*The Cripple of Inishmaan*), Judith (*Hay Fever*) and Scrooge (*A Christmas Carol*).



WILLIAM RAHILL (Father) has been performing with various theatre companies in and around Philadelphia for the past eighteen years. His most recent role was Clark in New City Stage Co. production of *When You Coming Back, Red Ryder?* By Mark Medoff and directed by Michael Brophy. Other roles include Baylin in Theatre Exile's production of *Glen Gary Glen Ross* by David Mamet and directed by Matt Pfeiffer which won a Barrymore Award for Best Ensemble. As a member of Iron Age Theatre Co. he originated the role of "Kliney" in the site specific play *Tunnel* by Randall Wise and directed by John Doyle and Randall Wise. Classical roles include "Gravedigger" in the Philadelphia Shakespeare Co. production of *Hamlet* directed by James Chester and "Polonius" in the Lantern Theatre Co. production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* by Tom Stoppard and directed by Charles McMahon. This is South Camden Theatre Company's inaugural production in their new theatre and Bill is thrilled to be part of it. For my mother, Marie.

ABOUT THE ACTORS



PATRICK ALICARLO (Tim) performs with the South Camden Theatre Company ("SCTC") for the third time with this special run of *Last Rites*. Previous SCTC performances include: *Mass Appeal* (Mark Dolson) and another Joseph M. Paprzycki play, *Youth in America* (Kyle/Connor/Eric). Other performances include: *Dracula* (Count Dracula), *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (R.P. McMurphy), *Tartuffe* (Orgon), *Angels in America* (Roy Cohn/Prior 2), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Oberon), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Algernon Moncrieff), and *The Madwoman of Chaillot* (Policeman). Patrick studied theatre at Villanova University and Rutgers University-Camden.



RANDALL MCCANN (Whitey) is a NJAct/Perry award winning director *Some Things You Need to Know Before the World Ends* and has been nominated in the past as an actor (Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*) and set designer (*The Drawer Boy* and *Urinetown*). Some of his favorite roles include Herb in *Mr. Harry*, Detective Tupolski in *The Pillowman*, Mick Dowd in *A Skull in Connemara*, Morgan in *The Drawer Boy*, and Victor in *The Price*. Randy holds a BFA in theater production from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. He would like to thank Margie and the kids (Brian and Emily!) for their support.



DAN REYNOLDS (Pete) made his acting debut for the South Camden Theater Company in February playing Cholly Donahue in Bruce Graham's *Belmont Avenue Social Club*. Dan is a veteran journalist whose work has appeared locally in the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Philadelphia Business Journal. As a screenwriter, script reader, assistant picture editor, researcher and production assistant he has worked for or on productions for Chuck Fries Entertainment, Simon Film Productions, CBS, NBC, and the Walt Disney Co. A published poet, Mr. Reynolds' recent public readings include an appearance at a festival honoring New Jersey's poetry journals in West Caldwell, N.J.



LIZA HERSCHEL (Mary) It has been a great gift to work with Joe and Chris and the South Camden Theatre Company over the past 4 years. As a full-time management consultant and mom of two, I pick my precious stage time very carefully. SCTC has given me several perfect opportunities in *Fortune Cookies* and several one acts, and now I am honored to be in *Last Rites*, opening the new theatre and doing my part to help bring vitality to Camden. Acting has been in my life since being the Tin Man in 3rd Grade. Having performed in everything from a feature length independent film and student films to comedy, musicals and dramas on stage to cabaret and commercials, performing never goes away as an expression that draws me in and makes me want to play.

ABOUT THE ACTORS



HILARY KAYLE CRIST (Theresa) is thrilled to be making her debut with the South Camden Theatre Company with this production, and to be part of history in the opening of the company's wonderful new home. She's performed in the New Jersey and Pennsylvania area for the last nine years, in roles ranging from Florence Unger in the female version of *The Odd Couple* and Ruth in *Blithe Spirit*, to Nurse Ratched in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*. You can also see Hilary in various murder mystery dinner theater roles throughout the year as a member of Without A Cue Productions. She will reprise her role as Sister Aloysius in *Doubt* at Haddonfield Plays & Players November 11-14. Hilary has worked with a variety of theater companies across the Delaware Valley. She recently joined the Collingswood Shakespeare Company. She made her professional debut in Philadelphia with Random Acts of Theatre's *Motherload/Motherlode* which she also helped to write. She studies acting with George DiCenzo. One of her hobbies is baking, for which all the theater casts she works with are most grateful. Hilary and her husband, Peter, live in Stockton, NJ with their two little dogs, Sammy and Winnie the Pooh.



DEBORAH REMENTER (Theresa - understudy) is excited to be making her debut performance with South Camden Theater Company. Deborah has performed with many local and regional theaters including Collaborative Act Studio, Haddonfield Plays and Players, Candlelight Dinner Theater, Karamu Theater, Canton Players Guild, and Stark County Players. Deborah was also a performer with Historic Philadelphia, Inc and Zoozaloaz '05 at the Philadelphia zoo. Television/movie credits: *Hack and Our Lady of Victory*. For the past four years, Deborah has taught elementary music in Pennsauken, NJ. Thanks Jumbo for this great opportunity!



T. PATRICK RYAN (Mike) This is T.'s first appearance with the theatre. Since moving from Boston, T. has appeared on stage with King of Prussia Players, Playcrafters of Skippack and Forge Theatre. He has appeared on stage in such productions as *Two Rooms* (Walker), *Barnum* (Ringmaster/Bailey), *The Lion In Winter* (Geoffrey), *Laughter On The 23rd Floor* (Val), *Crimes of the Heart* (Barnett), *Getting Out* (Ronny), *It's Only A Play* (James) and on the ABC series *All My Children* and in films *Mischief and Asylum*. T. was also seen recently on the Broadway stage in *Spring Awakening* and *Equus*. Right Scott? T. is also a director and has locally directed *Keely and Du, Wit, The Busy World Is Hushed, Agnes of God, and The Vagina Monologues*. He will be directing the Philadelphia premiere of the drama *WTC View* with Allen's Lane in Philadelphia, March 2011. He studied theater at Ohio University and spent a year as a repertory actor in Columbus, Ohio. T. wants to thank the Company for all their hard

ABOUT THE ACTORS

work on this project and for giving me the opportunity to play Mike. To the cast, old and new. To my friends for their support. To my family for making the drive from Ohio to share this with me. And to "The Three Amigos"!



EDDIE MATTOLA (Thug 1) was born in North Philadelphia and raised by his father and grandparents. He's now a senior at La Salle University studying Film and Journalism and hopes to go off to NYU to continue his studies in Film and Screenwriting. Eddie became very interested in acting and theatre in middle school, and since then, has performed in a wide variety of productions. Some plays and characters include *The Miracle Worker* (as James Keller), *The Match Maker* (as Ambrose Kemper), and *The Laramie Project* (where he took on multiple roles). Following the death of his father in 2006, Eddie's attention turned away from acting and writing in order for him to focus on family and school. *Last Rites* marks his reintroduction to the theatre world, and he is very excited to be involved in this production and with this company!



ELIJAH MOLOTSKY (Thug 2) is thrilled to be making his SCTC debut in *Last Rites*. Elijah is a sophomore at Cherry Hill High School West, where he last appeared in the title role of the school's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Elijah's technical and production credits include *The Merchant of Venice* (Collingswood Shakespeare Company) and *Cherry Hill's Got Talent*, along with various productions and events at West including the 2010 one-act play festival, where he served as an assistant director. Elijah would like to thank his castmates for all their patience, kindness, and mentoring, and his family for shuttling him to and from rehearsals and su



ABOUT THE CREW

CHRISTOPHER "JUMBO" SCHIMPF (Director) has been performing and directing with many local companies since 1995. This is the third production he has had the privilege to direct here at SCTC, and he is very flattered for the opportunity. Previous stints in the director's chair include productions of *The Miracle Worker*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Into the Woods*, and *Mass Appeal*, among many others. He has directed equity, amateur, student and other professional casts. Jumbo also taught English and theatre arts at Merion Mercy Academy and Little Flower High School, and has been a guest lecturer and presenter for several performing arts programs throughout the Delaware Valley. Jumbo is the former Education Director for Green Light Theatrical Productions, and is honored to be a Trustee of SCTC.

BRAD REITER (Assistant Director) Brad M. Reiter is proud to again be working with the South Camden Theatre Company. He has worked on many SCTC productions including *Hughie*, *Indoor Picnic*, *The Exonerated*, *That Championship Season*, *Old Settler*, and *Mass Appeal*. He has also performed in such SCTC productions as *Last Rites*, *Make War Not Love*, *A Community of Two*, and *Laramie Nights*. Brad would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work, Joe and Jumbo for their confidence, and Bob for working so hard to make all this possible. And of course he cannot forget Ashley, without her he would be lost.

ASHLEY CHAMBERS (Stage Manager) is elated to continue working with her second family at the South Camden Theatre Company. She has previously worked on the SCTC productions of *Fortune Cookies*, *That Championship Season*, *Old Settler*, *Youth in America*, *Mass Appeal*, *And Justice for All*, *Go Irish! – The Purgatory Diaries of Jason Miller*, *Slave Narratives Revisited*, and *Belmont Avenue Social Club*. She can find no words to describe her love for this company, her faith in its mission, and her feelings of hope and excitement for its future in its new home in Waterfront South. She thanks Brad for his love and undying effort, Joe for his passion, dedication and *Kitchen Fridays*, Erika for everything, always, Jumbo for his inventive and delightful nature, and Jim and Katie for never failing to make her laugh (and, of course, for their hard work).

ERIKA KAMPFE (Assistant Stage Manager) is truly honored to be a part of this momentous production of *Last Rites*. She has previously worked with SCTC as the assistant stage manager on *And Justice for All*, *Slave Narratives Revisited*, and *Belmont Social Avenue Club*, and is very excited to be working with them again. She would like to thank Joe, for having such a big dream and including us all in it, Ashley and Brad for their support and friendship, Katie and Jimmy for keeping us laughing, Jumbi for being a fantastic director and friend, and the rest of the cast and crew for making this show happen. It couldn't have been done without you.

JIM GUCKIN (Lighting Technician) has been with SCTC for 3 years now. His most recent work with the Company was as Assistant Director for SCTC's performance of *Belmont Avenue Social Club*. He has made many new lifelong friends working for and on this theatre. Jim would also like to extend a special thank you to his girlfriend Katie, without whom, all this would be worthless. To the cast, thanks for all the hard work; to Joe - I'm glad to see dreams come true; to Jumbo...please stay "Jumbo"; and to Brad, Ashley and Erica,



ABOUT THE CREW

stay sexy! Jim hopes to continue his reign of terror in the Waterfront South Theatre. It has been an exciting experience to watch this theatre grow from an old building, to a hole in the ground, to finally a real theatre and is lucky to have a hand in it, and when you look at any imperfections no matter how small...there I shall be.

KATIE SOMMERS (Sound Technician) is glad to be back with the South Camden Theatre Company for her 3rd year and is excited to be working during the historic opening of the Waterfront South Theatre. She is glad to have made many close friends and is happy to be able to work with her one true love, Jim. She has enjoyed watching the construction and working on the theatre. Katie also works as a Registered Medical Assistant, and she also spends time educating young teens. She would like to thank her cousin Lisa for getting involved in the theatre, and to the wonderful cast that we continue to have. Thank you Joe for all these wonderful seasons, and thank you for being who you are and continue to be. Jumbo, all I have to say is "amazing." Ashley, Erika and Brad, you guys are extraordinary.

ADRIAN ROONEY (Lighting Designer) Adreian is a lighting designer based out of the Philadelphia area. Recent works include *Maybe Even Tammy* (The Flea), *Greater Tuna* (Northern Stage) and the world premier of the musical, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*.

ROBERT BINGAMAN (Set Designer) Bob has been enjoying theatre from the audience's perspective over these last many years until Joe "invited" him in to this creative group of wonderful folks. Having not done a set design for nearly 30 years, Joe and Jumbo took a huge risk in letting me manage this one. (Hopefully, I've pulled it off?) I am truly blessed to be in the company of so many talented individuals and look forward to working on set design and construction whenever possible. Thanks to Steve for putting up with me over the last several months and for doing without your garage.

JOSEPH M. PAPZYCKI (Playwright) Joe is the author of 46 plays and 4 screenplays including full length plays *Last Rites* (Bravo! NY, SCTC), *Understudies* (Brick Playhouse, Philadelphia), *Tennessee's Final Curtain* (Random Arts, NY) (staged readings, *Hotel Elysee* – Dramatists Guild-NY, *Fortune Cookies* (SCTC), *Indoor Picnic* (SCTC) and *Youth In America* (Rowan University, Rutgers University, SCTC). His new play, *Nick of Time...* *Nick of Time* will be produced at this theatre in December in honor of legendary haiku poet Nick Virgilio. He is an adjunct faculty member at Temple University, LaSalle University and Rosemont College. Thanks to all the actors, my wonderful director, board president Bob Bingaman and you, the audience, for bringing SCTC to life. Thanks always to Fr. Michael Doyle, Chris, Gus and Stella.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When I drove home over the Walt Whitman Bridge last night, I looked north and I could still see the police lights that were flashing when I had pulled away from Broadway and Emerald. A few thoughts struck me.

Camden wasn't built with all the abandoned houses, all the trash strewn lots, or all the never-do-wells. It was a beautiful city, once. It wasn't the people outside on Fourth Street today who beat the city down. It was "progress". It was Bridges that funneled you and me and commerce around the city. It was unions that promised laborers they would never need to trust anybody else, and it was "public servants" who promised business to the largest campaign contributors. Camden fell because politicians lined their own pockets by sending shipbuilding contracts to companies who financed the right candidate. Camden fell because union stewards lied to their members to save their own futures. Camden fell because fathers told their sons to believe those men. It fell because sons believed their fathers. It fell because faith was betrayed.

Camden fell because people lost faith in themselves.

Camden is still fallen. You saw it when you drove here: the burned out shells – people and buildings; the whores; the syringes in the gutter. How many people in Camden tonight have any faith left?

I betcha at least ninety six. Thanks for coming. Thanks for keeping the faith.

Camden will rise.

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