

# Was

By Barry Bradford, Winner of 2005's Southern Playwright's Competition

## Cast

Asa	Michael McDonald
Ina	Alia Johnson
Arthur	Brandon Green
Randall	Jason Skinner
Berkley	Brian Seitel
Hannis	Chris Whetstone
Miss Shirley	Leesa Tucker

**SETTING:** Small towns in southwest Alabama, a Baptist church and a fishing hole under a trestle.

**TIME:** June, 1963

**There will be one ten-minute intermission**

### ACT I

- Scene 1: Asa's house. A Sunday morning in June, 1963.
- Scene 2: Union Baptist Church. Same day.
- Scene 3: Duke's General Merchandise. Monday morning.
- Scene 4: The Blowout. An hour later.
- Scene 5: Duke's General Merchandise. That afternoon.
- Scene 6: Union Baptist Church. The next Sunday.
- Scene 7: The Blowout. Monday morning.
- Scene 8: Union Baptist Church. The next Sunday.
- Scene 9: Duke's General Merchandise. That afternoon.

### ACT II

- Scene 1: Asa's house. Same Sunday afternoon.
- Scene 2: Asa's house. Early Monday morning.
- Scene 3: Asa's house. Monday evening.
- Scene 4: The Old Place. Tuesday morning.
- Scene 5: Duke's General Merchandise. Tuesday afternoon.
- Scene 6: Union Baptist Church. The next Sunday.
- Scene 7: The Blowout. That night.
- Scene 8: Asa's house. Later that night.

*WAS is produced by special arrangement with the playwright.*

## Production Staff

Director	Susan McCain
Scenic Designer and Producer	Carlton Ward
Costume Designer and Projection Coordinator	Randal Blades
Lighting Design	Wil Robinson
Sound Design	Adam Ellis
Technical Director	David Keefer
Stage Manager	Steven DiBlasi
Keyboardist for Recording	Steven DiBlasi
Assistant Stage Manager	Chauncey Slater
Advisor to Ina's Song	Diane Turner
Fight Captain	Jason Skinner
Projection Engineer	Daryl Pauley
Poster & Program Photograph	Ken Elkins
Box Office and Publicity Staff	Gina Claeren
Box Office & Promotions, Poster/Program Layout	Jan Rhodes

#### PROPERTIES

Steven DiBlasi, Chauncey Slater, Jacob Phillips

#### SCENERY CONSTRUCTION, PAINTING, AND LIGHTING

Wil Robinson, Daryl Pauley, Jeffrey Geigler, Courtney Hardwick

#### COSTUME CREW/STITCHERS

Randy Blades, Freddy Clements, Gloria Helm, Ashley Hellums

Projection photos courtesy University of Alabama Press, Ken Elkins, and The U. S. Library of Congress.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Jacksonville News; Hervey Folsom; The Anniston Star; The Gadsden Times; Jason Skinner of 92J; Chanticleer; Al Harris-The University News Bureau

### ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT'S COMPETITION

The **Southern Playwright's Competition** is celebrating its seventeenth anniversary. An outgrowth of the highly successful production of Randy Hall's *Black Warrior* seventeen years ago, SPC seeks to identify and encourages plays by Southerners about the Southern experience. Previous winners are D.K. Beyer's *Make Haste Slowly* (1989), Granville Burgess' *Play It As It Lies* (1990), Sarah Lawrence's *Liberty*, (1993), Pamela Parker's *A Higher Place in Heaven* (1995), Terry Sneed's and Elaine Ferguson's *Mole Hill* (1996), Ronald Amos' *A Seacoast in Illyria* (1997), Kenneth Heaton's *Mustard Seed* (1998) Daniel DuPlantis' *Tennessee's Rose* (1999), Daniel DuPlantis' *The Bayou Merchant* (2000), Maureen McGranaghan's *Blood of the Bear* (2001), Robert Leland Taylor's *Kentucky Wings* (2002), Ron Osborn's *Wise Women* (2003), and David Muschell's *Heroes* (2004). Two of the winners, *Apple Dreams*, (1991), and Joan Vail Thorne's *The Exact Center of the Universe*, (1994) have gone on to Broadway and Off-Broadway productions

### ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Barry Bradford is a native of Birmingham and is a graduate of the University of Alabama. Besides "*Was*" he has authored the full length comedy "*Hit and Miss*," winner of the Tennessee Stage company's Playwriting Contest in 2000, stage adaptations of *Moby Dick* and *Beowulf*, as well as several one acts. He is currently at work on "*Charge Desoto*," a play about 3 men's quixotic attempt to rid the Southeast of the legacy of Hernando Desoto. Barry is married and has one son. He is also the Assistant Director of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library.

### SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

Alpha Psi Omega, JSU Honorary Dramatic Fraternity, under the leadership of new drama faculty, Eric Traynor, returns for a second year of youth theatre camp—June 26-30 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. daily. The camp is designed for children age six to thirteen. Cost for the camp is \$75 per child and \$60 for each additional child from the same family. The deadline for registration is June 16. Snacks and water will be provided. The camp will cover many aspects of theatre—acting, singing, dance, puppetry, crafts, face painting, costume making, scenery painting, etc. The children will prepare and present skits, songs, or dance for their families and friends for a final evening performance. Please call 782-5623 if you are interested in registering for the camp. The age 6-9 camp is full at this point. There are slots remaining in the 10-13 age camp. Please call quickly.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THE CURSE OF THE PORCUPINE'S EAR

A new farce by Wayne H. Claeren  
June 22-25

### CINDERELLA

By Eric Traynor  
July 11-15

### 2006-2007 Theatre Season (tentative)

TBA—October 5-8

*Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare—November 17-21

*SEUSSICAL* the Musical, based on works of "Dr. Seuss," adapted by Flaherty & Ahrens—February 15-18 & 22-25

*PIANO*, by David Hall, winner of 2006's Southern Playwright's Competition—May 17-20

*DEARLY DEPARTED*, by Bottrell & Jones—June 21-24

Season will be finalized soon and brochures will be mailed—to be placed on our mailing list, please call 256-782-5648.

*Jacksonville State University  
Drama Department  
presents*



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*Photo by Ken Elkins*

## 2005-2006 THEATRE CONTRIBUTORS

### PRODUCER

Shirley Kirkland

### DIRECTOR

Carlton & Sharon Ward

### BENEFACTOR

Lemuel R. Jordan  
Olga Shamblin Kennedy

Judy & Jerry Klug  
Dr. & Mrs. Bill Meehan

Stephen Soper  
Ron & Lynn Varcak

### DONOR

Jane Self Burnham  
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Daniel & Esta Spector  
Bill & Sandra Stone  
Alan L. Webb

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Ann & Bill Boozer  
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Cordelia L. Gray

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Steve Whitton  
Randy Wilson

### GUARDIAN ANGELS

Hubert & Marcelline Barry  
Ed & Cathy Benton  
Daniell & Rebecca Brown

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Elaine Edmondson

Rebecca & John Fearon  
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Ann & Randy Woodrow  
Sara C. Wray

### CHERUB

Lee Abernathy  
Laura & Wilbur Berry

Alice Birdener

Blake Griggs

Susan McCain

George & Patricia Sidloskas  
David & Kim Stevens

The Drama Department wishes to express gratitude to all who graciously give of their resources to expand the theatre program here at JSU.  
The continued generous assistance of our patrons and donors provides needed scholarships  
and assists with replacement and repair of old or out-dated equipment.

### PLEASE SILENCE CELL PHONES, PAGERS, WATCHES, ETC.

The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for which photographing or sound recording inside the theatre, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Offenders may be ejected and liable for damages and other lawful remedies.

Please remember that noise of any type is distracting not only to those seated around you, but to the actors on stage.

NO SMOKING ALLOWED IN ERNEST STONE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER.

RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED IN THE LOBBY.

Soft drinks sold in the lobby during intermission by Alpha Psi Omega. Proceeds are applied to the scholarship fund.

Latecomers seated at the discretion of the House and Box Office Managers.

Jacksonville State University Drama Department is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

Jacksonville State University Drama Department is an organizational member of the Southeastern Theatre Conference and the Alabama Conference of Theatre.

Jacksonville State University Drama Department is a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology.