

Wharton Center for Performing Arts
Eric Olmscheid, Executive Producer
present

SALLY: A SOLO PLAY

By
SANDRA SEATON

Starring
SABRINA SLOAN

With
J NYCOLE

Directed By
HANNAH RYAN

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Scenic Design
KIRK A. DOMER

Costume Design
NIIAMAR FELDER

Lighting Design
RACHAEL N.
BLACKWELL

Sound Design
TROY BOYD

Projection Design
ALISON DOBBINS

Wig Design
EARON NEALY

Prop Design
MICHELLE RAYMOND

Production Manager
SANDY THOMLEY

Production Stage Manager
COURTNEY SUE MULFORD

General Management
SING OUT, LOUISE
PRODUCTIONS!

Sally takes place at Monticello, on March 17, 1826, the day Thomas Jefferson completes his will.

This performance will run approximately 80 minutes, with no intermission.

Cast

Sally	Sabrina Sloan
Understudy	J Nycole

Actors appear through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

SABRINA SLOAN (*Sally*). Sabrina is thrilled to be taking on the role of Sally Hemings. No stranger to exploring history through art, she is best known for her four-year run as Angelica Schuyler in *Hamilton*, performing opposite creator Lin-Manuel Miranda in the Puerto Rico production. Broadway credits include the original companies of *Hairspray*, *Catch Me If You Can*, and *Motown*, as well as the first national tour of *In the Heights*, again opposite Miranda in Los Angeles. Regional theater includes Pasadena Playhouse (*Sleepless in Seattle*, *Ray Charles Live*), The Geffen (*King Liz*), and the Ahmanson (*A Christmas Story*). Television and film credits include HBO's "Hacks," "All Rise," "Boston Legal," and "Ode to Joy." Sabrina is deeply thankful for her children, Jackson and Quinn, whose love and passion inspire her every day.

J Nycole (*u/s Sally*) is beyond grateful to be a part of *Sally*. She has been living her dream performing on Broadway and touring the world with *The Book of Mormon* for the past nine years. She's been cast in *Black Rabbit* (Netflix), *That Damn Michael Che* (HBOMax), and created the comedic series *Working Out the Kinks* (KweliTV), using hair to explore cultural differences. She executive produced ABFF selection, *Lola*, the first African-American female boxing film, now streaming on Tubi, with its sequel on AMC's ALLBLK network. She's thrilled to play Diana Lewis in the upcoming Sylvester Stallone biopic *I Play Rocky*, in theaters this November.

SANDRA SEATON (*Playwright*) is an award-winning librettist and playwright. The solo opera *From the Diary of Sally Hemings*, music by composer William Bolcom, text by Sandra Seaton, has been performed at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Among her fifteen plays, *The Bridge Party*, Seaton's first play, portrays a group of Black women who fight to maintain their dignity and sense of self in the face of racism. Seaton's other works include *The Will*, about a Black family during Reconstruction; her Civil Rights era play *Music History or a Play about Greeks and SNCC* in 1963; *Call Me By My Name*, a performance piece about Henrietta Lacks; and the spoken word piece, *King: A Reflection on the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* with spirituals sung by tenor George Shirley. Seaton's other works include a play with music, *The Passion of Mary Cardwell Dawson* for mezzo soprano Denyce Graves, with music by Carlos Simon.

Sandra Seaton's "ploratorio," *Dreamland: Tulsa 1921*, with composer Marques L.A. Garrett was nominated for the 2023 Pulitzer Prize. For additional information, go to www.sandrasedaton.com

HANNAH RYAN (*Director*). Broadway: *Hamilton*, *An American in Paris*, *Curious Incident*, *Doctor Zhivago* & *700 Sundays*. Australia & Switzerland: *An American in Paris*. Regional: *Gypsy*, *Love, Loss and What I Wore*, *Sally and Long Drive Home* (Theatre Aspen); *Carol of the Bells* (Goodspeed); *Vilna: A Resistance Story* (The Ebell of Los Angeles); *Spring Awakening* (Cincinnati Conservatory of Music); *Confidence and The Speech* (Theatre Row); *Roe* (Post Theatre Co.); *All Dressed Up* (Redhouse); *Riot Song* (Joe's Pub); *Every Path* (La Jolla Playhouse & Moxie Theatre); *Sally* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); *Still Life* (Keller Gallery); *The Guys* (Davenport Theatre); *Ascended* (Zoetic Stage); *Let's Misbehave* (Mr. Finn's Cabaret); *Cendrillon & Gianni Schicchi* (Point Loma Opera); Member of SDC, Drama League Director's Project, SDC Foundation Denham Fellow.
Hannahmryan.com

KIRK A. DOMER (*Scene Design*) is the Interim Chairperson and Professor of Scene Design of the Department of Theatre and Director of Arts, Cultural Management, and Museum Studies at Michigan State University. He received his MFA in Scene Design from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His book *Collaboration*

in Theatre, co-written with Rob Roznowski, explores the collaboration process between director and designer. As a member of United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, he has designed scenery, projections, and props throughout the country, including two of Mitch Albom's world premieres: *Ernie and Hockey*, *The Musical*. kirkdomer.com

NIIAMAR FELDER (*Costume Design*). Select credits, principal costume design: Off-Broadway, August Wilson's, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *Reparations*, *The Old Settler*, *Yellow Man*, *A Walk into Slavery* (Billie Holiday Theatre), *Sowa's Red Gravy* (New Federal Theatre), *What The Constitution Means To Me*, *What Became of Us* (George Street Playhouse), *Other Play* (LaChanze Productions), *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* (Crossroads Theatre), *Sally: A Solo Play* (Wharton Center for Performing Arts). Television/LiveProduction: *12 Angry Men and Women* (Billie Holiday Theatre) *HitCity-Temptations*. Film: "An Extraordinary Life" (One Outta Twelve). Associate Designer: *Wine in the Wilderness* (Classic Stage Company), *Here There Are Blueberries* (Tour) Assistant Designer: *The Wiz* (US Tour/Broadway), *Back to The Future* (Broadway), and *Ain't Too Proud*, *The Life and Times of The Temptations* (US Tour).

RACHAEL N. BLACKWELL (*Lighting Design*) is a Hampton Roads native but now calls Atlanta home. She just finished three seasons at the Alliance Theatre as their Lighting & Projections Director but has since moved fully back into her freelance design work. Rachael was the

2020 recipient of both the Gilbert Hemsley Lighting Internship and the Judy Dearing Design Competition for Lighting, presented by the Black Theatre Network (BTN). Rachael is excited to join the team to present *Sally: A Solo Play* and would like to thank her partner Nikki and her family and friends for their continued support. IG: @therealbnrlight

ALISON DOBBINS (*Projection Design*). Professor of Integrated Performance Media Design at Michigan State University, most recently designed projections for *900 Miles* at Williamston Theatre, *A Driving Beat* at the Flint Repertory Theatre, and *A Very Northville Christmas* at Tipping Point. Dobbins is the project director and creator of *Dance Engine*, *Shark! The Interactive Musical*, *BranchOut*, *Mostly Human*, *The Poetic Dramas of Mina Loy*, and other interdisciplinary art projects that focus on audience engagement and creating community through performance.

EARON CHEW NEALEY (*Wig Design*). Broadway: *Fat Ham*; *Potus* (Berkeley Repertory Theater); *Almost Famous*, *Jersey Boys* (ACT of Connecticut); *Huzzah* (The Old Globe), *Camelot*, *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (Barrington); *Two Strangers*, *Diary of a Tap Dancer* (A.C.T.); *The Grove*, *Sojourners*, *Toni Stone*, *Fat Ham*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* (The Huntington); *Bad Kreyól*, *Three Houses* (The Signature); *Table 17* (Makeup Design - MCC); *Midsummer Night Dream*, *Malvolio*, *Twelfth Night* (Classical Theater

of Harlem); *Hamlet*, *The Harder They Come*, *Fat Ham*, *Cullad Wattah*, *Mojada* (Public Theater); *Dames at Sea*, *Kinky Boots* (Bucks County Playhouse); *Last Super* (SOPAC); *On Killing* (Soho Rep); *Little Girl Blue* (Goodspeed, New World Stages).

MICHELLE RAYMOND (*Prop Design*) is a multi-award-winning Midwest-based props designer and set dresser whose work brings texture, authenticity, and storytelling depth to the stage. With a meticulous eye and a talent for imaginative problem-solving, she creates lived-in, character-driven environments that feel purposeful and grounded. Michelle collaborates closely with directors and design teams to ensure every object supports the world of the play, enhancing both performance and audience connection. She is passionate about the power of props to shape narrative, deepen character, and anchor a production's emotional reality. Michelle currently serves as Props Designer and Set Dresser at Williamson Theatre in Williamson, MI, and her work can be seen at many regional theatres.

COURTNEY SUE MULFORD (*Production Stage Manager*). Courtney Sue is thrilled to be back after her time teaching Stage Management at MSU in Spring 2025 and as PSM on the 2025 NML, *Taking Off!*. An Ohioan turned world traveler, she is a 2019 graduate of Northern Kentucky University. She is currently the Child Manager on *TINA: The Tina Turner Musical* (Crossroads Live). Some favorite credits: SM, Bigfork Summer Playhouse (2023-

2025 seasons); Child Manager, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* (Crossroads); SM, Rand Productions/MGM Beau Rivage; PSM & pyrotechnic performer, *The Lost Colony* (RIHA). Special thank yous to this lovely team, Katie and Buddy, and Hunter back in Nutbush.

SANDY THOMLEY (*Production Manager*). Since 2004, Sandy has directed backstage operations for Wharton Center, coordinating events, crew staffing, and stage equipment needs of Michigan's largest performing arts center. Events range from MSU department events and local community presentations, to First National Tour Broadway productions, a U2 concert at Spartan Stadium, and more. Scheduling and staffing events involve coordination with IATSE Local 274 and their roster of more than 300 stage crew employees.

SING OUT, LOUISE PRODUCTIONS! (*Production General Manager*) is led by Lorenzo Thione, Joey Monda, and Jay Kuo. Currently on Broadway with *Hadestown* (Tony®) and *Juliet*. Other Broadway credits include *Days of Wine & Roses*, *The Notebook*, *A Strange Loop* (Tony®), *The Inheritance* (Tony®), *Slave Play* (Tony® Nom.). London: *Hadestown*, *Mrs. Doubefire*, *Allegiance*. In addition to producing and general management, Joey also serves as president of the Off-Broadway League.

WHARTON CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS (*Producer*). Wharton Center is a cultural hub located on the campus

of Michigan State University. Since its opening in 1982, Wharton Center has had a strong reputation for bringing the world's best artists to the Greater Lansing region, facilitating outstanding arts education programs for learners of all ages, and operating a first-class venue. Named in honor of MSU's 14th president Dr. Clifton Wharton Jr. and First Lady Dolores Wharton, the center's future is rooted in the same passion and vision that brought it to life, with an eye towards the future where creativity and innovation guide the organization's commitment to the community and arts sector. Wharton Center embraces a broad and inclusive scope of artistic offerings. Growing audiences and connections through the expansion and evolution of relevant programming and continuing to support the creative processes to nurture new works for our sector and stages.

STAFF FOR SALLY

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

SING OUT, LOUISE PRODUCTIONS

Joey Monda, Greg Kamp

Production Stage Manager

Production Manager

Production Electrician

Courtney Sue Mulford

Sandy Thomley

Joey Lancour

Production Audio	Troy Boyd
Head Carpenter	Jeff Roberts
Casting Consultant	Kevin Metzger-Timson, TRC Company
Cover Photographer	Cathryn Farnsworth
Paymaster	Falcon Paymaster

WHARTON CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS STAFF

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Senior Marketing Managers	Ryonn Clute, Tara Peplowski
Digital Marketing Manager	Kelsey Bendall
Copywriter & Designer	Natalie Read

Web Content Administrator	Amy Haggart
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Senior Assistant Ticket Office Managers	Samantha Pond Bailey, Roslyn James
Ticket Office Assistant Manager	Randall Fields
Ticketing Coordinator	Lindsay Hillstrom
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Production Managers	Maureen Murphy, Steve Heinrich, Dave Barnum
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Assistant Director of Development	Kristyn Ladd
Assistant Director of Annual Giving and Stewardship	Emily Cordes
Senior Education Manager	Kelly Stuible-Clark
Education Operations Manager	Laurie Briseño
Education & Community Engagement Coordinator	Ben English
Finance Manager	Carrie Pearson
Operations & Budgets Analyst	Liz Cruz

Finance Assistants

Laura Wanamaker,
Shanelle Hehrer, Jessica
Snyder, Spencer Israel

House Manager

Matt Kribs

Associate House Manager

Ana Whitman

Assistant House Manager

Kress O'Leary

Event Services Manager

Cody Manthei

Assistant Event Services
Manager

Michelle Yelovina

CREDITS

Scenery built and painted by Infinite Scenic.

Costume built by SoHarlem-Javier Valencia.

Costume dyeing, painting, and distressing by Juliann E Kroboth.

Select lighting and sound equipment provided Blue Sky Production.

SPECIAL THANKS

MSU Department of Theatre for props and projection equipment.

Actors' Equity Association

The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

The Director and Choreographer are members of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union.

I.A.T.S.E.

Backstage and Front of the House Employees are represented by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (or I.A.T.S.E.).

United Scenic Artists

The Designers at this theatre are represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA 829 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

Dramatists Guild

The writer/s of this production are members of the national trade association of professional playwrights, composers, lyricists, and librettists.

Sally: A Solo Play is a grant recipient from the SoloFights Project Advancement Fund and was developed in part at Theatre Aspen 2022 Solo Flights Festival. Jed Bernstein, Producing Director.

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