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## New Moon Theatre's 2015 - 2016 Season

***The Laramie Project:  
10 Years Later***

by Moises Kaufman  
June 12 - 28, 2015

***Titus Andronicus***

by William Shakespeare  
Oct. 23-Nov. 8, 2015

***Lettice and Lovage***

by Peter Shaffer  
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Come back to the

5 and  
Dime

Jimmy Dean,  
Jimmy Dean



**March 27 - April 12, 2015**

Fridays & Saturdays @ 8 pm,  
Sundays @ 2 pm

By Ed Graczyk, Directed by Marler Stone

New Moon @ Theatreworks, 2085 Monroe Ave.  
Ticket info: 484-3467, [www.NewMoonTheatre.org](http://www.NewMoonTheatre.org)

## TIME & PLACE

Time:

September 30, 1975

September 30, 1955

Place:

A Five-And-Dime in McCarthy, a small town in West Texas.

## CAST

*In order of appearance*

Juanita.....	Martha Graber
Mona.....	Tamara Wright
Mona (Then).....	Hallie Storms
Sissy.....	Leslie Lee Lansky
Sissy (Then).....	Meg Law
Joe.....	William Henry
Joanne.....	Robbie Phillips
Stella Mae.....	Randi Sluder
Edna Louise.....	Emily Burnett

## ARTISTIC / MANAGEMENT STAFF

Director.....	Marler Stone
Asst. Director/Stage Manager.....	Fred Harpell
Lighting Designer.....	Summer Pike
Set Designer.....	Chris Sterling
Costume Designer.....	Robin Owens
Sound Designer.....	Matthew Stone
Dialect Coach.....	Rita Grivich
Set Dressing/Props.....	Bill Short
Set Construction.....	Chris Sterling, Ron Gordon, Donn Leppert, John Bray, Sylvia Wilson, Gene Elliott
Costume Construction.....	Emily Peckam
Charge Artist.....	Ashley Ruggiero
Lighting/Sound Engineer.....	Summer Pike
Poster Design.....	Andrew Chandler
Program Design.....	Gene Elliott

### New Moon Theatre Company Board of Directors

Gregory Boller  
Justin Asher  
Kell Christie  
Gene Elliott  
William Henry  
Robbie Phillips  
Chris Sterling  
Amy Van Doren Rust  
Sylvia Wilson

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• New Moon Theatre would like to thank the following, without whom this production could not have succeeded:  
•••••

• **Charlie Smith, Wiles-Smith Drug Store, John Bray,**  
• **Ron Gordon, Eric Sefton,**  
• **Nancy Morrow, Mark Rutledge,**  
• **Tom & Tracie Hansom,**  
• **Rhodes College,**  
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• **Fred Harpell, Germantown Community Theatre**  
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## DIRECTOR'S CORNER



**Marler Stone** (*Director*) has been an actor in area theatres for many years taking leading roles in productions of *Camelot*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Shadowlands*, *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Oliver*, *Candide* among others.

He has received four "Excellence in Acting" (Ostrander) Awards and in 2004, he received the Eugart Yerian Award for Lifetime Achievement in Theatre. He was a Theatre Judge for eighteen years attending some thirty-five community productions each year in preparation for the annual Ostrander Theatre Awards. Marler has also directed productions at area theatres (Germantown Community Theatre, Theatre Memphis, New Moon Theatre, Playwrights' Forum, etc.) including, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Pack of Lies*, *The Subject was Roses*, *Misery*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Pound*, *Killing Louise*, *Born Yesterday*, *Is He Dead?*, *The Boys Next Door*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Talley's Folly* and *The Miracle Worker*.

"I was delighted to get the job as director of *Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. In the beginning, I was not totally aware of the many theatrical attributes of this American Classic! And it is a Classic! I thought it would be interesting to make contact with the playwright, Ed Graczyk. So, I tracked him down on Facebook, and believe it or not, he responded. Over the course of our rehearsal process, he has answered several of our questions about the play. Then I asked him one final one: 'How did you decide to write the play?' Below, is his answer:"

Ed Graczyk, "I spent five years in the late sixties working at a theatre in Midland, a city in the heart of West Texas. While there, people would regale me with stories of the excitement that filled the area when in the mid-fifties GIANT was being filmed in the small town of Marfa two hundred miles down the road. A friend had returned to Marfa years later and retrieved several architectural pieces of the now crumbling façade of the imposing house known as Reata that had been built on six telephone poles off in the middle of nowhere. I was given one of those pieces as a gift. Several years later living in Ohio, and looking for the inspiration for a new play, I glanced over at the shelf where that piece of Riata was placed and the memories of my years in West Texas and the people and their stories of the filming of GIANT all started to meld together.

I woke up in the middle of one night and the title *Come Back To The 5 & Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean* came to me out of nowhere. I wrote it down on a piece of paper, went back to sleep and the next day started writing it."

**Thank you, Ed Graczyk! You have added to the excitement of this production.**

## New Moon Theatre

*Presents*

# Come Back To The 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean

**by Ed Graczyk**  
**Directed by Marler Stone**

Produced by special arrangement with

Samuel French, Inc.  
45 West 25th St.  
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# ABOUT THE CAST



**Emily Burnett** (*Edna Louise*) is excited to be back on the New Moon stage after last being seen as Thelma in *The Trip to Bountiful*. Past credits include: *Go Back for Murder*, *Mousetrap*, *Twilight of the Gods*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Mousetrap*, *A Murder is Announced*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Amadeus*, *Vanities*, and *'Night, Mother*. Emily would like to thank Marler for the opportunity to work with

this amazing cast and crew. "Break legs!"



**Martha Graber** (*Juanita*) has appeared on Memphis stages for the past 29 years, and this production marks her debut with New Moon Theatre Company. She was most recently seen at Germantown Community Theatre (GCT) as Ethel Thayer in *On Golden Pond*. Other GCT shows include *The Foreigner*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Steel Magnolias*, and *Pack Of Lies*. Theatre Memphis credits include

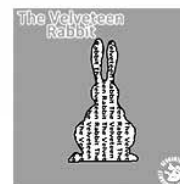
*Enchanted April* (Ostrander Award), *Morning's At Seven* (Ostrander Ensemble Award), *A Perfect Ganesh*, *Hedda Gabbler*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *The Marriage Of Bette And Boo*, *Well*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, and others. She appeared in *Shadowlands* (Leading Actress award) at Circuit Playhouse and in *Killing Louise*, a new play at Playwright's Forum. Martha sends special thanks to Marler, Fred and the wonderful cast and crew of *Jimmy Dean*, *Jimmy Dean* and wishes there were a few more dime stores "hanging on" where she could get a nice, cold Orange Crush. She also thanks family and friends for their never-ending love and support.



**William Henry** (*Joe*) is so excited to be back on the Theatreworks stage with New Moon. This marks his 5th production with New Moon including other shows such as *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *King Lear*, and *Some Things You Need to Know...* You may also have seen him in other shows around the community such as *Cock (M)*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, and *Comedy of Errors* (Dromio of Ephesus). When he is not performing, he teaches theatre at White Station High School. He would like to thank Marler for this opportunity, his family and friends for believing in him, and the cast and crew for their support.



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## ABOUT THE CREW

**Rita Santi Grivich** (*Dialect Coach*) is a teacher of the deaf and founder and director of White Station High's Deaf Drama Club. At Theatre Memphis she played the mother in *Children of a Lesser God* which featured one of her drama students in the starring role. She was in several Playwright Forum play - *Dancing at the Revolution*, *Rock, Scissors, Paper*, *Leavin' Will*, and was lead in *Gladys in Wonderland*.

**Fred Harpell** (*Asst. Director/Stage Manager*) has collaborated with Director Marler Stone before for NM. The last being the critically acclaimed *Death of a Salesman*. Also a sometime actor, he was seen in *The Lark*, *A View From The Bridge*, *You Can't Take It With You* and *A Christmas Carol*. Retired from FedEx, Fred is a grandfather of four who lives in downtown Memphis with his wife Dorothy who remains patient with his theatrics both on and off the stage.

**Robin Owens** (*Costume Design*) has been the Resident Costume Designer at Germantown Community Theatre for 12 years. She has also done shows with Harrell Theater and Ridgeway High School. Robin has done several shows with New Moon Productions and is glad to be back again. She has been nominated for several Ostrander awards and won an Award for *Ruthless*. "Thanks Marler and Gene for this wonderful opportunity."

**Summer Pike** (*Lighting Design*) is so excited to be joining NM again with *Jimmy Dean*. Recently, she has worked on several other shows at TW, such as *Haint*, *Trip to Bountiful*, and an on stage performance in *The Woman In Black*. She has had very little formal training in lighting design but has become a increasing passion. "I wanna thank my puppy, Nate, and my roommate Chelse for continuing to keep me sane during all of my lighting chaos. THANK YA' LL!!"

**Bill Short** (*Set Dressing/Props*) is a 30+ year veteran of the Memphis theatrical scene. Among his most recent work has been set dressing for Three Penny's *Long Day's Journey into Night*, props and set dressing for *Harvey* at Theatre Memphis and set design, set dressing and props for *A Murder is Announced* at GCT. Besides winning numerous Ostrander Awards for his sets and props, he has also been nominated for directing GCT's *The Woman in Black* and won an Ostrander for his performance in GCT's *The Play's The Thing*. He is the 2006 recipient of the Eugart Yarian Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre.

**Chris Sterling** (*Set Design*) has designed the sets for *Haint* (Ostrander winner for Best Set Design), *Bug* and *The Rainmaker*. He has been seen on several local stages over the years, most recently as the Sheriff in NM's production of *The Rainmaker*. He has also appeared in *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Fallen Angels* at Theatre Memphis; *The Hollow* and *The Mousetrap* at GCT.

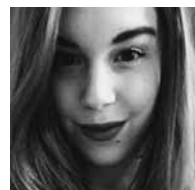
**Matthew Stone** (*Sound Design*) has written music and designed sound for many productions around the Mid-South. He has won three Ostrander awards for Music/Sound design including *Pack of Lies*, and *Misery* (GCT), *Child's Play* (TM), and was nominated for an Ostrander for Sound for *The Boys Next Door* (GCT). Matthew serves as Executive Director for Youth Villages in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

## ABOUT THE CAST



**Leslie Lee Lansky** (*Sissy*) is excited to share the stage with New Moon Theater Company and such a talented cast! It's been about 10 years since she has worked on the TheaterWorks stage in *Leaving Will*. In her last production she spoke with a British accent as Elsa in *Go Back for Murder* (GCT), and she is looking forward to speaking in her southern native accent for this production! Other credits include *Lisa in The Lyons* (Circuit),

*How to Succeed in Business* at Playhouse on the Square, Yenta in *Fiddler on the Roof* (TM), Elizabeth in *Catch Me if You Can* (BPACC), Ellen in *Over the Tavern* (GCT), and *Much Ado About Nothing* on the Next Stage at Theatre Memphis. "Thank you to Marler for taking a chance on me."



**Meg Law** (*Sissy Then*) graduated from Virginia Tech's School of Performing Arts with a Performance-Focused BA in Theatre & Cinema. Throughout college, Meg taught theatre at elementary schools and is now teaching a children's theatre/fitness program. Her Senior year, she was SAFD Certified in Single Sword stage combat. Meg's most

recent role was in David Mamet's *Oleanna* (Carol). She moved to Memphis this past summer. Alongside theatre and many random things, Meg is currently pursuing becoming a certified Personal Trainer. She is grateful for the mad yearn to act, the opportunities which arise, and the madder consequences that unfold. Meg would like to thank her family and friends for their relentless support. "Thank you to the cast and crew of this show for the opportunity and experience discovered in this little corner of the world and the willingness to share it."



**Robbie Phillips** (*Joanne*) has been a veterinary technician for 18 years and has served on the NM board since 2010. She studied acting at The Academy of Dramatic Arts/NYC and did her graduate studies in Performance/Directing at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and SUNY at Stony Brook, NY. Recent performances include *Harvey* (TM), *Frankenstein* (NM), *The Play About The Baby*,

*Western Park Album* (ETC), *Barefoot In The Park* (BCT), *Look Away! A Civil War Zombie Tragedy* (NM) and *Plaza Suite* (BCT).

## ABOUT THE CAST



**Randi Sluder** (*Stella Mae*) is the recipient of four North Mississippi Theatre Alliance awards for acting and singing and has performed for Working Title Productions, Harrell Theatre, Bartlett Community Theatre, Theatre Memphis, Germantown Community Theatre, Kudzu Playhouse, DeSoto Family Theatre, Voices of the South, and Playwright's Forum. She first appeared for New Moon in the regional premiere of *Haint*, for which she received the 2014 BroadwayWorld Memphis Regional Award for Best Featured Actress in a Play. Randi is honored to share this experience with such a talented group. "Love to Kip!"



**Hallie Storms** (*Mona, Then*) is so excited to be making her New Moon debut with such a talented cast. Favorite past productions include *The Odd Couple*, *Female Edition* (Olive), *Nora's Lost* (Young Martha), *Hairspray* (Velma), and *You Can't Take it With You* (Gay Wellington). She is a junior at White Station High School, and in her free time she enjoys writing and singing. She would like to thank her family for their constant support, and Marler for this experience.



**Tamara Wright** (*Mona*) is thrilled to be in such great company in her first New Moon production. A regular on the Memphis stage, she was last seen flaunting her wares in *The Addams Family* at Theatre Memphis. She's proud to have been a fixture at GCT in *Dixie Swim Club* (Vernadette) and *The Boys Next Door* (Sheila) which earned her Ostrander noms and wins for Best Ensemble DSC and


*Steel Magnolias* (Truvy). Other local/regional credits include *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (Blanche), *RENT*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Golde), *The Voice of the Prairie* (Frances), *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Rhetta) and *Cabaret* (Fraulein Kost). Thank you to Marler for letting me bring Mona to life. Much love to Stu and the nuggets. TamaraTouchTherapy@VPWEB.com

New Moon Theatre Company was formed in 2004 to produce challenging works. It's first debut production of *Fefu and her Friends* was a wonderful success.

New Moon would like to acknowledge the original four founding members, and thank them for their vision, dedication and hard work.

**Bert Godwin  
Pam Goss  
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David Newsome**


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