

# ► Production Notes



## SUMMER 2002

Video archiving of the Lyric Opera's season  
Stage nominations touch close to home  
Production summit looks at area talent drain



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## Getting Ready for New York

### *Broadway Puts New Spin on Hollywood Classic*

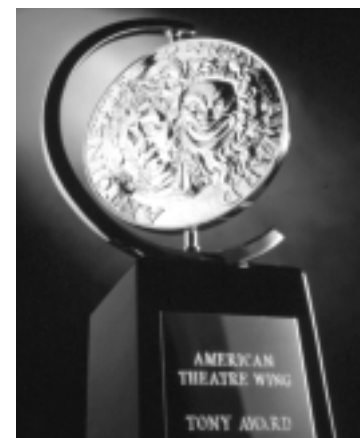
Continuing our winning streak of working with hit Broadway shows on tour, HMS was thrilled to create the official Broadway promotional video for the ambitious musical staging of **SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS**. The show features **John Lithgow** in the film role made famous by Burt Lancaster, and Northwestern alum **Brian D'Arcy James** in the role first played by Tony Curtis. HMS brought its state-of-the-art digital multicamera setup to the Shubert Theater



and shot two performances, from which clips were created to promote the New York premiere the following month. HMS also shot the press conference announcing the show's arrival in Chicago, and additional interviews with **John Lithgow, John Guare,** and **Marvin Hamlisch**, all of which were used to document and promote the production. Thanks to **Barlow Hartman Public Relations** for engaging HMS Media to work on this exciting project.

## Tony Awards Nominations

HMS collaborates daily with some of the most talented and creative people in the country, and we are so pleased and proud that many of these wonderful artists have recently been singled out for **Tony Award** nominations. Among the HMS friends and collaborators nominated are:



Chicago's own **Lookingglass Theater's METAMORPHOSES** for Best Play, Best Director (Mary Zimmerman) and Best Scenic Design (Daniel Ostling); **MAMMA MIA!** for Best Musical, Best Book and Leading Actress in a Musical (Louise Pitre); and **SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS** for Best Musical, Best Book, Best Score, Leading Actor in a Musical (John Lithgow) and Featured Actor in a Musical (Brian D'Arcy James). Our most sincere thanks to **Laura Matalon** and **TMG The Marketing Group, Amy Jacobs** and **Nina Lannan Associates,** and **Wayne Wolfe** and **Barlow Hartman Public Relations** for involving HMS in these wonderful endeavors. All three shows are still running on Broadway, so check them out next time you're in New York!

## Studs Terkel Tribute

### *Celebrating a Chicago Legend*



In celebration of **Studs Terkel's** 90th birthday, the **Chicago Historical Society** had a party for one of

the city's historical icons. Hosted by writer **Rick Kogan**, the event featured numerous tributes to Studs, including appearances by **Garrison Keillor, Haskell Wexler** and **David Schwimmer**. The event was just one of many celebrating this milestone in Studs' life, and gave his friends and colleagues an opportunity to toast the man who has inspired them through a variety of media. HMS Media – a sponsor of the event – was honored to document this historical day and to join in the birthday celebration.

## Design for Social Change

**Archeworks**, Chicago's alternative design school, called on HMS Media to shoot and edit a marketing piece to promote enrollment in the school's socially conscious design program. Founded by Chicago architect **Stanley Tigerman** and designer **Eva Maddox**, Archeworks encourages students from diverse backgrounds to generate projects that have a positive impact on society. HMS focused on one group's mission to confront issues facing residents of a Chicago housing project as their neighborhood is razed to make room for new construction. The crew captured students as they brainstormed ways to help create a smooth transition for those displaced by these new housing developments. The video will encourage prospective students to become involved in the one-year program, as well as educate the public on the mission and success of Archeworks in the greater community.

### *Field Trip to Springfield*

The **Illinois Education Association's Charles McBarron** called on HMS Media to shoot and edit a video tour of the Illinois State Capitol. HMS utilized Steadicam to help give a flowing perspective following students and teachers through a guided tour of the historic building. The video showcased the House and Senate chambers where proposed Illinois laws are debated and voted on, and included a visit with Secretary of State **Jessie White**. The tape was distributed to IEA members as a guide to planning a meaningful trip to Springfield for their students.



## Elegant Tango Takes Chicago

The dance style known as the Tango originated in the brothels of turn-of-the-century Argentina, but now epitomizes the elegance and glamour of high society.

Here in Chicago, producer **Maria Gebhard** and choreographer **Jorge Nidas** have created **DANCEART PRESENTS TANGO**.

HMS was happy to provide production for the Tango demo, which involved a two-camera shoot and edit of clips from the company's repertory. The video looked especially vivid, thanks to lighting designs by frequent HMS collaborator and Emmy winner **Todd L. Clark**.

## Could Fame Be Far Off?

HMS was pleased to shoot and edit the spring showcase performance for the **Chicago Academy for the Arts**, the prominent performing arts school. By request of **The Second City's Joyce Sloane**, an Academy board member, HMS captured the ambitious students displaying their talent in music, dance, theater, poetry, film and art. The resulting footage, featuring two particularly talented students bound for Juilliard in the fall, will be used for promotions, fundraising and recruitment.

## Quick Takes: News and Notes

HMS returned for a second season of providing multicamera archival video for **Lyric Opera of Chicago**, which included shoots with opera luminaries **Samuel Ramey** and **Renée Fleming**. This year, Lyric's **Barbara Kalnes** worked with HMS to edit select segments from the hours of footage in order to create a season highlights video. This tape provides great program documentation for Lyric's funding request purposes...



**Jam Theatricals' Mary Alyce Buck** called on HMS to re-edit and update TV commercials for **THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES** and **Jackie Mason's PRUNE DANISH TOUR**...

HMS was on hand this spring as two local dance organizations presented their versions of **ALICE IN WONDERLAND**. **Salt Creek Ballet** and the **Evanston Dance Ensemble** performed original choreography based on the Lewis Carroll classic, and HMS Media captured these premiere events utilizing a two-camera arts package, as well as provided post-production services in the Digital Betacam suite. The final product is a full performance edited from dual camera angles, including computer-generated titles and credits.

### Examining the Exodus of Chicago's Talent

## Annoyance Productions Creates Production Summit

HMS Media has worked with acclaimed Chicago theater director, improviser and teacher **Mick Napier** numerous times, including our PBS special **SECOND TO NONE**. The documentary showcased Mick directing the **Second City** hit **PARADIGM LOST**, featuring a stellar cast that included Tina Fey, Rachel Dratch, Kevin Dorff, Jenna Jolovitz, Scott Adsit and Jim Zulevic. All of these wonderful actors and writers have since emigrated to either New York or Los Angeles for film and television work. In response to the ongoing departure of talented artists and technicians from Chicago to the coasts, Mick and his **Annoyance Productions** partner **Jennifer Estlin** created the **Chicago Production Summit**, to which the entire Chicago production community was invited to

participate in panel discussions and open forums to express ideas, concerns and hopes for Chicago's future development as a center for film and television. HMS was a proud sponsor of the event, and provided video production services, including shooting all the panels and discussions, selecting the best sound bites as they were being uttered, digitizing them into a portable Avid editing suite (graciously provided by longtime HMS Media vendor **Roscor**) and creating a montage of the event's "greatest hits," which was played back to the audience as the Summit concluded. Congratulations to Mick and Jennifer for creating this ambitious and important event. We salute their vision, and are very happy to have helped bring it to fruition.

## The Tailgate Tour

### The Road to Pasadena

**Discover Card** teamed up with **ESPN GAMEDAY** – the network's popular college football program – to create a contest allowing viewers to submit audition tapes for their shot at a guest spot on Gameday's Rose Bowl broadcast. The winner received a free trip to Pasadena and a chance to rub elbows with **Chris Fowler**, **Kirk Herbstreit** and **Lou Corso**, the hosts of **ESPN Gameday**. An HMS crew



traveled to Pasadena to cover events surrounding the Rose Bowl, including the contest winner's on-air appearance with the Gameday hosts, and Discover Card's "Tailgate Tour" truck, featuring games and other sports-related media. The footage was then edited in HMS' Avid Media Composer suite to create a recap of the Tailgate Tour, culminating in the ESPN Gameday contest and the Rose Bowl broadcast. Recently, HMS has had the opportunity to edit a variety of other projects for the credit card company, including a recap of Discover's involvement with New Year's Eve in Times Square and B-roll packages for recent promotions.

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