

Playwright • Producer • Public Relations/Marketing/Communications Consultant • Writer/Editor
President, JoMo Productions, Inc. • Founder/Producing Artistic Director, Starlite Players
Member: Eugene O'Neill International Society: Board of Directors, Newsletter Editor



PLAYWRIGHT

Full-Length Plays

Lil & Louis—(full-length play with music about Lil Hardin Armstrong and her husband Louis). 2018. Being developed with Chuck Smith, SDC, resident director at Chicago's Goodman Theatre and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, Sarasota.

- Workshop Production: scheduled for March 4-5 and March 10, 2019, in conjunction with 39th Annual Sarasota Jazz Festival.
- Full Production directed by Chuck Smith scheduled for January 22-26, 2020, St. Paul Lutheran Church, pending favorable vote by Florida legislature on recommended DCA grant (below)
- Awards
 - \$25,000 matching grant recommended by Florida Division of Cultural Affairs for development in 2018 (but legislature zeroed funding).
 - \$25,000 matching grant recommended by Florida Division of Cultural Affairs for production in 2019-20, pending legislative action in March-April 2019.

Life Upon the Wicked Stage—(full-length collection of short comedies) written with Jack Gilhooley.

- Production, Gypsy Stage Repertory. Toured to Studio@620, other venues in Tampa Bay area St. Petersburg, FL; Sarasota, FL (2015).

E.G.O.: The Passions of Eugene Gladstone O'Neill—(full-length drama with music) adapted from *E.G.O.: A Haunted Life*, a full-length drama with music, also written by Jo Morello.

- Productions
 - Balagula Theatre Company (non-Equity), Lexington, KY (2013)
 - Eugene O'Neill Society 6th International Conference, Provincetown Theater, Provincetown, MA, first two scenes (2005)
- Development/Staged Readings:
 - Starlite Room, Sarasota, FL (2016).
 - Reston Community Players, Reston, VA (2013)
 - Reston Community Players, Reston, VA (2012)
 - freeFall Theatre, St. Petersburg, FL (2012).
 - Banyan Theater Company, Sarasota, FL (2009).
 - Neighborhood Playhouse, New York, NY (2006).
 - Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights' Theatre, 10th Anniversary presentation, Tao House/Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Danville, CA (2005).
 - Venice Little Theatre, Venice, FL (2004).
- Awards
 - Winner, Kentucky Women Writers Conference (with University of Kentucky), Lexington, KY (2013).
 - Winner, Reston Community Players New Play Project, Reston, VA (2012 and 2013).
 - Winner, Banyan Becoming, Banyan Theatre Company, Sarasota, FL (2009).
 - Winner, Artist Enhancement Grant, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs (2005-2006 & 2004-2005).
 - Winner, Manatee Players Summer New Play Contest, Bradenton, FL (2005).
 - Finalist, "The Polygraph Tests," True False Theatre, NYC (2012).
 - Finalist, Arthur W. Stone Playwriting Award, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA (2007).
 - Finalist, Women Playwrights' Initiative, Orlando, FL (2006).
 - Semifinalist, National Playwrights Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Waterford, CT (2014).
 - Semifinalist, PlayLabs, The Playwrights' Center, Minneapolis, MN (2005).
 - Semifinalist, Mildred and Albert Panowski Playwriting Award, Northern Michigan University (2005).
 - Semifinalist, Backdoor Theatre, Wichita Falls, TX (2005).
 - Semifinalist, Ashland New Plays Festival, Ashland, OR, top 10 of 350 (2005).
 - Semifinalist, Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival, Orlando, FL, top 15 of 300+ (2004-05).

(continued)

E.G.O.: A Haunted Life (full-length drama with incidental music by Dick Hyman)

- Development/Staged Reading, The Players of Sarasota, FL (2002)..
- Awards
 - Winner, Individual Artist's Fellowship, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs (2001-02).
 - Finalist, 10th Annual Women at the Door contest, Famous Door Theatre, Chicago (2003).
 - Semifinalist, PlayLabs, The Playwrights Center, Minneapolis, MN (2003).

The Split (full-length romantic comedy), written with Jack Gilhooley (2004, revised 2014.)

- Productions
 - Manatee Players/Riverfront Theatre, Bradenton, FL, (2004).
 - West Central Florida Playwright's Process, Ruth Eckerd Hall, Clearwater, FL (1997).
- Reading, Asolo Theatre Company, Sarasota, FL (1999).
- Workshop/development, West Central Florida Playwright's Process (1996).
- Awards
 - Winner, Manatee Players New Play Contest, Bradenton, FL (2004).
 - West Central Florida Playwright's Process, Clearwater, FL (1996).
 - Semifinalist, Mountain Playhouse International Comedy Playwriting Contest, Jennerstown, PA (2005).
 - Second place, Robert J. Pickering Award for Playwriting Excellence (1999).
- Publication, Monologue in *The Best Women's Stage Monologues of 1996*, Smith & Kraus (1996).

The Crash at Crush (full-length drama with music)

- Production, Dallas Hub Theater, Dallas, TX (2008).
- Development/reading, Mini-workshop, Baylor U Graduate School of Theatre; reading, Hippodrome, Waco, TX (2007).
- Awards
 - Winner, Individual Artist Fellowship, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs (2009-2010).
 - Winner, Artist Enhancement Grant, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs (2007-2008).
 - Finalist, Women Playwrights' Initiative, Orlando.

Ma, Moonflowers & Me: A Comedy for People Old Enough to Know Better (full-length contemporary comedy)

- Development/Staged Reading: The Players of Sarasota New Play Festival, Sarasota, FL (2013).
- Awards
 - Finalist, The Players of Sarasota New Play Contest, Sarasota, FL (2013).
 - Finalist, Mountain Playhouse International Comedy Playwriting Contest, Jennerstown, PA (2012).

Daddy's Little Girl (formerly *The Markham Mystery*) (full-length murder mystery)

- Staged Reading: 28th Annual ScriptFEST, Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART), Mars Hill, NC (2010).
- Awards
 - Finalist, 28th Annual ScriptFEST, Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART), Mars Hill, NC (2010).
 - Finalist, "The Play's the Thing" New Play Contest, The Players of Sarasota, FL (2009).

The Fabulous Mrs. Palmer (full-length musical biography) written with composer/lyricist Diana Colson.

- Production, Manatee Community College Foundation at Venice High School, Venice FL, and Neel Performing Arts Center, Manatee Community College (now State College of Florida), Bradenton, FL (1992).
- Grants/Awards
 - National Endowment for the Arts, to MCC for the creation of a new American musical (1991-92).
 - Sarasota County Tourist Development Council and Sarasota Board of County Commissioners (1991-92).
 - Proclamation by Sarasota County Commissioners (1992).

One-Acts/Short Plays

Born to Swing (monologue, 15 minutes). "First Lady of Jazz" Lil Hardin Armstrong at 73. (Video, 2018).

Hot Miss Lil & Little Louis (10-12 minutes). Lil Hardin Armstrong and husband Louis Armstrong. (Video, 2018).

Gene & Aggie (short drama, 15 minutes) excerpted from *E.G.O.: A Haunted Life* and *E.G.O.: The Passions of Eugene Gladstone O'Neill* (both by Jo Morello).

- Productions
 - Starlite Players, Sarasota, FL (2015).
 - Tampa Bay Theatre Festival, Straz Center, Tampa, FL (2014).
 - 29th Annual Samuel French OOB Short Play Festival, New York, NY (2004).

(continued)

■ Awards

- Finalist, Eden Prairie Players 2018 Collection of One Acts, Eden Prairie, MN (2018).
- Semifinalist, Little Fish Theatre Pick of the Vine, San Pedro, CA (2016).

Talkback (10-minute verse comedy)

■ Productions

- Tampa Bay Theatre Festival, Tampa, FL (2015).
- Starlite Players, Sarasota, FL (2015).
- TampaWrights 3, Tampa Repertory Theatre, Ybor City, FL (2015).
- Future Ten 10-Minute Festival, Pittsburgh, PA (2014).

Talkback (10-minute verse comedy, *continued*)

■ Awards

- Winner, TampaWrights 3, Tampa Repertory Theatre, 10-minute play contest (2014).
- Winner, Future Ten's 10x10x10, 10-Minute Play Festival (2014).
- Finalist (top 5), Cassity Literary Festival, Douglasville, Georgia (2014).
- Semifinalist, Minnesota Shorts Festival, Mankato, MN (2015).
- Semifinalist, Festival of Shorts, Edmonds Driftwood Players, Edmonds, Washington (2014).

Ancient Oaks (comedy, 30 minutes, for older actors); adapted from *Ma, Moonflowers & Me* (by Jo Morello).

- Production, Starlite Players, Sarasota, FL (2015).

Connubial Bliss* (romantic comedy, 30 minutes) adapted from *The Split*, written with Jack Gilhooley.

■ Productions

- Starlite Players, Sarasota, FL (2016).
- Gypsy Stage Repertory, 10 venues in Tampa Bay area as part of *Life Upon the Wicked Stage* (2015).
- DGP/Lantern Theatre Company New Writing Festival, Sheffield, Kent, UK (2015)

- Award, Winner, 2015 DGP New Writing Festival, Sheffield, Kent, UK (2015).

CO-DEPENDENTS* (romantic comedy, 30 minutes) adapted from *The Split*, written with Jack Gilhooley.

■ Productions

- Starlite Players, Sarasota, FL (2016).
- Gypsy Stage Repertory, 10 venues in Tampa Bay area as part of *Life Upon the Wicked Stage* (2015).

(**Connubial Bliss* and *Co-Dependents* may be presented separately or as companion plays.)

The (Play)Wright Stuff* (10-minute comedy)

- Production, 10 venues in Tampa Bay area as part of *Life Upon the Wicked Stage* (2015).

A Little Byte Of Murder (10-minute drama)

- Reading in *The Third Millennium*, Eric Krebs Productions, John Houseman Theatre, 42nd Street, NYC (1992).

Theatre for Young Adults and Families

Lotions & Potions (intergenerational one-act for young adults and family audiences, 55 minutes).

■ Development/Workshops/Readings

- Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Waterford, CT (1992).
- Choate Rosemary Hall, Wallingford, CT (1990)
- Springer Opera House, Columbus, GA (1992).
- The Players of Sarasota, FL (2001).
- North Carolina Playwrights' Festival, North Carolina Playwrights' Center, Salisbury, NC (1992). "Centerpieces," Mill Mountain Theatre, Roanoke, VA (1992).
- StageWorks, Tampa, FL (1992).

■ Awards

- Winner, Young People's Drama Project, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center (1992).
- Winner, Individual Artist's Fellowship, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs (1991-92).
- Winner, Discovery '90, Choate Rosemary Hall, Wallingford, CT (1990).
- Finalist, Critic's Circle '93, Stage One: Louisville Children's Theatre, KY (1993).
- Finalist, Family One-Act Competition, Theatre With A Message, Nashville, TN (1992).
- Finalist, Shubert Fendrich Memorial Playwriting Contest (1991).
- Finalist, Anna Zornio Memorial Children's Theater Playwriting Award, Department of Theater and Dance, University of New Hampshire (1990).

(continued)

- Second place, Beverly Hills Theatre Guild Play Competition for Children's Theatre (1999).
- Second place, DeepSouth New Playwrights' Contest (1992).

Too Big To Cry (intergenerational one-act for young adults and family audiences, 45 minutes).

- Development/Workshop, St. Stephen's Episcopal Academy, Bradenton, FL (1994).
- Readings
 - "The Play's the Thing" Reading Series, The Players of Sarasota, FL (2001).
 - North Carolina Playwrights' Festival, North Carolina Playwrights' Center, Salisbury, NC (1992).
- Award: Finalist, Discovery '89, Choate Rosemary Hall, Wallingford, CT (1989).

Commissions

Gulf Coast Heritage Foundation (series of short site-specific scripts for outdoor presentations to tourists at Historic Spanish Point, a 30-acre museum and environmental complex in Osprey, Florida).

- Productions
 - *Living History* scripts about Bertha Honore Palmer and her family at Spanish Point (1999 and continuing)
 - *Heritage Holiday* scripts about Bertha Honor Palmer and her family for holiday presentations (2009 and continuing)

Househunting in Paradise with Bill And Hillary (full-length political satire) with Jack Gilhooley; commissioned by the Home Builders Association of Sarasota County (1996).

- Production, Home Builders Association of Sarasota County, Sarasota Hyatt.

Screenplays

Shirley Basin (full-length drama for film) adapted from stage play of the same name by Jack Gilhooley.

- Award, Finalist, New Harmony Project, New Harmony, IN (1993).

The King's Cadillac (full-length romantic comedy for film).

- Award: Finalist, Florida Screenwriting Competition (1992).

Special Award

"Outstanding Woman In The Performing Arts," AAUW, Cambridge, OH (as "Jo Carmosky") for three years of service as managing director of Cambridge Area Theatre Association

PRODUCTION HISTORY/THEATRICAL MANAGEMENT

JoMo Productions, Inc., Sarasota, FL (Founded October 2018). Not-for-profit organization dedicated to the performing arts.

Starlite Players, Sarasota, FL (July 2015-November 2016.) www.starliteplayers.com

- As founder and producing artistic director of a small theater company that presented full productions of at least four new short comedies for one long weekend each month:
 - Selected plays and produced the work of playwrights from around the world.
 - employed over 150 directors, actors, and tech crew and produced 61 new plays.
 - handled all administrative and marketing activities
 - built a faithful audience following and sold out many performances.
- Performed in donated space above a restaurant in return for generating the sale of dinners and beverages.
- Arranged fiscal sponsorship to give 501(c)(3) benefits to donors; acquired and nurtured a small cadre of donors, sponsors and volunteers that provided various types of support; always operated in the black.

Jazz Club of Sarasota, Inc., Sarasota, FL (1995-2008; 2013-present)

- **Consultant** providing services in public relations, publications, newsletters, publicity, educational programs, grant proposal-writing, publicity, and programs for annual Sarasota Jazz Festival.
 - Managing Director, 1996-1997, for this major arts presenter that then staged over 100 performances yearly including a week-long annual Jazz Festival with international performers.
 - Public Relations Director, 2013-present. Create and implement the marketing/PR campaigns that sell thousands of tickets each year to the Club's many events
 - Grants proposal writer, 2013-present. Write successful grant proposals focused on tourist development.
- **Awards**
 - Winner, Local Gold Addy as copywriter, Advertising for the Arts for Sarasota Jazz Festival. Advertising Federation of the Suncoast (2000).
 - Winner, Golden Image Award for Newsletter, "Sarasota Jazz Sounds," Florida Public Relations Association (1998).
 - Winner, Award of Distinction, 17th Annual Sarasota Jazz Festival, Promotional Marketing, Florida Public Relations Association (1998).

(continued)

Manatee Community College Foundation (now State College of Florida), Bradenton, FL (1990-1992)

Working with the MCC Foundation, conceived of and promoted my original full-length historical musical play *The Fabulous Mrs. Palmer* (written with composer/lyricist Diana Colson); produced advertising and collateral materials; formulated sales strategy for the world premiere; directed group sales, sold out all performances of this major regional event, which played to an audience of 5,000 in 8 performances, generated \$16,000 for MCC Theatre Department (now State College of Florida).

Cambridge Area Theater Association, Cambridge, OH (1975-1978)

■ Managing director

- Served as producer, managing director, publicity chair of summer-stock theatre.
- Participated in selecting seasons; hiring and supervising creative staff; creating, coordinating and implementing all fundraising activities.
- Founded a children's theater that made a profit on all productions during my tenure as producer and publicity chair.

Recent Theatre-Related Articles/Publications

■ ***Eugene O'Neill International Society Newsletter***, editor/writer/graphic designer. (2012-2018)

Full responsibility for this semi-annual digital newsletter of 20- to 30-page issues. Handle article, image and rights acquisitions; author correspondence; editing; graphic design; write articles such as "O'Neill, Man and Myth" (Winter 2012-2013, 14-19). (<http://eugeneoneillsociety.org/newsletters.html>).

■ ***The Eugene O'Neill Review*** (peer-reviewed scholarly journal)

- "Ah, Wilderness! Performance Review, Asolo Rep (Sept. 2016).
- "E.G.O.: The Passions of Eugene Gladstone O'Neill-excerpts" (Sept. 2016).
- "Exorcism: A Play of Anti-Climax" (March 2013).
- "Miles to Babylon," book review/playscript (March 2013)

■ ***American Theatre magazine***, "O'Neill, Lost And Found" (December 2011, 14).

Theatrical Adjudication/Panelist

■ **Theatre Fellowship Panel**, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, Panelist (1996).

■ **West Central Florida Playwright's Process/Ruth Eckerd Hall**, High-School Component, Adjudicator (1996 and 1999); Adult Component, Adjudicator (1995).

■ **Florida Thespians Conference**, St. Petersburg, FL, Adjudicator (2000).

■ **Florida Teen Playwrights' Festival**, operated by Hippodrome State Theater, Gainesville, FL; funded by Florida Department of State, Arts Council, Adjudicator (1991-92).

Education

■ **Temple University**, M.S., School of Communications and Theatre

■ **Villanova University**, B.S., Nursing; minor, English

Memberships

■ **International:** Eugene O'Neill International Society, Member, Board of Directors, Newsletter Editor;

■ **National:** Dramatists Guild of America; aact (American Association of Community Theatre)