



Steel
MAGNOLIAS

By Robert Harling



March 14 - March 23

www.ConnecticutTheatreCompany.org

**23 Norden Street
New Britain, CT 06051**

*"STEEL MAGNOLIAS" is presented by special arrangement with
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Connecticut Theatre Company

Presents

STEEL MAGNOLIAS

By: Robert Harling

Originally produced by the W.P.A. Theatre, New York City, 1987.
(Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

March 14th - March 23rd

**The Repertory Theatre
23 Norden Street
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 223-3147**

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The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome back to Connecticut Theatre Company! We are so grateful for your continued support and patronage. We are so happy to open our 2025 season with this beautiful production of *Steel Magnolias*. It's sure to make you laugh, make you cry, and leave you with a smile.

Following that will be *The Producers*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Escape to Margaritaville*, and we'll close our season with *Miracle on 34th Street*. There's truly something for everyone and I hope you enjoy the variety of shows!

Flex passes are always available and are a great way to get a discount when coming to multiple performances! See our box office staff for more information.

Warm Regards,

Duane Campbell,
Executive Director of Connecticut Theatre Company

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Audience Member,

Welcome to our production of Robert Harling's "*Steel Magnolias*." We're so thrilled to share this timeless story of friendship, strength, and unwavering support with you.

As we gather in this intimate space, and particularly during Women's History Month, we invite you to reflect on the extraordinary power of female camaraderie. "*Steel Magnolias*" is more than just a play; it's a celebration of the resilience and spirit of women who, through laughter and tears, navigate life's inevitable challenges together.

These six remarkable women, gathered in Truvy's beauty shop, embody the very essence of Women's History Month. They demonstrate the power of community, the importance of sharing our burdens, and the unwavering strength that comes from female solidarity. From the witty banter that lightens the heaviest moments to the profound emotional support they offer one another, these women remind us that we are stronger together.

We hope that as you watch these "steel magnolias" bloom on stage, you'll be reminded of the incredible women in your own lives – the mothers, sisters, daughters, friends, and mentors who have shaped you.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. Enjoy the show!

Duane Campbell & David Nunner, Co-Directors

CAST OF CHARACTERS

M'LYNN.....	SUSAN SMITH
SHELBY.....	SIMONE MCMAHON
TRUVY.....	MARIE ALTENOR
ANNELLE.....	SARAH GASS
CLAIREE.....	KELLY LAZENBY
OUISER.....	SUSAN BAILEY

CAST BIOS

MARIE ALTENOR (TRUVY): Marie R. Altenor is overjoyed to take on the role of Truvy in Connecticut Theater Company's production of Steel Magnolias. Recent credits include: "Feste/Sea Captain/Servant" in Escapism Productions' Twelfth Night, "Rosinrance/Gravedigger/Duel Attendant" in Capital Classics Theatre Company's Hamlet and as Grumio in Taming of the Shrew, "Jasmine" in Collective Consciousness Theatre's Fairview, "Weird Sister#3/Murderer#3" in Capital Classic Theatre Company's Macbeth, "Kendra Ellis-Connor" in Original Entertainment Group's American Son, "Liz" in Hole in the Wall Theater's Wife/Worker/Whore and "Barbara" in Hole in the Wall Theater's Barbecue. Marie has studied at both The Hartford Stage Company and The Complete Actor's Studio to develop her skills. After years in the legal field, Marie joyfully entered semi-retirement in 2019 and is grateful to be able to now pass on her love of theater to school aged children as a teaching artist with local theater groups.

SUSAN BAILEY (OUISER): This is Susan's Third show with CTC. You may have seen her last year as the door-slamming Marie in "Calendar Girls", or the feisty landlady Fraulein Schneider in "Cabaret". (We don't know what her actual voice sounds like, because she keeps performing in one accent or another. This time she'll be coming to you from Louisiana.) A lifelong theatre-lover from on stage, behind the scenes, or in the audience, she has also been seen at Little Theatre of Manchester in "The Vagina Monologues", "Our Town", and "The Sound of Music". When not engaged in a show somewhere on the Connecticut community theatre scene, she and her husband, Michael, enjoy zipping into The City to catch shows on and off Broadway. Together, they are living the retirement of their dreams."

CAST BIOS

SARAH GASS (ANNELLE): Sarah Gass is new to the Connecticut Theater Company and is thrilled to join such a welcoming and talented acting community. She is especially excited to bring the quietly resilient Annelle to life in this beautiful production of Steel Magnolias. Sarah's recent theater experience includes Quinnipiac University Fourth Wall; Radium Girls (Ms. Wiley), Quinnipiac University Fourth Wall; Alice in Wonderland (Queen of Hearts), and QU New Play; Elevator Game (Quinn).

KELLY LAZENBY (CLAIREE): Kelly is excited to make her debut in Connecticut Community Theater with this production. Kelly and her husband Justin ran a theater company in Oregon for 20 years and it is a joy to have theater in their new home state. Kelly would like to thank her family for being her biggest fans, and would like to give a shout out to her Dad, Larry, who will also be making Connecticut his home soon, too.

SIMONE MCMAHON (SHELBY): Simone is extremely excited to be back on the CTC stage to perform one of her dream roles! I'd like to thank David Nunner & Duane Campbell for seeing Shelby in me & trusting us to breathe life into these beautiful characters. I will carry the love from this experience with me forever. Thank you to Heather & Rosie for enthusiastically supporting my dreams & encouraging me to audition for this show. Special thanks to my Aunt Megan for introducing this wonderful story to me many years ago. Among this play's innumerable themes, my favorite is that of Mothers & Daughters; the bond between them are some of the greatest love stories ever told. I am sending endless gratitude to my mother, Tara. You have saved me many times, Mommy & I will forever be in awe of your grace. I love you. Lastly, I'd like to dedicate my performance to my Father, Hatari. Whose applause I can hear all the way from Heaven each time I step on stage. He will always be young & he will always be beautiful.

SUSAN SMITH (M'LYNN): Susan is thrilled to be back on stage at CTC playing one of her bucket list roles. She couldn't have asked for a better cast and production team to work with. Previous favorite roles include: Dolly Levi in Hello Dolly, Rose in Gypsy, Nancy in Oliver, and Roz in 9 to 5. Susan would like to dedicate this show to all the amazing females in her life. She feels blessed to be related to and befriended by some of the best steel magnolias on the planet.



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PRODUCTION TEAM

CO-DIRECTOR.....DUANE CAMPBELL
CO-DIRECTOR.....DAVID NUNNER
CO-STAGE MANAGER.....MAX DITTMAR
CO-STAGE MANAGER.....ZENN LANGLEY
SET DESIGN.....DUANE CAMPBELL & DAVID NUNNER
LIGHTING DESIGNER.....DUANE CAMPBELL
PROPS.....ERIN FRECHETTE & KIM SALTZMAN
SOUND DESIGN.....DUANE CAMPBELL
LIGHT OPERATOR.....ERIN CAMPBELL

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

DUANE CAMPBELL (CO-DIRECTOR): Duane is happy to be back in the directors chair, this time working with David to stage this beautiful production. Previous directing credits include, "Nine", "Head Over Heels", "Zanna Don't", "9 to 5", "The Full Monty", "Priscilla Queen of the Desert", and many more. Duane currently serves as the Executive Director of CTC. Special thanks to Erin for always being there for him, and the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication to the show!

DAVID NUNNER (CO-DIRECTOR): David is excited to return to his CTC home, this time behind the scenes as co-director of this amazing show. He has enjoyed working with the crew and cast to bring the show to life. On stage, David has been seen many times throughout Connecticut. Previous CTC credits include: Bernadette in "Priscilla Queen of the Desert", Tobias in "Sweeney Todd", Dr. Einstein in "Arsenic and Old Lace", and Igor in "Young Frankenstein". David serves as the President of CTC on the Board of Directors.

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

MAX DITTMAR (CO-STAGE MANAGER): Max is thrilled to be back with CTC, this time working as stage manager. Previously appearing in "A Christmas Carol", "Cabaret", and "Spring Awakening", he loves the community here at CTC, and looks forward every week to spending time with some wonderfully talented individuals! Max hopes you enjoy the show!

ZENN LANGLEY (CO-STAGE MANAGER): Zenn is excited to return to CTC for his second production, this time working as stage manager. Zenn was recently in "A Christmas Carol" with CTC.

ERIN CAMPBELL (LIGHT OPERATOR): Erin is happy to be able to help out as light operator for this beautiful production. Erin is also the Vice-President of the Board here at CTC so this is basically her second home. In her day to day life, she enjoys her work as a veterinary receptionist and being a dog mom to her favorite Goldendoodle, Otto. She is so proud of this cast and knows that you will enjoy the show as much as she does. Erin is eternally grateful to her husband, Duane, for being her person and never letting her fail. Please enjoy the show!

SPECIAL THANKS

ERIN FRECHETTE KIM SALTZMAN [CURTAIN CALL](#)
JOHANNA REGAN

Special thanks to Terry Hamilton for being the voice of KPPD Radio!

Connecticut Theatre Company would like to thank the many volunteers and team members that have worked to help make this production possible.