

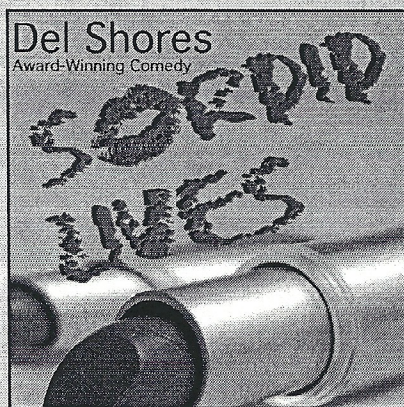
Director's Note



Working on a new script can be an exciting and challenging experience. This project has been particularly rewarding given the collaboration of the many artists involved. When we first began, over a year ago, George gave us a script that read at two hours with 9 musical numbers and over twentyfive characters. It is now substantially shorter. This reduction of text did not come from a desire to shorten the running time but rather to tell the story in the most clear and dramatic way possible. Many of the initial revisions came as George and I worked with Chekhov Master Teacher Lionel Walsh. As George began to develop the principal characters he spontaneously began to improvise text. We found that many of these improvisations gave us a new direction in telling the story. Further focusing of the script came while working on the music with Rachel Townes. We found songs that needed to be sung and others that could simply underscore and move the action forward. The major revisions came this past fall as George and I began to workshop the script. We did not get through a rehearsal where we didn't make changes. In fact we were still making changes through dress rehearsals. Our major discovery was to use the media to move the narrative forward and not merely as historical documentation. George's ease at changing text has been a dream. Nothing is sacred to him and he will release entire characters without batting an eye. The ease with which everyone involved worked so unselfishly has made this new script one of the most rewarding that I have ever worked on.

—Kristin Kundert-Gibbs
Director

Don't Miss Out: Upcoming Production of Sordid Lives



SORDID LIVES by Del Shores

When: Sep 20-22, 25-28 @ 8:00 pm Sep 23, 30 @ 2:30 pm

Where: Cellar Theatre, Fine Arts Bldg.

Del Shores' hysterical queer comedy debuted in Los Angeles in 1996, where it ran for 13 sold-out months and won 13 "Critic's Choice" awards.

Please note that this production contains smoking, gunfire, and adult language and situations.