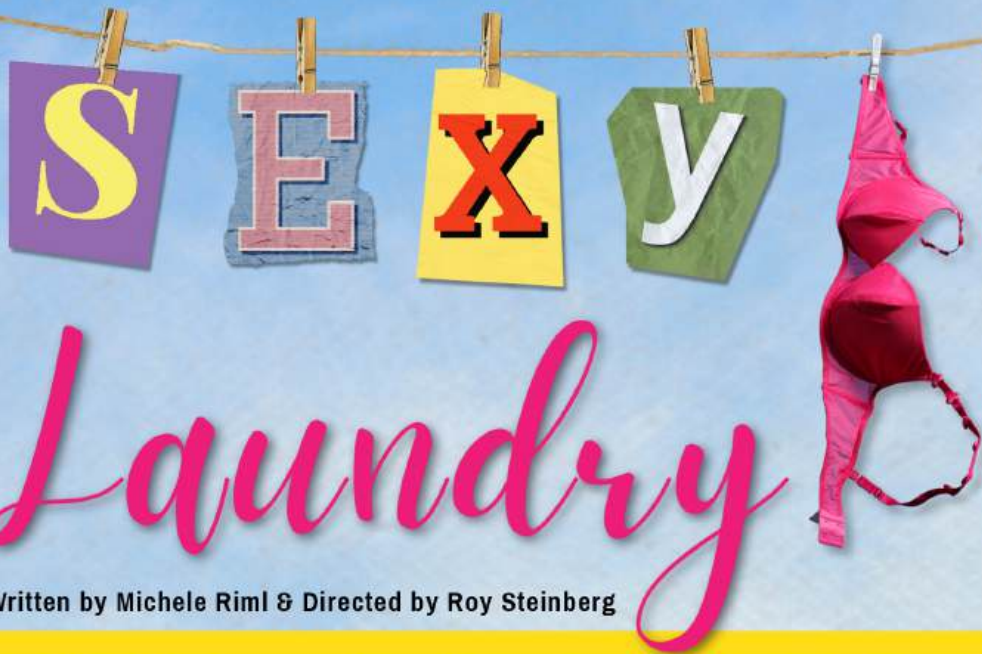


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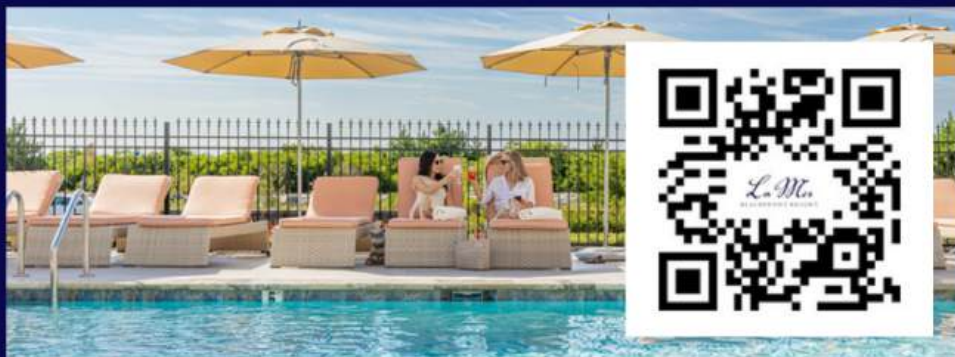


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Roy Steinberg

Producing Artistic Director of Cape May Stage

"I count myself in nothing else so happy, as in a soul remembering good friends." ~ William Shakespeare, Richard II

I have been ruminating about the effect of time on human relationships – how it deepens some and dissolves others. It is surprising why some friendships exist over decades with the most tenuous of connections while other red-hot dynamics for a time disappear over the years.

Our season begins with the exploration of the friendship of three Texas cheerleaders from high school to college to adulthood and the impact of societal changes and personal choices on that trio. After that, five women look back at their lives with a mixture of comedy and pathos and a search for dignity.

Next up is the very human comedy of attempts to reignite passion after years of matrimony. Our fall show takes what appears to be a chance encounter on a New York subway and uses that scenario to meditate on how race and status informs our culture. Finally, while celebrating the holidays we can indulge in a bit of magic and watch a father/daughter relationship be healed by Santa Claus.

We invite you to examine your own lives through the lens of theatre – these stories combine to make us laugh and take pause and look to the future with a grateful heart for the miracle of friendship. After thirty-five seasons, Cape May Stage gives a collective hug to each of you.

Roy Steinberg



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Cape May

magazine

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Many thanks to the producers of "Sexy Laundry":
W.J. "Brad" Bradhering, Tom & Sue Carroll, Irene Darocha and Michael Picariello, Denise & Vince DeGiaino, Ken & Elaine Kirby, Becky Kriebel, Leslie & Myles Martel, Mary & Tedd McKenney, and Steven & Sue Teitelman



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This Show contains Mature Language, Adult Themes, and Sexual Content

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The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. All electronic devices such as beepers, tablets, cell phones, and watch alarms must be turned off prior to the performance.



2025 Producer Circle Members in support of "Sexy Laundry"



W.J. "Brad" Bradhering supports the Arts including Cape May Stage and George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, NJ. He has been a Producer specializing in the design, production and staging of business theater and events for Fortune 500 companies for over 45 years. Brad resides in Stone Harbor during the summer and spends the rest of his time, when not traveling, in the Princeton area. He is also a Board Member and the Treasurer of the Rocky Hill Community Group.



Tom & Sue Carroll were pioneers in the B&B industry when they opened Cape May's first B&B, the Mainstay Inn, in 1971. Besides restoring several buildings for their Inn operation, they have been active in the restoration and development of the Emlen Physick Estate, Cape May Stage and the Cape May Lighthouse. The Carrolls are longtime supporters of the arts, particularly theatre in Cape May and Philadelphia.



Irene Darocha & Michael Picariello "Our continued support of Cape May Stage as an enduring bellwether of the artistic scene in our historic beach community is prompted by the sheer variety and astute casting of the productions. From screwball comedies to dramatic social struggles, the season is also wonderfully highlighted by an A-list of Broadway series productions." The Cape May Stage historically has always had something interesting for everyone to enjoy. "Our enthusiasm of the Stage's artistic vision has remained unwaveringly strong, and we steadfastly encourage all visitors to the New Jersey Shore to make attending a Cape May Stage production a destination highlight worth experiencing."



Denise & Vince DeGiaino were born, raised, and met in New York City. They became full-time Cape May residents in April of 2021. Vince is a retired Investment Banker, and Denise recently retired after a long teaching career. They moved here from their primary home in New York's Westchester County. They have long supported non-profit and for-profit theaters in NY. And they have been investors in a number of Off and Off-Off-Broadway productions. Vince is currently serving as a Board member of Cape May Stage. And they are proud members of Cape May Stages' Producers Circle, saying that "being a Producer has been so much fun and has connected us to so many wonderful and talented people."



Ken & Elaine Kirby reside in Havertown, PA and also have a home in Cape May County. Ken retired from a 35 year career in fund raising, public relations, and government affairs, having worked for The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, The Academy of Natural Sciences, The Franklin Institute, and Main Line Health. Ken currently serves as a consultant to a variety of non-profit organizations. Elaine retired after a 25 year career in special events and marketing for the insurance industry. Ken is a former Trustee of The Walnut Street Theater in Philadelphia. They are avid theater buffs - whether it be Broadway or an amateur theater company performing in a local gymnasium. Other than theater, their largest passion (of course!) is their two grandchildren, Carter and Avery.



2025 Producer Circle Members in support of "Sexy Laundry"



Becky Kriebel grew up in Western Pennsylvania where she sang for five years with the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh. She met her husband Bob of 52 years in Cape May at the old Sid's Tavern and has had several properties here since the late 1970s. Her career in medicine as a nurse spanned from Presbyterian University Hospital of Pittsburgh to various school nursing jobs in the Upper Gwynedd Valley area where she lived with her family including two daughters for over 50 years. Currently she joyfully resides full-time in Cape May and sings at Cape May Lutheran Church. She spends winters in Colorado on the slopes and hiking with her family which now proudly includes two teenage grandchildren.



Leslie & Myles Martel were inspired by Mel Brooks' iconic line "I want to be a producer" and now legitimately hold claim to the title "Producer" while supporting Cape May Stage's outstanding contributions to the Cape May cultural scene. Leslie, having been born into the world of live theater, developed a love for it at an early age and has continued to enjoy the theater throughout her life. They have a deep respect for all that Cape May Stage does for the area and send their thanks to the hard-working Board of Trustees and Roy Steinberg.



Mary & Tedd McKenney have been Cape May Stage supporters for many years, going back to Project Encore. Tedd's business donated time and materials for the marble and granite in the bathrooms and foyer of the theater. Mary has been a Board member for the past few years and will become Board Treasurer in 2023. Both Mary and Tedd enjoy participating in Cape May Stage events and programs. They split their time between Cape May, NJ and Key Colony Beach in the Florida Keys. Their 3 grown children grew up enjoying weekends and Summers in Cape May. The entire family continues to maintain many full-time friendships here.



Steven & Sue Teitelman were among the first patrons to join the Producers Circle. Susan was a member of the board of Cape May Stage for many years and Steve retired as the President of PSEG Energy, Resource, and Trade Company. Steve grew up in Cape May, where his family owned and operated many businesses dating back to the early 1900's. They have three daughters and six grandchildren.



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Cape May Stage applauds all of our 2025 Producers Circle members. Thank you for making this season possible!

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Director's Note

By Roy B. Steinberg

When a long-married couple resorts to reading "Sex For Dummies" and books a pretentious hotel to spice up their sex-life, we know things have grown stale and routine. I'm reminded of a Woody Allan movie where a couple is seeking therapy and their answers to the question "how often do you make love" illustrates the problem. The husband replies "hardly ever - once or twice a week" while his wife responds "constantly - once or twice a week". Lack of communication seems to be at the root of both of these couples' problems - and genuine love is the antidote. Told with humor and honesty, this play has been enjoyed all over Canada and the west coast of our nation - we bring it to you for your enjoyment.

Take the Quiz to Win!



SCAN HERE

Get in the mood for laughter and love with this playful pre-show quiz that tests your knowledge of relationships, romance, and a little bit of "Sexy Laundry"!

Answer all ten questions correctly to be entered into a drawing to win a special prize from Cape May Stage. The drawing will be held after the final performance of "Sexy Laundry" but you need not be present to win.

Just scan this QR code to begin. Good luck and enjoy the show!

If you would prefer a paper copy of the quiz, just ask our box office associates or ushers.



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We salute our board members for all of their work on behalf of Cape May Stage. Thank you!



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Roy Steinberg⁺ (Director) has directed classical, contemporary, and world premiere plays across the United States. In New York, he directed Ann Jackson, Kim Hunter, and Alvin Epstein in *The Madwoman of Chaillot* at the Neighborhood Playhouse and worked with Lynn Cohen and Farley Granger on *The Marriage Fool* at Circle Repertory Company. His production of *Othello* ran at the Intar Theatre, and he directed Joan Copeland in *Second Summer* for the Colleagues Theatre Company. Steinberg served as Artistic Director for Theatre Matrix in New York and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Wisconsin, and directed bilingual touring productions of Moliere's

The Miser and *The Bourgeois Gentleman*. He has also directed college productions nationwide, including *American Buffalo*, *Our Town*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In film and television, Steinberg has directed and produced *Guiding Light*, *One Life To Live*, *Days Of Our Lives*, *Forensic Files*, and *Scandalous Art*, earning four Emmy nominations. His work with Jo-Beth Williams on *Life In General* won five Spirit Awards. At Cape May Stage, Steinberg has directed numerous productions, including *Souvenir*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Blithe Spirit*, *How to Make a Rope Swing*, *Say Goodnight Gracie*, *Visiting Mr. Green*, *Proof*, *Class*, *Steel Magnolias*, *The Understudy*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Happy Days*, *Freud's Last Session*, *The Santaland Diaries*, *The Woolgatherer*, *Mistakes Were Made*, *This Wonderful Life*, *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Disgraced*, *Buyer and Cellar*, *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *The Gin Game*, *Outside Mullingar*, *The Ultimate Christmas Show*, *Chapter Two*, *The Shuck*, *An Actor's Carol*, *Heisenberg*, *Sylvia*, *Sidekicked*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, *Double Play*, *America's Sexiest Couple*, *The Lifespan of a Fact*, *One Christmas Carol*, *Shirley Valentine*, *Art*, *The Garbologists*, *A Tuna Christmas*, *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson - Apt 2B*, *Stones in His Pockets*, *The Gift of the Magi* and *Vanities*.

Steinberg holds an MFA from the Yale School of Drama and serves as the Producing Artistic Director at Cape May Stage. His proudest production is his daughter, Alexa Catherine.

"Even after many years together, couples should still surprise each other—in the bedroom and beyond."

~Dr. Ruth Siegel Westheimer



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GEORGETTE REILLY TIMONEY* (Alice)

Georgette is delighted to return to Cape May Stage, where she performed in *Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins* and in this season's *Love, Loss, & What I Wore*. Georgette's stage credits include *Picking Palin* at the NYC International Fringe Festival, *A Christmas Story* at Arkansas Rep, and *Don't Dress for Dinner* at Bristol Valley Theatre in Upstate NY. A New Jersey native, Georgette's home state credits include *Steel Magnolias* at SurfFlight in Beach Haven, and *Chapter Two* (opposite Bryan Cranston) at Shadow Lawn Stage in West Long Branch. Georgette is a veteran voice actor best-known for her role as "Agent Stepmother" in the popular animated family feature film *Secret Magic Control Agency* and its sequel *Secret Magic Control Agency II: Mission Sleeping Beauty*. Earlier this year she acted in the independent feature film *Heading East*. Georgette recently wrote her first full-length play *Taking Liberty*, based on the letters between Abigail and John Adams.



BILL TIMONEY* (Henry)

Bill previously appeared at Cape May Stage in *THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT* in 2022. He appeared on Broadway earlier this year in the revival of *Our Town* (starring Jim Parsons, Katie Holmes and Richard Thomas) and in last season's revival of *Purlie Victorious*, a *Non-Confederate Romp Through the Cotton Patch* (both directed by Tony Award winner Kenny Leon). Bill's other Broadway appearances include *Network* and the 2014 "Best Play" Tony Award winner *All the Way* (both starring Bryan Cranston). OFF BROADWAY: *The Irish Curse* (Soho Playhouse). REGIONAL THEATRE: American Repertory Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse-in-the-Park, Penobscot Theatre Company, Arkansas Rep, Mill Mountain Theatre, NJ Rep. FILM: Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman*, Bryan Cranston's *Last Chance*,

Nadir Saribacak's *Gazelle*, and the Hallmark Channel's TV movie *Broadcasting Christmas*. Television: *Billions*, *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*, *12 Monkeys*, *The Blacklist*, *Blue Bloods*, *Person of Interest*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *FBI*, *Malcolm in the Middle*, *Hunters*, *The Good Cop*, *Mr. Robot*, and *Orange is the New Black*. Fans of the soap opera *All My Children* remember Bill as "Alfred Vanderpool," the preppie nerd of Pine Valley in the show's classic "Greg & Jenny" storyline. Bill is an accomplished voice actor whose work can be heard in hundreds of live action films, TV shows, and animated programs; highlights include the anime franchise *Pokemon*, the Disney movie *Mission 2 Mars*, the Nick Jr. cartoon series *Kid E Cats*, and the NBC-TV holiday special *A Muppets Christmas: Letters to Santa*. Bill is a New Jersey native and current resident, and a proud member of Actors Equity Association.

* Member of Actors' Equity Association + Member of Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

Actors' Equity Association (AEA) was founded in 1913 as the first of the American actors unions. Equity's mission is to advance, promote, and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Today, Equity represents more than 40,000 actors, singers, dancers, and stage managers working in hundreds of theatres across the United States. Equity members are dedicated to working in the theatre as a profession, upholding the highest artistic standards. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits including health and pension plans for its members. Through its agreement with Equity, this theatre has committed to the fair treatment of the actors and stage managers employed in this production. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. For more information, visit www.actorsequity.org



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Celebrating its 36th season as a Professional Equity theater, Cape May Stage has a rich history dating back to 1989, when it staged its first official production, "Sea Marks," at the Chalfonte Hotel and Cold Spring Village. In 1993, Cape May Stage moved into its permanent home at 405 Lafayette Street, where it still performs today. This beautifully restored and maintained historic building was erected in 1853 as the Cape Island Presbyterian Church (known as the "Visitor's Church"), and later served as a community center and welcome center for the town.



Over the years, many people have contributed to the success of Cape May Stage. But none more so than its founder, **Michael Laird**. By his own account, Michael was an "equity actor and a director and a producer and a sculptor and a playwright and a poet and a clown." Before settling in Cape May he appeared Off-Broadway in New York, at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia and at Asolo State Theatre in Sarasota, Florida. He also did summer stock at PEI Playhouse in Prince Edward Island, Canada. Michael ran Cape May Stage until he passed away in 2001.



The building used by Cape May Stage is called the Robert Shackleton Playhouse. Named after the late actor **Robert Shackleton**, whose family has deep roots in Cape May, the theater pays tribute to his acting career. Mr. Shackleton was raised in suburban Philadelphia, graduating from Temple University and then moving on to perform in Broadway and London theaters, as well as in the movies. His acting career was interrupted by World War II and in 1956 he tragically passed away at the age of 42. His love of theater lives on in Cape May as his daughter, Leslie Shackleton Martel, serves as the president of the Cape May Stage board of directors.

Thanks to the generosity of the Shackleton family along with other members of the Cape May Stage community, the building was renamed the Robert Shackleton Playhouse in 2007 and this historic structure is now a state-of-the-art theatre known to residents and visitors as "the jewel in the crown of Cape May's architectural gems".



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Emma Bilderback

(Production Stage Manager & Production Manager)

Emma Bilderback is a theatre artist based in New Jersey. A Los Angeles native, she received her Bachelor's from Marymount Manhattan College and her Master's from the University of Amsterdam. In addition to stage management, she is an executive committee member for the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.



Tony Taylor (Sound Designer)

Tony Taylor is based out of Lancaster, PA, working most recently on "Romeo and Juliet" and "SIX". He is happy to be working with everyone at Cape May Stage. Enjoy the show!



Courtney Davis (Props Manager/Set Decorator)

Courtney Davis is thrilled to be back at Cape May Stage this season. She has a B.A in Music Industry with a Minor in Musical Theatre at Monmouth University. She has worked sound, lighting, rails, and makeup at various theatres through New Jersey including Two River Theatre, Algonquin Arts Theatre, and The Broadway Theatre of Pitman, and she is excited for this season at Cape May Stage.



Brian Strachan (Costume Director)

Brian holds a M.F.A. in costume design from Temple University. He has designed costumes for many companies in the Philadelphia area, including the Bucks County Playhouse, Lantern Theater, Philadelphia Shakespeare Festival and Enchantment Theater Company. Brian designed for The Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in Hampton, NJ. He has designed dance costumes for the Koresch Dance Company, Sharp Dance Company and Anne Marie Mulgrew. Mr. Strachan has also designed costumes for Rowan University, The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA, Cedar Crest College, and Ursinus College. Brian also teaches makeup design at Rowan University, and Ursinus College. Please visit his website: brianstrachcostumes.design



Heather Crocker (Lighting Designer)

Heather is a Manhattan-based lighting and projections designer and is thrilled to be making her return to Cape May Stage. She received her MFA in Theatre Design and Technology (Lighting/Projections Design) from the University of Missouri, Kansas City in 2015. Some past Cape May Stage credits include; Art, The Lion in Winter, The Shuck, and Billy Bishop Goes to War. Other previous designs include; Plume (The Tank, NYC), Flawless (Theatre for the New City, NYC), Radium Girls (Metropolitan Playhouse, NYC), and Bodas De Sangre (The Kinetic Foundry, NYC). She is currently the summer resident lighting designer for the Americana Theatre Company based in Plymouth, MA. <http://hmcrockerdesign.com>



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Josh Iacovelli (Set Designer & Technical Director)

Josh has over 20 years of experience in theatre and television. His roles span from production design, art direction and scenic design. From fabrication to ideation, Josh has spent his entire career making ideas into reality. PM credits include *Romeo and Bernadette*, and *The Gospel* according to Heather here at Theatre 555. Favorite design credits include: *Broadway* and *The Bard* starring Len Cariou, *The Office a Musical Parody* (dir Donald Garverick), *Friends the Musical Parody* (dir Paul Stancato), *The*

Zero Hour (dir Piper Laurie), *Hit Her with the Skates* (dir Michael Schiralli), *Disaster the Musical* (dir Jack Plotnick), and *The Book of Merman* (dir Joe Langworth). Other notable credits include long-running Off Broadway hits such as *Danny and Sylvia*, *Dietrich* and *Chevalier* starring Robert Cuccioli, *Cougar the Musical*, *Sistas the Musical* and *Missed Connections*. Josh recently Designed and Directed *Trial on the Potomac* starring Rich Little. Josh received his BA in Theatre and Direction from Stockton University and his MFA from the Actors Studio Drama School at New School University. JoshIacovelli.com

The Playwright



Michele Riml (Playwright)

Michele is a critically acclaimed playwright from Vancouver, British Columbia. Michele began writing at 17, when her first play *Souvenirs* (short version) won first place in The BC Young Playwrights Search. She has since gone on to write 14 more plays, which have been widely produced. Her plays include *Under the Influence*, *Poster Boys*, *RAGE*, *Souvenirs*, *On the Edge*, *The Amaryllis*, and *Miss Teen*. Her plays *Sexy Laundry* and *Henry and Alice: Into the Wild* have become international hits with ongoing

productions in Canada, USA, France, Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Greece, Finland, Germany, Italy and Hungary. *Sexy Laundry* has been translated into nine languages and is published by Playwrights Canada Press (available on Amazon). Michele also writes for young audiences and is an advocate for theatre for young people. Her issue based plays were all commissioned by Canada's Green Thumb Theatre and include *The Skinny Lie*, *The Invisible Girl* and *Tree Boy*, most recently published by National Geographic. Her play *RAGE* won the 2005 Sydney Risk prize for Outstanding Original Play and was recently produced in Poland. Michele is a graduate of Simon Fraser University with a degree in Fine and Performing Arts and in 2008 she was nominated for Canada's prestigious Siminovitch Prize. Her newest full length play *The Cull*, co-written with Michael St. John Smith, premiered in Vancouver, BC this past winter. She is currently working on a novel.



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