

PATIOBILL

A STREETCAR NAMED

DESIRE

By Tennessee Williams

JANUARY 9 – JANUARY 25



patio
playhouse

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Patio Playhouse Presents:

*A Streetcar
Named Desire*



Directed by: Rachel Mink

Produced By: Chelsea O'Connor

Based on the play by Tennessee Williams

**Presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. on
behalf of The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee**

**Royalties for this production were paid in part by
The Richard Gant Royalty Endowment.**

**This production was supported in large part by a grant from
Janecek Family Charitable Fund.**

Any video or audio recording of this production is prohibited.

**Patio Playhouse acknowledges that this production is being performed on the traditional
lands of the Kumeyaay-Ipai Peoples and wishes to pay our respects to Elders both past and
present.**

Thank you!

This production was made in part by the generous support of Janecek Family Charitable Fund. Their commitment to the arts and community has played a vital role in bringing our performances to life. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for their contribution, which helps us continue to enrich and entertain our audience.



~ Welcome ~

Welcome, and thank you for being here for *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Tennessee Williams' timeless play invites us into a richly emotional world—one shaped by longing, memory, and the struggle between illusion and reality. *Streetcar* is a deeply human story, filled with beautiful language and complicated characters, asking us to witness their hopes, flaws, and moments of connection with compassion.

This production includes moments that reflect challenging relationships and difficult experiences. We share this gently, knowing that stories like these can affect each of us differently. We encourage you to care for yourself in whatever way feels right as you watch.

If you or someone you know may need support, help is available.

National Domestic Violence Hotline:

1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

thehotline.org

(Text START to 88788)

When selecting a director for this production, I knew Rachel Mink was the right choice. Her thoughtful, collaborative approach and respect for both the text and the people telling the story helped shape a production rooted in honesty and care.

I am incredibly proud of this cast and creative team and grateful for the trust they brought into the rehearsal room. Thank you for sharing this experience with us and for supporting live theatre.

Enjoy the show.

Jennifer Guttiere

Artistic Director, Patio Playhouse

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~ Director's Note ~

A Streetcar Named Desire is one of the most critically acclaimed plays of the twentieth century and is often regarded as Tennessee Williams's most popular work, and as such, it has been adapted and reimagined in innumerable productions since it was first performed. While other productions of this play certainly may succeed with a more innovative approach, our production is not aiming to "reinvent the wheel." *A Streetcar Named Desire* endures as a classic piece of theatre because it has been challenging audiences for decades to view these characters and their struggles in nuanced shades of gray instead of black and white. There are no heroes at Elysian Fields; no one is wholly good or bad, and everyone is fundamentally flawed in large and sometimes disastrous ways. As a director, I tend to stick very close to the source material, because there is often a treasure trove of information packed into the text, between the lines, and buried in stage directions. Working with this cast, we've had several discussions digging into the topics, issues, and psychology of these characters and the story they tell. I rarely begin a new play with a fully fleshed-out idea of what I want a play to be. Theatre should be collaborative, and every one of our cast members has contributed to the vision of our production through this process. It's a joy to explore with these talented and thoughtful actors to find the choices that they feel are the most "true" to their characters as they inhabit their shoes on stage.

Elia Kazan, who directed many of Williams's greatest successes, once said of Williams, "Everything in his life is in his plays, and everything in his plays is in his life." Like in many of his plays, common themes appear in *Streetcar* that are echoes of his own past and history. Blanche DuBois is often considered to be related to Williams's older sister Rose, who was diagnosed with schizophrenia earlier in life. Rose received a lobotomy and was institutionalized but was financially supported by her brother and his success as a writer. Tennessee Williams also struggled with his homosexuality for many years, and we find this topic also included in *Streetcar* in a very important backstory. Williams wrote what he knew, and in that we see the beauty and tragedy of his life mirrored in the lives of Blanche, Stella, Stanley, and Mitch.

My hope is that audiences may recognize some part of themselves in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, which may be an uncomfortable experience; a play like this should evoke some unease. But hopefully that discomfort will help us to see each other as the flawed humans we are, not as a means to excuse any horrible decisions, but rather to understand how we can so easily become the villain in someone else's story.

Rachel Mink, Director





Scene 1:
Blanche arrives in New
Orleans

Scene 3:
Poker Night

Scene 5:
Blanche and the Collector

Scene 7:
Blanche's Birthday

Scene 9:
The Flower-Seller

Scene 11:
Blanche Enters an Asylum

Scene 2:
Belle Reve Confrontation

Scene 4:
Blanche's Talk with Stella

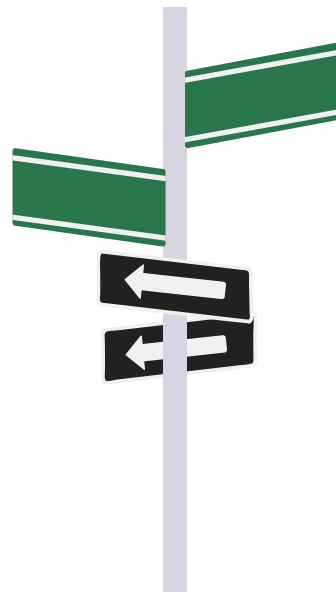
Scene 6:
Mitch and Blanche's Date

Scene 8:
The Argument

Scene 10:
Blanche's Breakdown

~ Cast List ~

Character	Actor
Blanche DuBois	Shane Murphy
Stanley Kowalski	Hayden Manning
Stella Kowalski	Vanessa Smith
Harold "Mitch" Mitchell	Arlo Costello
Eunice Hubbell	Jennifer Guttieri
Steve Hubbell	Christian Santos
Collector	Tom Rafanan
Doctor	Paul Uhler
Nurse	Barbara Clifford
Pablo	Robbie Diplock
Flower Seller/Neighbor	Jamie Russo
Blanche and Stella Cover	Savannah Baird
Mitch Cover	Matt Sayre





~ Production Crew ~

Director: Rachel Mink

Producer: Chelsea O'Connor

Stage Manager: Mike Grosse

Costumes: Jennifer Guttiere, Shane Murphy, and Arlo Costello

Set Designer: Ian Boyd

Scenic Design: Ian Boyd, Christy Terrill Reid

Set Builders: Ian Boyd and Scott Heidemann

Lighting Design: Scott Heidemann

Sound Design: Savannah Baird

Lighting and Sound Operator: Alex Lopez

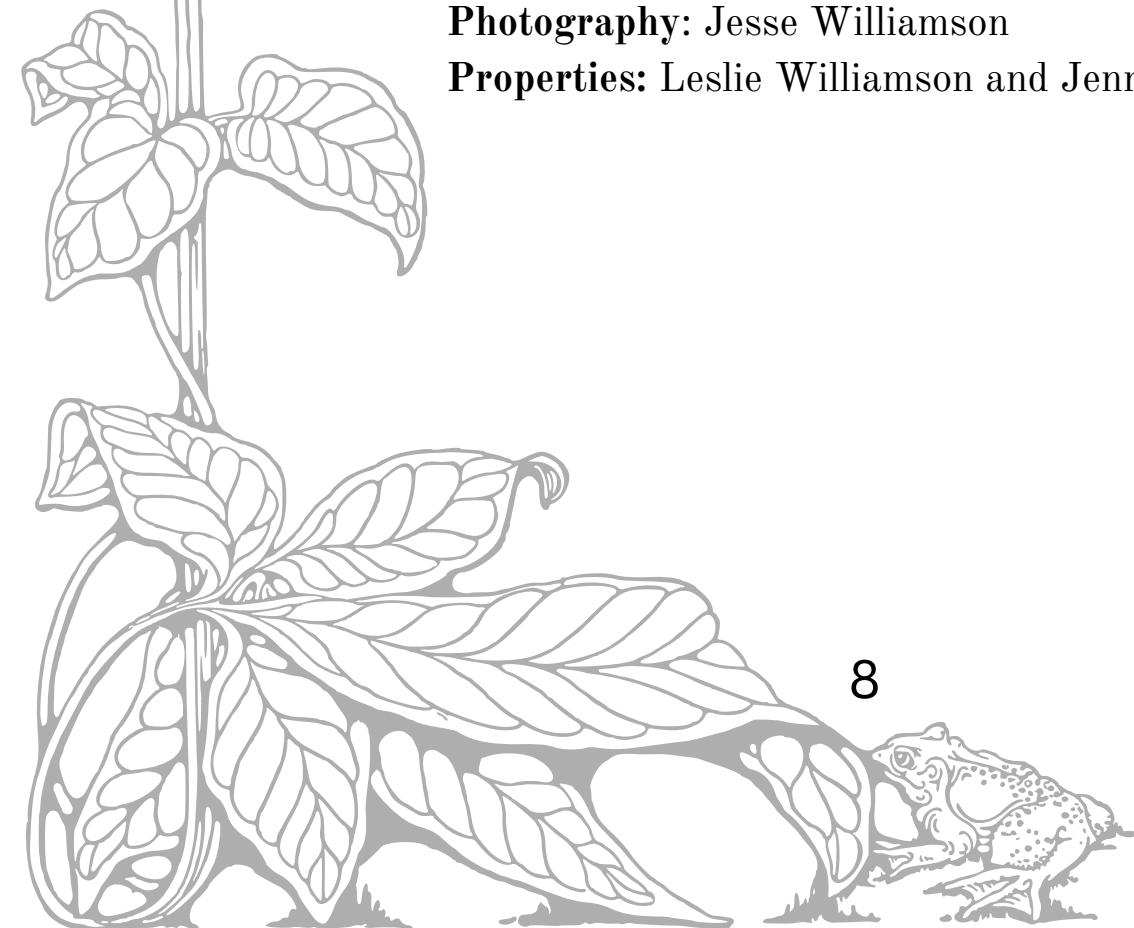
Stage Hands: Camila Ledesma, Dash Guttiere, and
Damian Ledesma

Program: Becky Golden-Harrell

Cover Art: Brandy Baesel

Photography: Jesse Williamson

Properties: Leslie Williamson and Jennifer Guttiere



~ Actor Profiles ~



Shane Murphy (Blanche Dubois) is thrilled to step into the iconic role of Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. She holds a B.A. in Theatre from the University of San Diego and completed classical performance training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London. Her recent credits include Desdemona in *Othello* with the New York Syracuse Shakespeare Company and Truvy in *Steel Magnolias* at Patio Playhouse. She is grateful for the chance to bring Blanche's delicate brilliance to life. This performance is lovingly dedicated to her two tiny co-stars at home, whose light makes every role richer.



Hayden Manning (Stanley Kowalski) is thrilled (and a little anxious) to step into the iconic role of Stanley. Recent credits include Casey (*The Legend of Georgia McBride*), Mr. Darcy (*Pride & Prejudice*), and Dr. Sanderson (*Harvey*). He has been acting since the age of 10 when he appeared in a production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Hayden is grateful to his friends, family, the cast, crew, and audiences who keep live theatre thriving — and hopes you buckle up for this ride to Elysian Fields!



Vanessa Smith (Stella Kowalski) is a 20-year-old who is getting back into theatre! This is her debut with Patio Playhouse but she's been in other performances such as Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* as well as Porthos in *Three Musketeers*! Outside of theatre, she enjoys making art and hanging out with her friends. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Arlo Costello (Harold "Mitch" Mitchell) is so excited and grateful to be a part of their first Patio Playhouse production! Arlo studied Theatre Arts at Western Connecticut State University. Some of their past roles include Ben Affleck in *Matt & Ben*, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Gonzolo in *The Tempest* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. They would like to thank everyone they had to cancel Dungeons & Dragons with to make this happen. Love you all!



Jennifer Guttieri (Eunice Hubbell) is delighted to be back on the Patio Playhouse stage. She proudly serves as Patio's Artistic Director and Youth Program Director, and is also the Youth Director for The Classical Academy JR Theater program. Recent roles include Mrs. Claus in *Holiday Hullabaloo* and M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*. She is deeply grateful to her director, Rachel, for an amazing experience, and sends all her love to this wonderful cast. Offstage, she's cheering on her sons, Dash and Rowan, and thanking her husband Frank for being the calm to her creative storm. Enjoy the show!

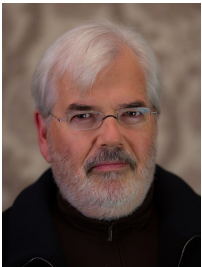
~ Actor Profiles ~



Christian Santos (Steve Hubbell) Christian is a San Diego native who most recently had the opportunity to perform as the Sailor Ancestor in Patio Playhouse's production of *The Addams Family*. Though he's gotten to work both onstage and with production, he enjoys being onstage and has worked with various theatre groups around San Diego including Patio Playhouse, Innovation Family Community Theatre, and Star Theatre in Oceanside. He's also been involved with the Summer Shakespeare Festival at Southwestern College and Stage 06 Productions that performed at The Old Globe Theatre as part of the 360 Project. He hopes to get a role as the airheaded character in a sitcom, and the title character from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* on stage. He loves karaoke, participating in trivia, or playing board games. He hopes you enjoy the show! You can find him on social media: @combotheresol. "Let all your things be done decently and in order." 1 Corinthians 16:14.



Tom Clemen Rafanan (Collector) is a child therapist in San Diego. Originating from the Big Island of Hawaii, Tom has done numerous shows during college, such as *Beauty and the Beast* and *Evita*, but was notable for playing Henry in *Next to Normal*. Wanting to further hone his skills, Tom has come to California to see what the next steps in his life is, and it looks like his journey brought him to San Diego! After Tom's first Patio Production, *The Addams Family*, he has fallen in love with the theater company and is honored to be a part of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Thank you to Rachel for having me be a part of her vision for this story.

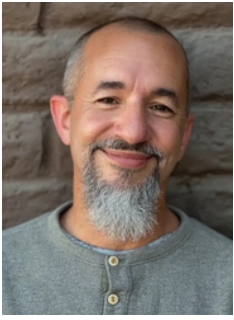


Paul Uhler (Doctor) is happy to return to Patio Playhouse, where his previous roles include Pozzo in *Waiting for Godot* and Professor Willard in *Our Town*. A former art dealer and magician, he now enjoys acting and composing music for theatre and film. He wishes to thank director Rachel Mink for the opportunity and his fellow cast and crew for their talent and camaraderie.



Barbara Clifford (Nurse) is excited about being back on Patio Playhouse stage and working with her fellow Magnolias again and meeting a whole new cast of characters. Barbara is originally from Pittsburgh, PA, but has lived in CA long enough to be a native. While living in Los Angeles, she was very active with the Kentwood Players and other community theaters. Barb also was a background player in a variety of movies and TV shows. Her 15 minutes of acting fame was as a regular in the internet fan-based series *Star Trek: Hidden Frontier* for seven years. This year is that show's 25th anniversary. Where has the time gone? Barb is part of the "Off the Cuff" Improv group headed by Deborah Zimmer. She is currently in voice over classes with Susan Berkley and taking audition classes for film with Amy Jo Berman. Barb looks forward to 2026 bringing more acting experiences in stage, film, voice over, and Improv. She lives in Escondido with her husband, three senior dogs, and three senior cats. Barb has been rescuing senior animals for years. She wants to thank Rachel and the wonderful cast and crew for allowing her to join in this production.

~ Actor Profiles ~



Robert Diplock (Pablo) was born and raised in California. His interests include acoustic guitar making, ceramic pottery, and writing palindromes and jokes. He had a small extras part in *Wayne's World 2*, and made his stage debut this past summer with Patio Playhouse as Grandpa George in *Willy Wonka*.



Jamie Russo (Flower Seller and Neighbor Woman) is a San Diego County native. She was born and raised in Escondido and loved attending Patio Playhouse shows on school field trips. Most days, Jamie is "on stage" in her 4th grade classroom, or teaching yoga with a local non-profit supporting cancer patients. Jamie was in her first stage performance this past summer as Grandma Josephine in Patio's production of *Willy Wonka*, and is excited to be part of *A Streetcar Named Desire*.



Savanah Baird (Blanche and Stella Cover) is very excited to be part of this production! This is her first time working with Patio Playhouse and working on a production in San Diego. She previously lived in Portland, OR where she studied and worked as an actor and writer before moving back home to San Diego. Some of her previous roles include: #25 in *The Wolves*, Love in *Everybody*, Octavius/Metellus Cinna/Young Cato in *Julius Caesar*, and Sam in *Mighty Marching Meerkats*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Matt Sayre (Mitch Cover) is excited to return to Patio Playhouse after a 3 1/2 year hiatus. His previous performances include *RENT*, *Miss You Like Hell*, *Miracles of The Season*, *Our Town*, *Annie*, *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and *American Idiot*. Matt has worked all over San Diego Theatre for the last 20 years from Oceanside to Escondido to Vista to Ocean Beach, to La Mesa to Poway. Matt would like to thank Patio for welcoming him back to their space as well as his family and friends for their love and support over the years. ENJOY THE SHOW!!!

~ Creative Team ~



Rachel Mink (Director) is excited to be back at Patio Playhouse directing this classic piece of theatre with such a wonderful cast! Previous directing credits at Patio include: the Aubrey Award-winning production of *When We Were Young and Unafraid*, *Murder Ballad*, and *Perfect Crime*. Rachel has a Master's Degree in Theatre Arts from SDSU and has several local professional credits in directing, dramaturgy, and intimacy choreography with The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego Musical Theatre, New Village Arts, and the former San Diego Repertory Theatre. Outside of her work volunteering with community theatre, Rachel is the Arts Management Associate for the San Diego Public Library and is responsible for managing performing arts programming at the City Heights Branch Library's Performance Annex black box theatre, as well as the library's media-focused IDEA Lab. Rachel is passionate about storytelling, supporting the development of new work, championing new artists, and contributing to building an uplifting arts community in San Diego.



Chelsea O'Connor (Producer) grew up around Patio Playhouse, spending her childhood in the wings while her dad performed in and later directed shows. She is thrilled to produce *A Streetcar Named Desire*, a production powered by an extraordinary cast and crew whose talent and dedication show in every moment of the work. Collaborating with director Rachel Mink has been a highlight, and Chelsea is grateful for the chance to help bring such a powerful story to the Patio stage.

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Patio Playhouse offers memberships, season tickets, and show packs to support the theater and save on tickets:

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- Season tickets let you secure admission to all mainstage productions in a season at a lower price.
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WILLY
WONKA

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*Steel
Magnolias*

9/19-10/05



PATIO PLAYHOUSE 59TH SEASON

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Family
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10/10-26



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A STREETCAR
NAMED DESIRE

1/9-1/25



"FROM THE SILVER SCREEN TO THE STAGE"

Little
Women

2/20-3/8



LITTLE
SHOP
OF HORRORS

4/3-19



MEAN GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL
EDITION

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