

The Rep
MILWAUKEE

SEPTEMBER 5 to NOVEMBER 2
STACKNER CABARET

Play
Guide

the DOYLE & DEBBIE show

By **Bruce Arntson**
Directed by **JC Clementz**

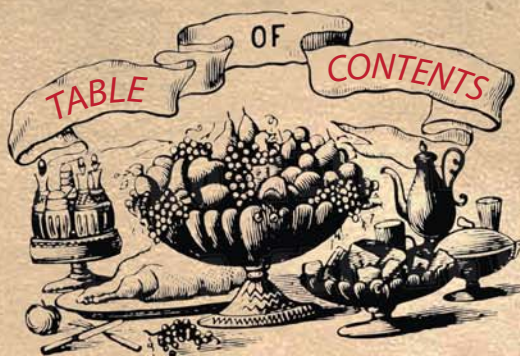


The Stackner Cabaret
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WRITTEN BY **BRUCE ARNTSEN**
DIRECTED BY **JC CLEMENTZ**



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DINERS CHECK

Date _____ Table _____ Guests _____ Server **072953**
APPT-SOUP/SAL-ENTREE-VEG/POT-DESSERT-BEV

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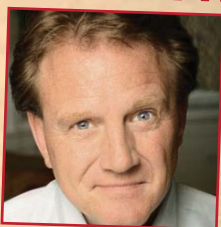
ABOUT THE PLAY

Old guard country singer Doyle has returned to Nashville with a new singing partner in tow, the most recent in a line of Debbies in the Doyle and Debbie duo. Buddy, the band leader, travels along with them and introduces the duo to the crowd. As Doyle introduces his new Debbie, she tells her tale of being discovered at the VFW in Mooney's Gap, Tennessee. Doyle and Debbie sing several classic Doyle and Debbie tunes, and as the banter progresses during the show, Doyle shares stories of his glimpses of fame and inspiration for his songs, Debbie tells of her hardships in life, and Doyle's "old fashioned" sensibilities are on full display. As intermission arrives, and the second set begins, Doyle's quirks start to dominate the performance, and the audience is left wondering where this evening will go from here. *The Doyle & Debbie Show* is filled with comic banter, hilarious spoofs of country music, and performances that will make the audience tap their feet and laugh out loud.

PRODUCTION HISTORY

The Doyle & Debbie Show opened in an upstairs space at a coffee shop in Nashville in 2006. Playwright Bruce Arntsen starred in the show alongside Jenny Littleton, and unlike Doyle, he has stuck with one Debbie for the past eight years, continuing to share the stage with Littleton. The original production has toured to Chicago, Austin, and other cities, but has had an almost constant presence in Nashville since the play's premiere. The play continues to sell out weekly shows at a classic Nashville honky-tonk, The Station Inn. A production with a new cast and creative team ran at the New Century Theatre in Minneapolis in early 2014. The Rep's production marks the show's Milwaukee debut.

CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM



MICHAEL ACCARDO
DOYLE



ERIN PARKER
DEBBIE



BO JOHNSON
BUDDY



JC CLEMENTZ
DIRECTOR



JEFF SCHAETZKE
MUSIC DIRECTOR

JOE C. KLUG, Scenic Designer

MARY FOLINO, Costume Coordinator

AIMEE HANYZEWSKI, Lighting Designer

ERIN PAIGE, Sound Coordinator

ASHLEE WASMUND, Stage Movement Director

JILL WALMSLEY ZAGER, Dialect Coach

MELISSA VAN SWOL, Stage Manager



PROFILES OF OUR STARS



DOYLE

Doyle Mayfield, the star of our show, hails from Cocke County, Tennessee. Doyle overcame the tragedy of his childhood (the details of which we'll save for the tabloids) to fulfill his father's unrealized dream of becoming a country star. Legend has it that Doyle had an early encounter with Willie Nelson which influenced some of Nelson's hits. Known for his seductive yodeling skills, Doyle was soon well on his way to stardom.

As Doyle pursued his music career, he soon realized that an act always looks better when there's a pretty gal onstage, so he formed the Doyle and Debbie duo we all know and love. Doyle and his first Debbie had a Top 10 hit in five of the rural western markets in the mid-1980s with the song "Blue Stretch Pants." Romance blossomed on the road, and Doyle left his wife to marry Debbie. Later, Doyle left Debbie #1 to marry Debbie #2, making her his third lucky bride. The duo scored another hit in the Missoula, Montana market in July of 1989 with "When You're Screwin' Other Women."

Since their huge hits in the 1980s, Doyle and Debbie have been touring and creating music together with only brief hiatuses, most recently for Doyle's visit to a research facility for the study and treatment of emotional exhaustion in country artists. Doyle is back on the road, ready to win your hearts, and grab that spotlight once again.



Debbie

Debbie Purdy is the most recent in a line of wonderful women who have filled these cowgirl boots. As a young girl, Debbie loved to listen to the music of Doyle and his earlier Debbies, singing along with her legless sister Dory to "Barefoot & Pregnant," and dreaming of being a big star someday. Debbie's life was also filled with tragedy, with the loss of her mother and brother, as well as her mother's souvenir spoon collection, Hummel figurines, and Patsy Cline albums. Debbie went on to study Web Design and Marketing at Smoky Mountain Community College, but her true love was always the stage.

Debbie was blessed with three beautiful children before her twentieth birthday. Unfortunately, the Nashville connections she was promised as one of those children was made never came to fruition. When Doyle discovered her, she had been singing at the VFW Hall in Mooney's Gap, Tennessee for over ten years.

Debbie is thrilled to be a part of this act and has truly enjoyed the last six weeks on the road with Doyle and the crew, and hopes that she will learn much from the legend that is Mr. Doyle Mayfield.

BOARD

TONIGHT'S SET LIST:



33 1/3

"Whine Whine
Twang Twang"

STEREO

33 1/3

"When You're Screwin'
Other Women
(Think of Me)"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Stock Car Love"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Barefoot
and Pregnant"

STEREO

33 1/3

"I Ain't No Homo"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Be Still My Heart"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Blue Stretch Pants"

STEREO

33 1/3

"The ABC's of Love"

STEREO



STAR TITLE STRIP CO., INC.
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33 1/3

"Medley of Hits"

STEREO

33 1/3

"For the Children"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Snowbanks of Life"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Daddy's Hair"

STEREO

33 1/3

"What Are You
Lookin' At?"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Laura Lee"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Harlequin
Romance"

STEREO

33 1/3

"Fat Women
in Trailers"

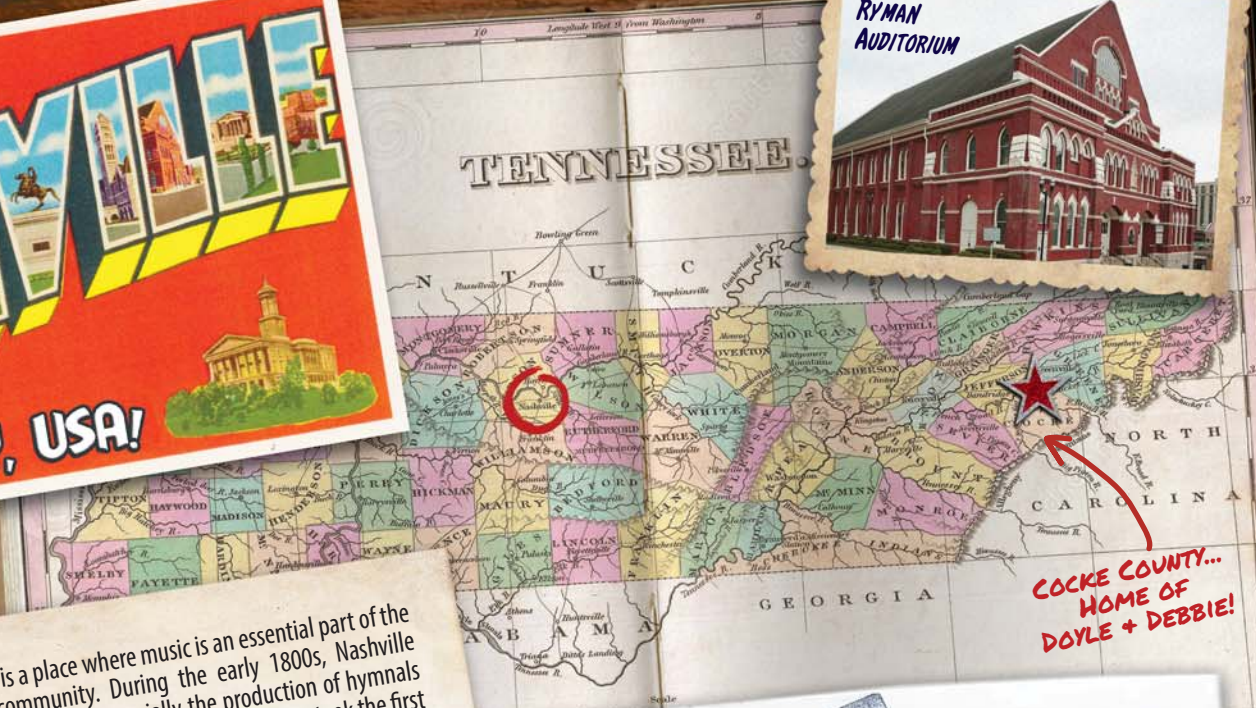
STEREO



STAR TITLE STRIP CO., INC.
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RYMAN
AUDITORIUM



COCKE COUNTY...
HOME OF
DOYLE + DEBBIE!

Nashville, also known as Music City, is a place where music is an essential part of the cultural life and identity of the community. During the early 1800s, Nashville became a national hub for music publishing, especially the production of hymnals and liturgical music. After the Civil War, Fisk University's Jubilee Singers took the first around-the-world tour by a musical act and performed for Queen Victoria. In 1892, construction was completed on the Union Gospel Tabernacle, which later became the Ryman Auditorium. The Ryman earned the nickname "the Carnegie Hall of the South" for its wide-ranging programming.

In the 1920s, radio came to Nashville and changed the face of the city. Radio station WSM launched the Grand Ole Opry program in 1925, which is still staged live every week ninety years later. Station WLAC followed, and the stations were able to broadcast over most of the U.S. thanks to clear-channel status they received from the federal government. Musicians flocked to Nashville for the opportunity to be heard across the country. In 1950, radio announcer David Cobb proclaimed Nashville "Music City, USA."

In the 1940s through 1960s, Nashville's reputation as a music hub grew. In the late 1950s, the press coined the term "the Nashville Sound," which marked a change in the style of country music and produced country's first cross-over stars. With the increased success of this new sound, record companies began opening offices along 16th and 17th Avenues, an area later dubbed "Music Row." Not only did country artists come to Nashville, but the city also became a center of R&B and blues music due to the influence of radio DJs and club owners, hosting artists such as Ella Fitzgerald, B.B. King, Ray Charles, Etta James, and many more. Icons such as Bob Dylan and Elvis Presley went to Nashville to record their albums due to Nashville's reputation as a place where great music happened.

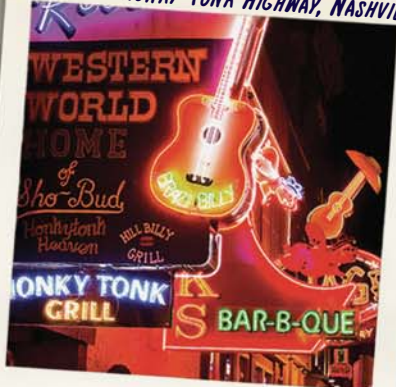
Nashville continues to be a center of America's music industry, with diverse artists choosing to record at studios in the city, have vinyl records produced at United Record Pressing, or to perform at one of the many clubs and larger music venues throughout the city. While many types of music and musicians call Nashville home, country music has been and continues to be at the core of Nashville's identity as Music City, USA.

NASHVILLE HONKY TONKS

"The Honky Tonk Highway" on Fifth and Broadway, houses several honky-tonk clubs where patrons can travel from one to the next and enjoy free music all day, every day. Famous clubs on this iconic strip of Nashville real estate include Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, Robert's Western World, and Legend's Corner, amongst others.

Post Card

HONKY TONK HIGHWAY, NASHVILLE



Grand Ole Opry Programs

Shortly after radio station WSM premiered in 1925, its parent company hired George D. Hay as program director, and he began the WSM Barn Dance program, which became the *Grand Ole Opry* in 1927. Due to such high audience demand to be part of each week's live recording, the Opry went through several homes before settling in the Ryman Auditorium in 1943. The Opry called the Ryman home for almost 31 years.

In 1955, a television show premiered that featured Opry stars. In 1974, the Opry moved out of the Ryman into an entertainment complex nine miles from downtown Nashville where weekly performances still occur today. When the Opry moved to the new Grand Ole Opry House, a circle of flooring from the Ryman became the center of the stage to honor the Opry's history.

As the Opry has grown, so has its membership, which reads like a who's who of country legends. Current members include the likes of Garth Brooks, Emmylou Harris, Loretta Lynn, Brad Paisley, Dolly Parton, Keith Urban, and dozens of other huge country stars.

DOLLY PARTON
PERFORMING AT
THE OPRY, 2005



GRAND
OLE OPRY

SOUVENIR PROGRAM

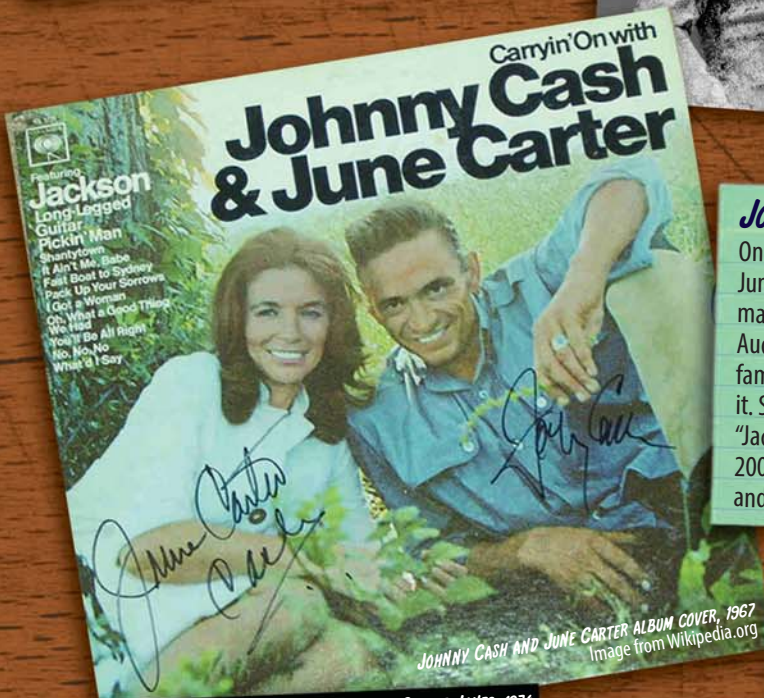


ICONIC COUNTRY MUSIC DUOS

DOLLY PARTON AND PORTER WAGONER

Porter Wagoner introduced Dolly Parton to the world on his television show in 1967. Wagoner's television show served as a vehicle for many duets between the two singers and led to 21 charting songs, including "Just Someone I Used to Know" and "Please Don't Stop Loving Me." Earning the Country Music Association's Duo of the Year award three times, Wagoner and Parton became an iconic twosome. The two remained collaborators until 1974, when Parton made a professional break with Wagoner. Her strong will and his old-fashioned sensibilities caused much tension between the two. Her song about the break from Wagoner, "I Will Always Love You," was a huge hit and became one of her signature songs.

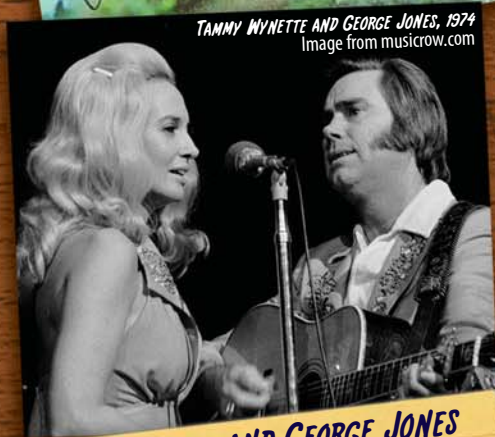
DOLLY PARTON AND PORTER WAGONER
Image from thisdayincountrymusic.com



JOHNNY CASH AND JUNE CARTER ALBUM COVER, 1967
Image from Wikipedia.org

JOHNNY CASH AND JUNE CARTER CASH

One of the greatest love stories in music, Johnny Cash and June Carter performed together long before they were married in 1968. The two met in 1956 in Nashville's Ryman Auditorium. The two were one of country music's most famous couples, both in the recording studio and outside of it. Several of their duets won awards and were hits, such as "Jackson" and "If I Were a Carpenter." The Oscar-winning 2005 biopic *Walk the Line* detailed the life of Johnny Cash, and highlighted the relationship between the two singers.



TAMMY WYNETTE AND GEORGE JONES, 1974
Image from musicrow.com

TAMMY WYNETTE AND GEORGE JONES

Tammy Wynette and George Jones were much more successful as a singing duo than a married couple. Their tumultuous marriage lasted from 1969 to 1975, but their musical partnership extended beyond that time, even resulting in a reunion tour and album in 1995. They scored hits in the 1970s with "The Ceremony," "We're Gonna Hold On," and "Golden Ring."



CONWAY TWITTY AND LORETTA LYNN ALBUM COVER
Image from amazon.com

CONWAY TWITTY AND LORETTA LYNN

Friends Conway Twitty and Loretta Lynn partnered together on many hit songs, including "After the Fire is Gone" and "Louisiana Woman, Mississippi Man." The two earned many awards for their songs, and held the title of the Country Music Association's Vocal Duo of the Year from 1972 to 1976.

NOTABLE MUSI

Altar Boyz Production photo
Image from altarboyz.com



Weird Al Yankovic
Image from Wikipedia.org



Poster for *This is Spinal Tap*
re-release (2000)
Image from Wikipedia.org



Poster for *A Mighty Wind*
Image from Wikipedia.org



P.D.Q. Bach and Peter Schickele
Photo © Peter Schickele

CAL PARODIES

The Doyle & Debbie Show is just one of many parodies that spoof particular genres of music and the cultures created around them. Musical parody is a genre unto itself, and is popular in film, theater, opera, and popular music. Learn a little more about some notable musical parody artists and productions below.

Altar Boyz premiered Off-Broadway in 2005 and ran for over 2,000 performances, closing in 2010. The show parodies the world of boy bands as well as the world of Christian pop music. Winner of the 2005 Outer Circle Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Off-Broadway musical, the play has garnered attention in New York and throughout the world with touring productions and international resident productions in other major cities.

Weird Al Yankovic has been producing music for over thirty years. While Yankovic also writes his own original works, his most well-known songs are often parodies of pop hits such as "Eat It," "Amish Paradise," and "Tacky." After many years in the music business, Yankovic's album *Mandatory Fun* debuted at #1 on the Billboard charts in the summer of 2014.

P.D.Q. Bach is the creation of Professor Peter Schickele, a classical musician and scholar. Schickele created the character of Johann Sebastian Bach's most embarrassing son in the 1960s, and has been touring and playing P.D.Q. Bach's supposed compositions for years.

This is Spinal Tap is a 1984 mockumentary that follows a fictional British heavy metal band as they prepare and embark on a U.S. tour. The film spoofs not only the rock documentaries of the time, but the hard-partying lifestyle of musicians and the music industry itself. The United States National Film Registry has preserved the film, a true cult classic.

A Mighty Wind (2003) follows the mockumentary style of *This is Spinal Tap*, and shares much of the same cast and creative team, but takes on the folk music scene. Three folk bands reunite for a tribute concert after a decades-long absence from performing on television. The song "A Kiss at the End of the Rainbow" earned an Oscar nomination for best original song.



PHOTO CREDITS

Front Cover - Michael Accardo and Erin Parker. Photo by Michael Brosilow.
P3 - Erin Parker, Michael Accardo, and Bo Johnson. Photo by Michael Brosilow.
P4 - Doyle: Michael Accardo; Debbie: Erin Parker. Photos by Michael Brosilow.
P9 - L-R: Michael Accardo; Erin Parker; Bo Johnson;
Erin Parker, Bo Johnson, and Michael Accardo. Photos by Michael Brosilow.

ABOUT OUR PRODUCTION

The Rep's Costume Department recreated Doyle and Debbie's signature red and black costumes, complete with extra rhinestones and tons of fringe.



The Stackner Cabaret has been transformed into "a collage of different honky-tonks in Tennessee," according to Scenic Designer Joe C. Klug.



Scenic Designer Joe C. Klug and Director JC Clementz wanted the set of *The Doyle & Debbie Show* to be as kitschy as possible, and enlisted our props department to "deck out" the Stackner with as many layers of country paraphernalia as the Stackner could hold.



"Although *The Doyle & Debbie Show* is a parody of country music, it is also a love song to the genre."

-JC Clementz, Director of *The Doyle and Debbie Show*

Director JC Clementz also directed The Rep's production of *Forever Plaid* in the Stackner last season.

After many years in the Milwaukee theater scene, Bo Johnson makes his Milwaukee Rep debut as Buddy in *The Doyle & Debbie Show*.



RESOURCES

Production History

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"This is Spinal Tap." *Internet Movie Database*. IMDb.com, 2014. Web. 6 Aug. 2014.

The Peter Schickele/P.D.Q. Bach Website. The Peter Schickele Web Site/Nitso Productions, 2014. Web. 5 Aug. 2014.

**For a listing of resources with URLs,
please visit our website at
www.MilwaukeeRep.com.**



VISITING THE REP

Milwaukee Repertory Theater's Patty and Jay Baker Theater Complex is located in the Milwaukee Center downtown at the corner of Wells and Water Streets. The building was formerly the home of the Electric Railway and Light Company.

The Ticket Office is visible on the left upon entering the Wells Street doors. The Stackner Cabaret is located on the second level and can be accessed via the escalator or elevator.



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- ★ Educate over 20,000 students at 200+ schools in the greater Milwaukee area with Rep Immersion Day experiences, student matinees, workshops, tours and by making connections with their school curriculum through classroom teaching programs such as Reading Residencies and Scriptworks;
- ★ Maintain our commitment to audiences with special needs through our Access Services that include American Sign Language interpreted productions, captioned theater, infrared listening systems and script synopses to ensure that theater at The Rep is accessible to all;
- ★ Educate the next generation of theater professionals with our Artistic Intern Program which gives newly degreed artists a chance to hone their skills at The Rep as they begin to pursue their theatrical careers.

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