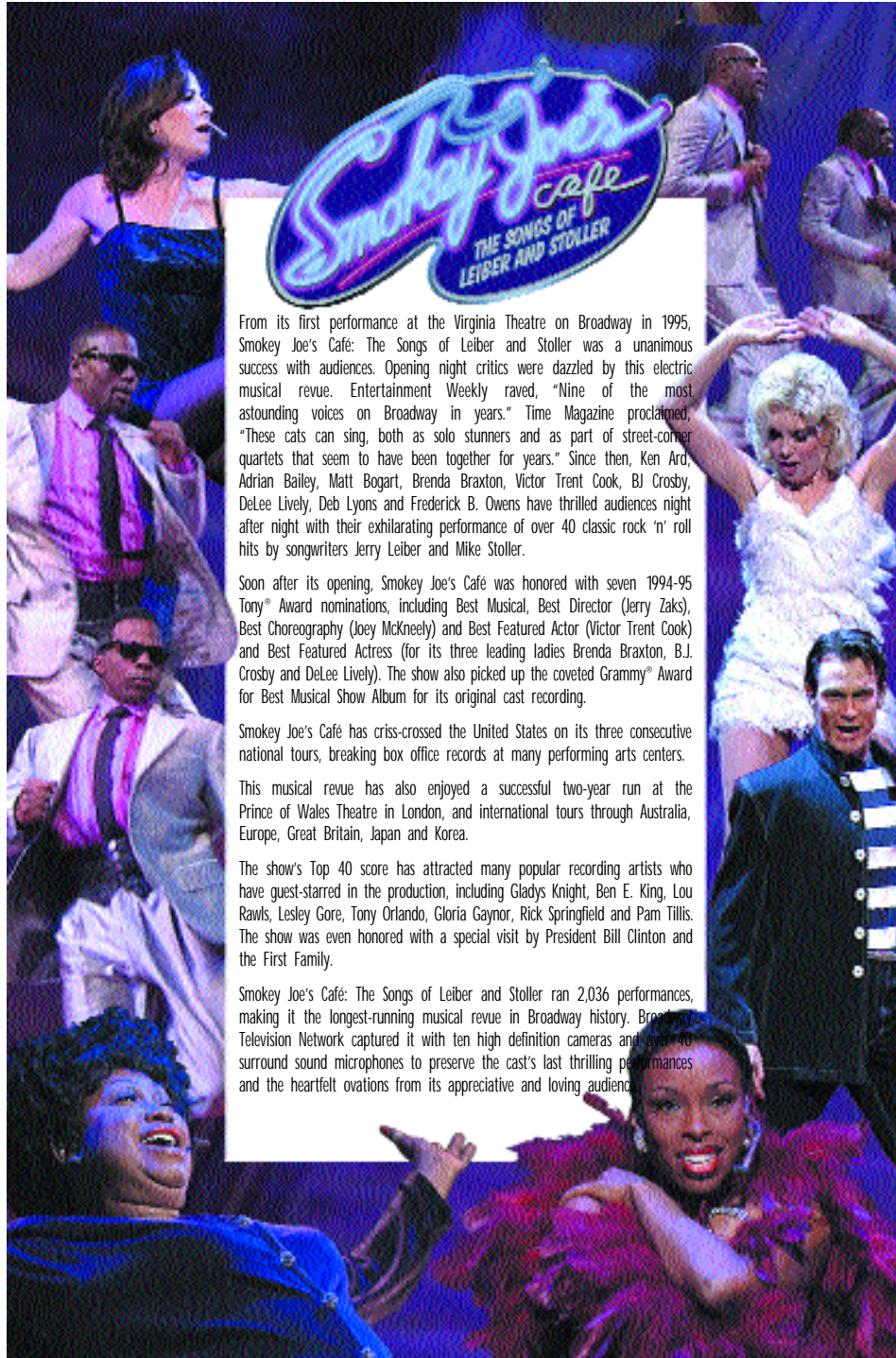




Starring the Original
Tony® Award-nominated Broadway Cast



From its first performance at the Virginia Theatre on Broadway in 1995, Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller was a unanimous success with audiences. Opening night critics were dazzled by this electric musical revue. Entertainment Weekly raved, "Nine of the most astounding voices on Broadway in years." Time Magazine proclaimed, "These cats can sing, both as solo stunners and as part of street-corner quartets that seem to have been together for years." Since then, Ken Ard, Adrian Bailey, Matt Bogart, Brenda Braxton, Victor Trent Cook, BJ Crosby, DeLee Lively, Deb Lyons and Frederick B. Owens have thrilled audiences night after night with their exhilarating performance of over 40 classic rock 'n' roll hits by songwriters Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller.

Soon after its opening, Smokey Joe's Café was honored with seven 1994-95 Tony® Award nominations, including Best Musical, Best Director (Jerry Zaks), Best Choreography (Joey McKneely) and Best Featured Actor (Victor Trent Cook) and Best Featured Actress (for its three leading ladies Brenda Braxton, B.J. Crosby and DeLee Lively). The show also picked up the coveted Grammy® Award for Best Musical Show Album for its original cast recording.

Smokey Joe's Café has criss-crossed the United States on its three consecutive national tours, breaking box office records at many performing arts centers.

This musical revue has also enjoyed a successful two-year run at the Prince of Wales Theatre in London, and international tours through Australia, Europe, Great Britain, Japan and Korea.

The show's Top 40 score has attracted many popular recording artists who have guest-starred in the production, including Gladys Knight, Ben E. King, Lou Rawls, Lesley Gore, Tony Orlando, Gloria Gaynor, Rick Springfield and Pam Tillis. The show was even honored with a special visit by President Bill Clinton and the First Family.

Smokey Joe's Café: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller ran 2,036 performances, making it the longest-running musical revue in Broadway history. Broadway Television Network captured it with ten high definition cameras and over 40 surround sound microphones to preserve the cast's last thrilling performances and the heartfelt ovations from its appreciative and loving audience.

Who's Who in the Cast

Ken Ard

Ken originated leading roles in the Broadway companies of Smokey Joe's Cafe, Cats, Startlight Express and Graciela Daniele's Dangerous Games. He can be heard on the Grammy winning albums for Smokey Joe's and Cats. He landed a recording contract with Subversive Records as the lead voice and co-writer of "Wet Dreams". The first release, "Rain," debuted with international critical acclaim and was deemed Club Record of the Week at the South Beach Winter Music Conference - Larry Flick of Billboard Magazine raved, "soulful star-powered vocals!"

Adrian Bailey

Was last seen on Broadway as Hawker in The Who's Tommy. Other Broadway credits: Kiss of the Spider Woman, Jelly's Last Jam, Black and Blue, Legs Diamond, My One And Only and Sophisticated Ladies. Regional credits: Elmer Gantry (La Jolla), Book of the Night (Goodman), Boys from Syracuse (Alliance) and Gulliver (La MaMa).

Adrian was seen in the HBO movie "The Josephine Baker Story" and in a guest spot on the CBS pilot, "NYPD Mounted."

Matt Bogart

Is thrilled to join the Broadway company of Smokey Joe's Cafe. Other Broadway and national touring credits include: originating the role of Sam Taylor in The Civil War (also directed by Jerry Zaks) and Chris in Miss Saigon. Matt has workshopped projects about New York City with writers Stephen Schwartz and John Caird, Marsha Norman and Michael John La Chiusa. Regional theatre includes work at the Goodspeed Opera House, Alley Theatre and Music Theatre Wichita. Matt earned a B.F.A. in musical theatre from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music (CCM).

Brenda Braxton

Received a 1995 Tony Award nomination, a NAACP Award and a Jefferson Award for her performance in Smokey Joe's Cafe. Ms. Braxton was last seen on Broadway as Too Tight Nora in Jelly's Last Jam, starring Gregory Hines. Other Broadway: Cats, Legs Diamond and the original Broadway production of Dreamgirls.

Ms. Braxton received the Josephine Baker Award from the National Council of Negro Women for her work as founder of Leading Ladies Just for Teens, geared toward positive alternatives to women of the future.

Victor Trent Cook

Proudly returns to Broadway after receiving a 1995 Tony nomination and NAACP Theatre Award for Smokey Joe's Cafe. Off Broadway and Broadway credits include the Encore series

St. Louis Woman, Street Corner Symphony, Don't Get God Started, Starmites and Romance in Hard Times. Television: "All My Children," "Ryan's Hope," "The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd," commercials. As a soloist, he has performed at the White House, Avery Fisher Hall, John F. Kennedy Center and Boston Symphony Hall with Zubin Mehta and Leonard Bernstein. In 1988, he was the Top Male Vocalist winner in Star Search.

BJ Crosby

Her performance in Smokey Joe's Cafe earned a Tony and NAACP Award, as well as an Olivier Award Nomination. TV credits include "Mad About You," "Heatwave: The Long Summer," "The Cosby Show," "Fall Matters," "Gimmie A Break," and "The Joy That Kills." Other stage credits include One Mo' Time, Shangri La, Ain't Misbehavin', Lady Sings Lady Day: A Tribute to Billie Holiday with Ellis Marsalis, Effie White in the national tour of Dreamgirls and He's Right on Time (recorded on Sparrow Records). B.J. has appeared in concert throughout the US, South America and Europe.

DeLee Lively

Received a 1995 Tony Award nomination for her performance in Smokey Joe's Cafe. Born in Houston, she began her career as Baby June in Gypsy. On Broadway, she appeared as Valerie ("T&A") in A Chorus Line for Micheal Bennett and in Grand Hotel for Tommy Tune. National Tours include Flaemmchen in Grand Hotel, Maggie And Val in A Chorus Line, Sweetheart in Dreamgirls and nine characters in Groucho. Regional theatre: Sonia in They're Playing Our Song, Sally Brown in Snoopy, Anita in West Side Story and Ruby in Dames at Sea. TV: "The Great Gondoli" and over 30 commercials.

Deb Lyons

Original London cast member, returns to the Broadway company of Smokey Joe's Cafe after covering the role of Lucy in the first national tour of Jekyll & Hyde.

She toured internationally for five years with the original pop group The Mamas and the Papas, singing parts formerly performed by the late Mama Cass. Off-Broadway: Beehive at the old Village Gate and The Music of Frank Zappa.

Frederick B. Owens

First starred as Nathan Detroit in Guys and Dolls in NC. He appeared in Weep Not for Me, Ain't Supposed to Die a Natural Death, Black Nativity, Dreamgirls, Little Shop of Horrors, The First Breeze of Summer, Home, Doo Wop Love, Satan Never Sleeps, Donny's House, Thank God and Othello. TV commercials: Dentyne, Lexus, Hungry Jack, AT&T, MCI, Federal Express, Western Union, McDonald's.

Smokey Joe's Café Songlist

Act One


"Neighborhood"	Company
"Young Blood"	Adrian with Fred, Ken, Victor
"Falling"	DeLee
"Ruby Baby"	Matt with Adrian, Fred, Ken, Victor
"Dance With Me"	Ken and B.J. with Adrian, Fred, Victor
"Neighborhood" (reprise)	B.J., Brenda, DeLee, Deb
"Keep On Rollin'"	Victor, Adrian, Ken, Fred
"Searchin'"	Victor with Adrian, Ken, Fred
"Kansas City"	B.J., Deb, Matt
"Trouble"	DeLee, Brenda
"Love Me/Don't"	Adrian and Deb
"Fools Fall In Love"	B.J.
"Poison Ivy"	Ken with Adrian, Fred, Victor
"Don Juan"	Brenda
"Shoppin' For Clothes"	Victor and Fred with Adrian, Ken, Matt
"I Keep Forgettin'"	Deb
"On Broadway"	Adrian, Fred, Ken, Victor
"D.W. Washburn"	Victor and Company
"Saved"	B.J. and Company

Act Two

"That Is Rock & Roll"	Company
"Yakety Yak"	Company
"Charlie Brown"	Company
"Stay A While"	Louis and Dave
"Pearl's A Singer"	Deb
"Teach Me How To Shimmy"	Matt and DeLee with Adrian and Victor
"You're The Boss"	Fred and Brenda
"Smokey Joe's Café"	Company
"Loving You"	Ken and Company
"Treat Me Nice"	Victor
"Hound Dog"	B.J.
"Little Egypt"	Fred with Adrian, Ken, Matt, Victor
"I'm A Woman"	B.J., Brenda, DeLee, Deb
"There Goes My Baby"	Adrian with Fred, Ken, Matt, Victor
"Love Potion #9"	Adrian with Fred, Ken, Matt, Victor
"Some Cats Know"	Brenda
"Jailhouse Rock"	Matt and Company
"Fools Fall In Love" (reprise)	B.J.
"Spanish Harlem"	Ken and Brenda
"I (Who Have Nothing)"	Victor
"Neighborhood" (reprise)	Deb
"Stand By Me"	Adrian and Company
"That Is Rock & Roll"	Company

The Band—The Night Managers

Conductor —Louis St. Louis	Drums —Brian Brake
Associate Conductor —Dave Keyes	Guitars —Drew Zingg
Piano —Louis St. Louis	Saxophones —Chris Eminizer
Synthesizer —Dave Keyes	Percussion —Frank Pagano
Bass —Frank Canino	Music Coordinator —John Miller



Biography of the Authors

Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller

Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller began their songwriting partnership over 50 years ago upon discovering they had the same passion for Boogie Woogie and the blues. By the time they were 20 their appreciation of the sounds of rhythm & blues and jazz had led them to a career writing primarily for black popular artists. Their early songs were recorded by such legendary artists as Jimmy Witherspoon, Little Esther, Amos Milburn, Charles Brown, Little Willie Littlefield, Bull Moose Jackson, Linda Hopkins and Ray Charles.

It was Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton's recording of "Hound Dog" in 1953 that earned the songwriters a contract with Atlantic Records, thereby launching a career that has helped shape American popular music.

Among their many hits are those they both wrote and produced for The Coasters, including "Searchin'," "Young Blood," "Yakety Yak," "Charlie Brown," "Along Came Jones," and "Poison Ivy." Over the course of his career, Elvis Presley recorded over 20 of Leiber and Stoller's songs, two of which, "Jailhouse Rock" and "Hound Dog," are his most enduring hits.

Other Leiber and Stoller songs were recorded by Ben E. King ("Stand By Me"; "Spanish Harlem"; and "I Who Have Nothing"); The Drifters ("On Broadway," "Dance with Me," "Ruby Baby," and "Fools Fall in Love"); La Vern Baker ("Saved"); Ruth Brown ("Lucky Lips"); The Clovers ("Love Potion #9"); Chuck Jackson ("I Keep Forgettin'"); Wilbert Harrison ("Kansas City"); and Peggy Lee ("I'm a Woman").

In addition to their popular songs in pop, rock 'n' roll and rhythm & blues, Leiber and Stoller also continued to explore jazz and cabaret music.

They were inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame in 1985, the Record Producer's Hall of Fame in 1986, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. In 1991 Leiber and Stoller were presented with the prestigious Founders Award by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), and in 1995 they received a star on Hollywood Boulevard's Walk of Fame. The National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences awarded them a 1998-99 Trustee Award for outstanding contributions in a non-performing capacity, and recently, they received the prestigious Johnny Mercer Award for Songwriting from the National Academy of Popular Music.

Despite all of the accolades over Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller's long career, nothing illustrates their remarkable success more than the list of legendary recording artists who have immortalized their songs. For generations to come, fans of all ages will be enjoying their music when they listen to recordings by The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Beach Boys, James Brown, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly, Fats Domino, The Everly Brothers, Bill Haley and the Comets, Barbra Streisand, Jimi Hendrix, Muddy Waters, Johnny Mathis, Joe Williams, Count Basie, John Mellencamp, Lou Rawls, Tom Jones, Edith Piaf, Bobby Darin, Chet Atkins, Aretha Franklin, Luther Vandross, B.B. King, Otis Redding, and literally hundreds more.

Smokey Joe's Café: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller makes abundantly clear that the contributions of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller as songwriters and record producers have been so monumental that it is impossible to envision what American popular music would be like without them.