

Name's not the same but talent still shines

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hear, during her stay in Birmingham, whether the show will be on the fall schedule. It's a half-hour sitcom, called "Sawdust," about a family that buys an old, rundown, traveling circus.

Waterbury plays the wife, Dana Galpin. James Ekhouse is her husband, Max. They have two children, a 16-year-old boy played by Bradley Gregg and a 15-year-old daughter played by Kelley Overbee.

"The man who plays the ringmaster is Elysa Baskin. In (the Robin Williams movie) "Moscow on the Hudson" he was the clown that didn't escape," Waterbury said.

2 share role of monster plant

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perience to perform theatrically off-stage."

The performer said he uses a softer, more feminine voice as a younger plant, but then Audrey II becomes a monster of sorts. "By the time we get to the horror-story spoof, it's palatable," he said. "It's always reminded me of something that (Steven) Spielberg would stage."

Stovall said at least six or seven companies are doing "Little Shop" now. "There's a delightful harmony score. It's Broadway, it's very '50s Motown — which catches you off guard — and soft rock."

He thinks the plant has the best material. "It's good for me vocally. It's good for me vocally."

The plant has a distinctive rhythm and blues sound."

STOVALL STUDIED music and drama at Peabody Conservatory in Maryland. On Broadway, he played Big Daddy in Bob Fosse's "Sweet Charity" and also appeared in Fosse's musical "Big Deal." He's going on the road with "Sweet Charity," as Big Daddy, with an international tour that opens in Toronto in July.

He's also working on a new Broadway show, "The Dream Team" by Richard Wesley, a musical about the Negro baseball leagues in the 1940s. He has been cast as one of the two brothers. In the show that has the same theme as the award-winning "Fences."

WATERBURY IS enthusiastic about her current role in "Little Shop of Horrors."

Describing Audrey, she said, "She's actually a very sad character — in actor's terms. She's the soul of the play. She and Seymour (Stuart Zagnit who starred in New York and Birmingham as Kuni-Lem) see the possibility of loving each other."

"I just love this character. She's so sweet. She just wants the least. She's got this beautiful spirit. She's not real bright. She doesn't believe she can have what she wants."

Waterbury demonstrated the soft voice, with a little bit of a lisp, that personifies Audrey.

"It gives her a vulnerability," she said.

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"It's good for me vocally. The plant has a distinctive rhythm and blues sound."
— James Stovall
Audrey II's voice

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